



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
7360 West Lake Blvd. / P.O. Box 266
Tahoma, CA 96142

PROJECT TITLE: Donner Lagoon Restoration and Visitor Access Improvement Project

LOCATION: Donner Memorial State Park

COUNTY: Placer and Nevada

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Restore ~1.5 acres of the Donner Lagoon Day Use Area at Donner Memorial State Park to protect hydrologic function, stabilize a portion of the streambank, restore scarce riparian/wetland habitat, provide resource protection, and improve visitor facilities and access. Work will:

- Use heavy equipment to excavate up to 6in. deep to install vegetated toewalls and/or gabions to stabilize undercut trees along the streambank;
- Manually install up to four (4) 50ft x 3ft cable ladders at various locations;
- Install up to 1,050ft. of strand cable fencing (pound posts to install, no excavation);
- Excavate up to 20, 10in. dia. by 12in. deep holes to install up to 100ft. of split rail fence;
- Excavate 16, 12in. dia. by 24in. deep holes to install up to four (4) new ramada shade structures to encourage picnicking activities above the floodplain and out of the sensitive streambank areas;
- To install an approximately 50ft. x 20ft. area of articulated concrete mats/turf stone:
 - Excavate up to 6in. (where needed) to reduce slope angle (store/reuse excavated material for regrade);
 - Import up to 4in. of base rock and sand to set mats/stones; and
 - Frame the mats/stones with 12-18in. of rock or concrete and fill the interior with native plants and/or grasses.
- For revegetation of the area (excavation widths and depths will be determined by plant size) work will:
 - Plant approx. 20 large diameter (4-8ft.) native trees to provide long-term shade;
 - Plant approx. 100 native grasses and plants, in clusters between the new shade structures; and
 - Manually seed and plant approx. 200 plants (nursery stock or local transplants) on the streambanks.
- Remove 10 to 15 wooden picnic tables and replace, kind for kind, with concrete picnic tables; and
- Restripe the existing paved parking area to convert 1 or 2 existing standard parking spots to 15-minute kayak/SUP loading zone spots.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation
NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Sierra District

EXEMPT STATUS:

Categorical Exemption

Class: 1, 2, 3 & 4

Section: 15301, 15302, 15303 & 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of the repair, maintenance or minor alteration of existing public or private structures or facilities, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond current levels; replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced; construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; and the minor public alterations in the condition of land and vegetation that does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees and is included as "Streambed restoration," "Landscape plant replacement," "interpretive signing or panels," "fencing" and "Resource management projects" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities, in accordance with CCR § 15300.4.

CONTACT: Silver Hartman
Sierra District

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 Dan Canfield / District Superintendent
 Northern / Sierra District

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