

**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
750 Hearst Castle Rd
San Simeon, CA 93452

PROJECT TITLE: Archaeological Testing Site Bluff Erosion Project

LOCATION: San Luis Obispo Coast District **COUNTY:** San Luis Obispo County

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

Perform archaeological test excavations at predetermined locations within Montaña de Oro State Park, Harmony Headlands State Park, Estero Bluffs State Park, and Hearst San Simeon State Park to assess the potential impact of coastal bluff erosion on resources. At each location, work will:

- Hand dig up to nine (9), 1-meter x 1-meter square test pits.
- Hand auger up to twelve (12), 4-inch in diameter holes.
- Screen and return sediments back to original locations.

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

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: San Luis Obispo Coast

EXEMPT STATUS

Categorical Exemption Class: 6 Section: 15306

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:

This project consists of 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, and is included as "Archaeological investigations by permitted individuals and/or universities" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities in accordance with CCR §15300.4.

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Dan Falat, District Superintendent

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