

Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
PO Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Room 222
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: University of California, Berkeley
Physical & Environmental Planning
200 A&E Building
Berkeley, California 94720-1382

Project Title: Sagehen Creek Field Station – Prop. 68 Renovation Project

Project Location – Sagehen Creek Field Station, outside Truckee, CA

Project Location – Truckee, CA

Project Location – County: Nevada County

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project (Project Description): Sagehen Creek Field Station, managed by the University of California, Berkeley, is located within the 9,000-acre Sagehen Experimental Forest, 20 miles north of Truckee. The Field Station contains 22 buildings, some which are in need of repair and upgrades to provide year-round service to researchers, as well as to meet current standards of public health and safety. While the facilities to be renovated are modern, they have been deemed to be well beyond their functional life-cycle and do not currently contribute to a safe and accessible educational environment. The project includes five discreet renovation tasks and one small structure installation task described in Attachment A. A location map of the Field Station is included as Attachment B.

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: University of California

Parties Undertaking Project: University of California

Exempt Status:

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080 (b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a);
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b) (c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: **Class 1 (15301): Existing Facilities; Class 3 (15303): New Construction; and Class 4 (15304): Minor Alterations to Land**
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: 20180.35
- General Exemption (Sec. 15061(b)(3)).

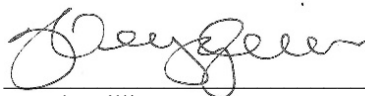
Reason Why Project is Exempt:

The project is categorically exempt under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15301, Class 1 Existing Facilities, as it consists of the repair, maintenance and minor alteration of existing deteriorated and damaged public structures, facilities and mechanical equipment to meet current standards of public health and safety, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. On a separate and independent basis, the project is also categorically exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15303, Class 3 New Construction, for new construction and location of a new small structure (carport). The project is also categorically exempt from CEQA, on a separate and independent basis, under CEQA Guidelines Section 15304, Class 4 Minor Alterations to Land, for minor alterations to land, including grading on land with a slope less than 10 percent. None of the exceptions to the exemptions pursuant to CEQA Section 15300.2 apply and there are no unusual circumstances creating the possibility that the project will have a significant effect on the environment, pursuant to CEQA Section 15300.2.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Raphael Breines, Senior Planner, Physical and Environmental Planning

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (510) 642-6796

Signature:



Wendy Hillis

Title:

Campus Architect, Assistant Vice Chancellor

Date:

January 22, 2024

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Signed by Applicant

Date received for filing at OPR:

**Sagehen Creek Field Station, University of California, Berkeley
Prop 68 Proposal Renovation Project Tasks**

Task 1: Re-roof the Manager's Residence

Task 2: Lead and asbestos abatement

The Station Office (432 square feet) and Manager's Residence are currently in an unsafe condition because of the presence of crumbling asbestos tile flooring and peeling lead paint. This task includes asbestos and lead abatement and the installation of new flooring and new paint in these two facilities to provide a safe space for the Sagehen Creek Field Station's Manager and Steward to work. UC Berkeley will be required to adhere to existing rules and regulations pertaining to handling and removal of potentially hazardous substances.

Task 3: Restoration of the Station's Office

The Station's Office is currently an unusable space due to the presence of crumbling asbestos tiles and peeling lead paint. Upon completion of Task 2, this task involves renovating the interior of the Office and will also include modifying the space to create new small dry lab and an accessible bathroom. UC Berkeley will be required to adhere to existing rules and regulations pertaining to handling and removal of potentially hazardous substances.

