

District Project # 730-316-20250905
CEQA # 14421



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
Central Valley District
22708 Broadway Street
Columbia, CA 95310

PROJECT TITLE: Caswell Memorial Welcome Map

LOCATION: Caswell Memorial State Park

COUNTY: San Joaquin

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Project proposes to install new bilingual welcome map panels at Caswell Memorial State Park to greet and orient visitors upon arrival at the park and in additional locations within the park. The new map panels will be installed at the Entrance Station kiosk, River Bend Trailhead, and the Big Meadows Day Use Area parking lot. To install the panels work will:

- Excavate, as needed, 8-in. x 24-in. deep holes and set sonotube forms;
- Pour concrete into the forms and set brackets;
- Once concrete is dry, attach the map panel posts to the brackets; and
- Spread excavated soils around the project areas, filling in low areas.

Additional location specific work will be as follows:

- At the Entrance Station kiosk - install a 4 to 6-in., leveled decomposed granite pad, bordered by pressure treated lumber, large enough for park visitors using wheelchairs to approach map structure.
- At the River Bend Trailhead – excavate the 8-in. x 24-in holes to move an existing interpretive panel back 3-ft to a location closer to the existing trail; and
- At the Big Meadows Day Use Area Parking Lot - install a 4 to 6-in., leveled decomposed granite pad, bordered by pressure treated lumber, large enough for park visitors using wheelchairs to approach map structure.

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

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Central Valley District

EXEMPT STATUS:

☒ Categorical Exemption *Class:* 1, 3 & 4

Section: 15301, 15303 & 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of the operation, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond current levels; construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures, included as "Construction or installation of park facilities, such as signing or panels" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities in accordance with CCR §15300.4; and consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land and/or vegetation which do not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees.

CONTACT: Andrew Collum, DEC
Central Valley District

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DocuSigned by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Danielle Gerhart".

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Danielle Gerhart
District Superintendent
Central Valley District

3/30/2026

DATE