

District Project # 730-352-20260604

CEQA # 14625



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: Great Valley Grasslands North Shore Soil Mapping

LOCATION: Great Valley Grasslands State Park

COUNTY: Merced

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: This project proposes to excavate soil mapping units (SMUs) in Great Valley Grasslands State Park to assist in planning future restoration projects along the north shore of the state park.

Work will use hand shovels and augers to excavate eleven (11) soil pits down to 14 inches, or to the water table, which would be the elevation of the river. If excavations can't go down to the river level, assessors will make their evaluation based on assumptions.

All tools and equipment will be cleaned prior to ground disturbance to prevent spread of invasive species.

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:* 6 *Section:* 15306

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource and is listed as "Soils and structural engineering tests" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities in accordance with CCR §15300.4.

CONTACT: Andrew Collum, DEC
Central Valley District

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DocuSigned by:
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Danielle Gerhart".
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10/20/2026

Danielle Gerhart
District Superintendent
Central Valley District

DATE