

State of California
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
One Capitol Mall, Suite 410
Sacramento, CA 95814

PROJECT TITLE: Accessibility Trail Improvements Project

LOCATION: Portola Redwoods State Park

COUNTY: San Mateo

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Improve accessibility along the Lower Escape Trail and the Sequoia Nature Trail at Portola Redwoods State Park to bring the trails into compliance with California State Parks accessibility guidelines and associated legal mandates. Work will:

- Excavate up to 400 cubic yards of soil to
 - Construct approx. 250ft. of 1ft. wide x 18-inch-high rock retaining walls to support the trail bed and contain trail surface material;
 - Construct approx. 520ft. of single tiered 1ft. wide x 18-inch-high rock walls on each side of trail causeway;
 - Construct approx. 462ft. of 4ft. high retaining walls for approaches to a puncheon and to contain elevated trail surface material;
 - Construct 100ft. of a 10ft. wood retaining wall to contain elevated trail surface material;
 - Establish drain lenses to allow seasonal drainages to flow under the trail;
 - Construct 1006ft. of wall-less turnpike edge to establish a firm and stable surface;
 - Construct 232ft. of wood turnpike edged with 4x8 redwood;
 - Install up to two (2) abutments for construction of a bridge over Peter's Creek;
 - Install two (2) puncheons and at each puncheon, excavate approx. 5 cubic yards to construct/install a rock energy dissipater and swale to route the water under the puncheon;
 - Establish a rerouted trail into the hillside and remove approx. 9 cubic yards, or less, of soil to construct an asphalt-surface utility vehicle-only path of travel;
- Remove approx. 19,150 square feet of existing trail and reroute to comply with the accessibility requirements;
- Decompact removed trail alignments and use native seed/mulch to help re-vegetate the trail corridor;
- At each trailhead, excavate two (2) 20ft. x 20ft. x 1ft. areas to install accessible parking spaces;
- At each accessible entrance to the trail, install two (2) accessible trail information signs, two (2) parking signs, three (3) directional signs, and two (2) interpretive signs. Each 3ft. x 2ft. information sign will be mounted on (2) 4X4 redwood posts, each parking/directional signs will be mounted on (1) 4X4 redwood post, and each interpretive sign will be mounted on two (2) metal posts;
- Excavate up to 120 6-inch x 6-inch x 3ft. holes, install up to 120, 4x4 redwood posts and install 650 linear feet of handrails (at various locations) along the trail;
- Replace two (2) redwood benches at trail overlooks; and
- Remove thirteen (13) standing trees and eight (8) fallen trees along the proposed construction route.

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: 1, 3 & 4 Section: 15301, 15303 & 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of the repair, maintenance or minor alteration of existing public facilities involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond current levels; the construction and location of limited numbers of small new facilities and structures; and the minor public alteration in the condition of land and vegetation, and is included as "Modifications of existing facilities for disabled access," "Construction or installation of park facilities such as restrooms, interpretive signing or panels and fencing and gates" and "Trail construction or realignment" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities in accordance with CCR §15300.4.

CONTACT: Monica Aleman
Northern Service Center

TELEPHONE: (661) 877-9193
EMAIL: Monica.Aleman@parks.ca.gov

DocuSigned by:

Brian Dewey

4824AD8C7E7B4B1

Brian Dewey, Assistant Deputy Director
Acquisitions and Development

4/20/2022

DATE