



**State of California – The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
Santa Cruz District
303 Big Trees Road
Felton, CA 95018

PROJECT TITLE: Abalone Farm Demolition and Cleanup

LOCATION: Wilder Ranch State Park

COUNTY: Santa Cruz

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Project consists of the demolition and cleanup of an abandoned abalone farm at Wilder Ranch State Park for the purposes of immediate site cleanup and remediation as well as to enhance the overall habitat quality of the project area. For his project, State Parks will hire a demolition contractor who specializes in hazardous waste clean-up around sensitive habitats. The proposed project work will include the following:

- In the project area, prior to the contractor starting work, State Parks staff will mow overgrown vegetation and remove select patches of invasive iceplant;
- Contractor will use heavy equipment, and hand labor to remove waste and trash that includes but is not limited to fiberglass tanks, plastic barrels, wood affixed with felt and plastic mesh, three (3) boats with associated trailers, one (1) recreational vehicle, PVC piping, metal fencing, and assorted hazardous materials such as fluorescent light tubes, old car batteries, fuel containers, paint cans, electronics, etc., and dispose of offsite; and
- State Parks staff will repair and/or replace sections of fencing adjacent to the county road to deter public access onto the site; as well as install symbolic fencing along the boundary line that separates the public and private parcels to deter further dumping of trash onto State land.

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

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Santa Cruz District

EXEMPT STATUS:

Categorical Exemption *Class: 1, 3 & 4* *Section: 15301, 15303 & 15304*

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consist of the operation, maintenance or minor alteration of existing public or private structures or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond current levels; construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; and minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes and is included as "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§15300.4.

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Chris Spohrer

7/31/25

Chris Spohrer
District Superintendent
Santa Cruz District

DATE