



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  
2241 Harvard Street, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95815

PROJECT TITLE: Little River Restoration and Bridge Replacement

LOCATION: Van Damme State Park COUNTY: Mendocino

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: The project proposes to replace a single lane, rail car bridge over Little River in Van Damme State Park to provide adequate access to the park's campground and Fern Canyon Scenic Trail. For purposes of access, the existing bridge will remain in place while the new bridge is constructed. Work will:

- Extend the existing roadway on the south side of the river;
- Conform the pavement, as necessary, on the north side of the river;
- Use sandbags or a bladder dam to dewater the river and pipe water, via gravity feed, through the site;
- Approximately 6-7 ft below the river channel elevation, compact the soil and install abutments on top of the compacted soil;
- Install rock slope protection to minimize future scouring;
- Install a pre-fabricated steel girder, two-lane, bridge with timber guardrails and barriers;
- Utilize the underside of the new bridge to carry utilities to the existing combination building;
- Remove the existing bridge and abutments, including the underlying concrete slab and upstream retaining wall; and
- Remove the damming devices and regrade the disturbed area to a more natural condition and allow for revegetation.

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: 33 Section: 15333

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of projects not to exceed five acres in size to assure the maintenance, restoration, enhancement, or protection of habitat for fish, plants, or wildlife.

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2/19/2025