Task 4: Re-siding and re-insulating the Johnson Cabin

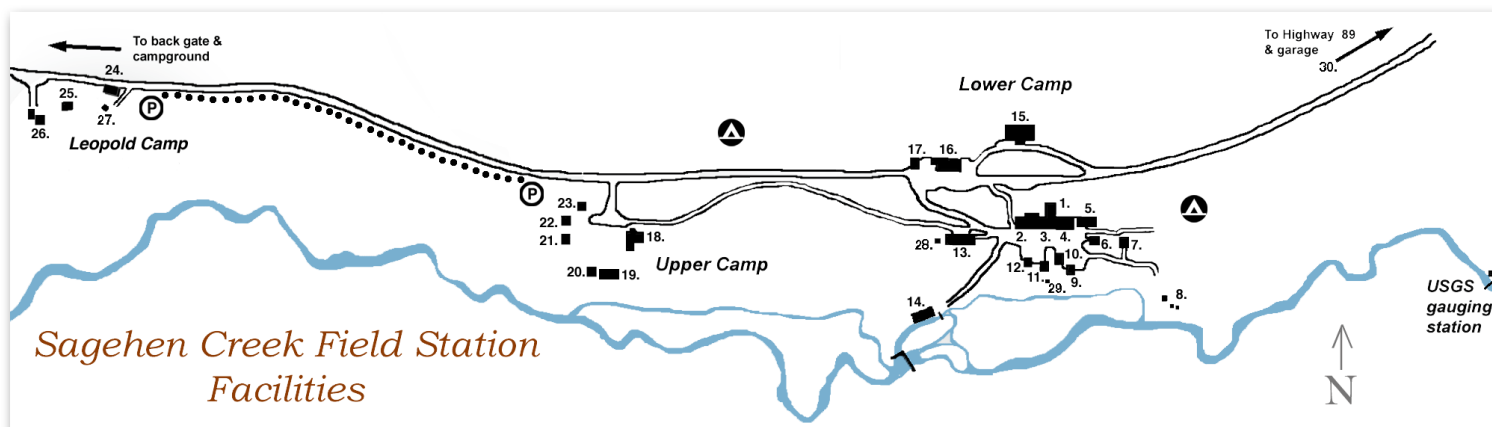
The Johnson Cabin is currently the residence of the lead Steward at Sagehen Creek Field Station. Portions of the exterior siding are now missing and this task will replace the siding to allow for year-round occupancy.

Task 5: Restoration of the Botany Lab

This task includes insulation and repair of interior walls of the Botany Lab to convert this space into a usable and accessible area year-round for researchers and educators.

Task 6: Installation of a Carport and Supports

This task includes installing a container carport with wood trussing for support to provide safe material storage and vehicle shelter that will withstand snowy and windy conditions. The carport will include two steel shipping containers on either side and have a total dimension of approximately 15 feet tall, 40 feet wide and 80 feet in length.



- 1. Library
- 2. Living Room
- 3. Kitchen/Dining Room (CAAN: 9244)
- 4. Office
- 5. Ano/Nuevo Cabins (CAAN: 9255)
- 6. East Cabin (CAAN: 9256)
- 7. Meadow Cabin (CAAN: 9248)
- 8. East Meadow sensing array
- 9. Lower Bathhouse (CAAN: 9247)
- 10. West Cabin (CAAN: 9257)
- 11. Treehouse Cabin (CAAN: 9252)
- 12. Tool Shed (CAAN: 9254)
- 13. Classroom/Botany Lab (CAAN: 9245)
- 14. Fishhouse (CAAN: 9261)
- 15. Manager's Residence (CAAN: 9250)

- 16. Garages/Apartment (CAAN: 9241)
- 17. Fuel Depot (CAAN: 9242)
- 18. Johnson Cabin (CAAN: 9243)
- 19. Outdoor Meeting Area
- 20. Burnside Cabin (CAAN: 9253)
- 21. South Cabin (CAAN: 9259)
- 22. North Cabin (CAAN: 9258)
- 23. Upper Bathhouse (CAAN: 9262)
- 24. Starker/Luna Cabins (CAAN: 9249)
- 25. Cook Platform (CAAN: 9246)
- 26. Leopold Cabin (CAAN: 9260)
- 27. Leopold Outhouse (CAAN: 9249)
- 28. Storage Shed (CAAN: 9251)
- 29. Trap Shed (CAAN: 9255)
- 30. Highway Garage (CAAN: 9263)

Ⓟ.....Ⓟ Parking Zone

Ⓜ Camping Zone