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CEQA # 14348
District Project # 635-25-017

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
North Coast Redwoods District
PO Box 2006
Eureka, CA 95502-2006

PROJECT TITLE: Howland Hill Road Culvert Replacement Project

LOCATION: Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park **COUNTY:** Del Norte

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: This project proposes to replace culverts located along Howland Hill Road in Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park to allow for adequate drainage in the event of heavy rainfall which will reduce the chance of roadway flooding and damage. Work will use large and small mechanical and handheld equipment to replace two (2) existing undersized culverts as follows:

- If necessary, divert stream water away from the proposed excavation areas and relocate any amphibians;
- Excavate trenches to remove the existing culverts and dispose of the materials offsite;
- Excavate the trenches further to accommodate new 36-in diameter culverts;
- Use excavated materials to backfill over the new culverts, compacting in 6-inch lifts;
- Install appropriately sized rock slope protection (RSP) at inlet headwalls to protect the ground from saturation and scouring and to direct water flow into the culverts;
- Install RSP on the outlet fill slopes to stabilize and protect the embankments from scour;
- Install compacted aggregate along the road surface at the culvert approaches and exits to minimize road sediment entering the nearby stream; and
- Fully mulch all disturbed soil areas within the project areas.

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

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: North Coast Redwoods District

EXEMPT STATUS:
☒ Categorical Exemption *Class:* 1, 2 & 4 *Section:* 15301, 15302 & 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond current levels and is listed as "Utility repairs or minor upgrades" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities in accordance with CCR §15300.4; the replacement or reconstruction of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced; and minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees.

CONTACT: Rosalind Litzky
North Coast Redwoods District

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Signed by:
Victor Bjelajac
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9/3/2025

Victor Bjelajac DATE
District Superintendent
North Coast Redwoods District