



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 Buttes District  
400 Glen Drive  
Oroville, CA 95966

**PROJECT TITLE:** Facilities Ignition Prevention and Catholic Cemetery Fuels Reduction

**LOCATION:** Shasta State Historic Park

**COUNTY:** Shasta

**DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:** State Parks Northern Buttes District is planning to perform a Facility Ignition Prevention Program (FIPP) and Wildfire and Forest Resilience Program (WFRP)-project at Shasta State Historic Park. The FIPP work will undertake four (4) main actions at Shasta State Historic Park to increase the survivability of the park's historical and critical infrastructures during wildfires, and are as follows:

Repairs or in-kind replacements to the 1939 Schoolhouse:

- Install new wood fascia to replace materials burned in the 2018 Carr Fire;
- Remove the existing dilapidated metal roof and install metal flashing over the replaced fascia an up onto the roof underlayment; and
- Use in-kind materials to replace the dilapidated metal roof.

Repairs or in-kind replacements to the 1990 reconstructed replica Blumb Bakery and adjacent Litsch Store porch:

- Replace the deteriorating non-fire rated wood shake shingles on the structure and attached porch overhang to an in-kind synthetic Class A fire rated material;
- Install metal flashing at all roof-to-wall intersections to reduce ignition potential of the structures' wood siding;
- Upgrade all vent screens to 1/8-in. and install an approved spark arrestor to the chimney outlet to prevent flying embers from entering the structure;
- Fill/repair any holes or spaces that are vulnerable to wildfire ember cast; and
- Repair/Replace the deteriorating non-fire rated wood shake shingle on the Litsch/Leo Store porch overhang with an in-kind synthetic Class A fire rated material.

Vegetation removal:

Remove and thin out overgrown vegetation located within the 30-ft zone that poses a hazard to any structure in the event of a wildfire. This will create a defensible space, reduce fire intensity and reduce the risk of fire spreading from surrounding vegetation to the structures. This work will focus on the areas surrounding the historic Courthouse, Schoolhouse, and associated outbuildings. The more vulnerable structures may require a 5-ft scrape down to bare mineral soil (where feasible) with the objective of creating non-combustible zones around vulnerable structures.

Water lines:

This work will install a new above ground valve to allow add-ons to an existing waterline to bring water to sprinklers placed on the roof of the historic courthouse building.

The proposed WFRP project/work will occur within approx. 6.5 acres of lands adjacent to Highway 299, including in the Catholic Cemetery and is as follows:

- Remove hazardous trees of varying diameters;
- Remove standing dead vegetation;
- Selectively thin any dense regrowing live vegetation;
- Chip materials on site to a maximum chip bed depth of 4 inches;
- Burn material on site in 4-ft x 4-ft piles in accordance with local fire and air quality district regulations; and
- Treat invasive species by hand removal or via herbicides including.

No chipping or burning will take place within the Catholic Cemetery. Standing trees should be felled September 1 – March 15 to avoid nesting birds. Surveys by a Parks-approved biologist could allow for removal of trees outside this work window if no active migratory birds, nests or young are found.

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

**NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT:** Northern Buttes District

**EXEMPT STATUS:**

Categorical Exemption

Class: 1, 2, 3, 4 & 31

Section: 15301, 15302, 15303, 15304 & 15331

**REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:**


Project consists of the operation, repair or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, 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 and the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced; consists of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; minor public or private alterations in the condition of land and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees, included as "Utility repairs or minor Upgrades", "Reroofing" and "Construction or installation of park facilities, such as fencing" and "Resource management projects" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities in accordance with CCR §15003.4; and projects limited to the maintenance, repair, stabilization, rehabilitation, restoration, preservation, conservation or reconstruction of historical resources in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings (1995), Weeks and Grimmer.

**CONTACT:** Trish Ladd-Shute

**PHONE NO.:** (530) 532-3087

**EMAIL:** Trish.Shute@parks.ca.gov

DocuSigned by:



3/27/2024

3815FA3DF475497...  
Matt Teague, District Supt.  
Northern Buttes District

DATE