



**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: Lower Wilder Ranch Trail Restoration

LOCATION: Wilder Ranch State Park

COUNTY: Santa Cruz

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Project proposes to improve existing trail alignments within Wilder Ranch State Park to reduce user conflict and improve trail safety. The work is proposed for portions of the Eucalyptus Loop, Old Cabin, and Wild Boar Trails will alleviate erosion, reduce sediment delivery into nearby drainages, and curtail the creation of unofficial trail segments used to bypass trail obstacles. Work will occur as follows:

On the Fern Grotto Beach Access:

- Remove one (1) wood puncheon;
- Remove approx. 50 linear feet (LF) of poorly aligned and redundant trail; and
- Construct 30 LF of wood cabling steps leading down existing trail to beach.

On the Eucalyptus Loop Trail:

- Construct an approx. 6,000 LF reroute of the eastern segment of the road and construct a new approx. 4ft wide trail on contour under forest canopy;
- Remove approx. 5,000 LF of poorly aligned road in the meadow and topographically restore approx. 59,510 sq ft of the meadow;
- Excavate approx. 300 cu. ft. to install concrete abutments and approaches for five (5) steel I-beam bridges and one (1) wood puncheon.
- Construct approx. 170 ft of 6ft wide drainage lens along trail (5 locations); and
- Reconstruct sections of the trail with corrected outslope to facilitate proper drainage.

On the Old Cabin Trail:

- Construct an approx. 3,750 LF reroute to pull the existing trail off the ridge line and away from the water course;
- Remove approx. 3,500 LF of poorly aligned trail and topographically restore the area
- Excavate approx. 68 cu. ft. for concrete abutments and approaches for one (1) steel I-beam bridge and one (1) wood puncheon; and
- Reconstruct sections of the trail with corrected outslope to facilitate proper drainage.

On the Wild Boar Trail:

- Construct an approx. 2,400 LF reroute to pull existing trail out of the meadow and off of the fall line;
- Remove approx. 2,210 LF of poorly aligned road and restore the meadow and forest understory;
- Construct a 75ft long x 6ft wide drainage lens along the trail; and
- Reconstruct sections of the trail with corrected outslope to facilitate proper drainage.

