



**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
750 Hearst Castle Rd
San Simeon, CA 93452

PROJECT TITLE: Hearst Castle Roadside Citrus Replacement Project

LOCATION: Hearst San Simeon State Historical Monument

COUNTY: San Luis Obispo

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Replace dead or diseased ornamental citrus and/or fruit trees along the approach road to the Hearst San Simeon State Historical Monument to maintain the original transitional look, between the natural hillside landscape and the formal gardens at Hearst Castle, designed by William Randolph Hearst and Julia Morgan. Work will:

- Over time as tree health declines, cut, prune, or remove, by hand, up to 100 dead or diseased citrus or fruit trees;
- Replace removed trees with drought tolerant 5-gallon loquat shrubs or equivalent;
- Add soil amendments and install drip line irrigation as necessary; and
- Prune new shrubs to maintain plant health.

New plantings will maintain consistency with the Olmsted Cultural Landscape Report for Hearst San Simeon State Historical Monument and the Secretary of Interior Standards for Historic Preservation.

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

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

EXEMPT STATUS:

Categorical Exemptions

Classes: 1, 4 & 31

Sections: 15301, 15304 & 15331

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of the operation or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities or topographical features involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond current levels, included as "Landscape plant replacement" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities in accordance with CCR §15300.4; the minor public or private alterations in the condition of land and/or vegetation which do not include the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees; and includes projects limited to 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.

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Dan Falat
District Superintendent
San Luis Obispo Coast District

DATE