

CEQA #13326



State of California – The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
Northern Service Center
One Capitol Mall, Suite 410
Sacramento, CA 95814

PROJECT TITLE: Fort Ross Test Wells and Geotechnical Investigation

LOCATION: Fort Ross State Historic Park **COUNTY:** Sonoma

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Evaluate the subsurface conditions at the site and provide geotechnical recommendations for a future Visitor Improvement project. The evaluation includes hydrogeological services to aid State Parks in locating and establishing a suitable new water source(s) at the Park to facilitate a new well and a gravity-fed water conveyance system (including a water storage tank and a pipeline) to supplement or replace the existing water system located near Fort Ross Creek. The proposed work includes three (3) test wells sites, seven (7) proposed pipeline test pits which will be a 3ft depth, three (3) percolation trenches which will be 3.5ft depth and eleven (11) deeper test pits which will be 8ft depth or refusal.

- All work will be done in consultation with DPR natural and cultural resource specialists when selecting potential well locations and access thereto.
- Geocon shall limit access routes to test pits, borings and drilling locations to existing or proposed roadways or pipe alignments, or other point of access approved by the State’s representative for entire scope of work.
- Geocon shall coordinate all onsite activities with a State’s representative to ensure all onsite activities are observed by a State’s representative.
- The test wells will be done prior to any of the other test pits or trenches. Should flows at the test wells prove inadequate to develop, no test pit borings or trenching will occur.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Northern Service Center

EXEMPT STATUS:

Categorical Exemption *Class: 4, 6* *Section: 15304 & 15306*

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: The project consists of the minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees, except for forestry or agricultural purposes; and basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be strictly for information gathering purposes, or as part of a study leading to an action which a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded.

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DocuSigned by:
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Brian Dewey, Assistant Deputy Director
Northern Service Center

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DATE