State of California – The Natural Resource Agency DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research

1400 Tenth Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation

PO Box 2006

Eureka, CA 95520-2006

PROJECT TITLE: Lane's Flat Environmental Testing

LOCATION: Smithe Redwoods State Natural Reserve **COUNTY:** Mendocino

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: This project proposes an environmental testing evaluation of Lane's Redwoods Flat in Smith Redwoods State Natural Reserve for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, California Register of Historical Resources, and as a State Historical Landmark. Work will:

- Use hand shovels or 4-in. diameter hand augers to excavate up to 30 randomly placed 4-12 in. holes to no more than 4-ft deep;
- Use a backhoe to excavate up to three (3) 4-ft deep x 3-ft wide x 8-ft long trenches; and
- Use ¼-in. mesh to screen all excavated soils and backfill the holes and trenches with the excavated soils.

All test units and trenches will be located at least 6-ft from all large diameter (greater than 24-in.) redwood trees to ensure that excavations occur outside the structural root zone.

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, 4 & 6 Section: 15301, 15304 & 15306

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of the operation or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities or topographical features involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond current levels; the minor public or private alterations in the condition of land and/or vegetation which do not include the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees; and consists of basic data collection, research and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource, and is included as "soils and structural engineering tests" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities in accordance with CCR §15300.4.

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District Superintendent

North Coast Redwoods District

10/14/2022

DATE