



County of Santa Cruz

44-09192025-148

Department Of Community Development and Infrastructure

125-25

701 OCEAN STREET, FOURTH FLOOR, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4070

Planning (831) 454-2580 Public Works (831) 454-2160

<https://cdi.santacruzcountyca.gov/>

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

To: Clerk of the Board
701 Ocean Street, Room 500
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RECEIVED
CLERK OF THE BOARD

SEP 19 2025

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

Project Name: Greyhound Rock Low-Cost Accommodations and Env Education Center (Trenching Activities)

Project Location: 1551 Cabrillo Highway, Davenport, CA

Assessor Parcel No.: 057-131-11

Project Applicant: Santa Cruz County Parks

Project Description: The proposed project involves limited investigative trenching in the northern portion of the Greyhound Rock property, adjacent to existing structures and previously disturbed areas, as part of the planning for a future environmental education center and low-cost overnight accommodations. The trenches are approximately 2.5 feet wide and 7 feet deep, with a total impact width of approximately 20 feet including access and spoil areas.

Trenching locations were selected by a project geologist to confirm the absence of faulting in areas proposed for cabin development and adaptive reuse of existing structures. The trenches will be excavated by an excavator, with all spoils stored adjacent to the trenches to avoid surcharging.

Biological and cultural resource studies were conducted for the entire development area. The northern portion, where trenching is proposed, contains previously disturbed habitats and no indigenous archaeological resources. Trenching will impact approximately 4,194 square feet of coastal scrub and 1,164 square feet of Sitka Willow Scrub. The impacts will be mitigated as described below.

Mitigation Measures:

- Biological and cultural monitors will be present during trenching to avoid and mitigate unanticipated impacts.
- Work will be conducted before October 15 to avoid nesting bird season and rainy conditions.
- Impacted coastal scrub and Sitka Willow Scrub areas will be restored using stockpiled topsoil. Willow cuttings will be propagated and replanted following trenching and initial rains.
- All trenching access and staging will occur on previously disturbed areas.

Agency Approving Project: County of Santa Cruz

County Contact: Mariana Colibri-Urgo

Telephone No. 831-454-7963

Date Completed: 9/17/2025

This is to advise that the County of Santa Cruz has found the project to be exempt from CEQA under the following criteria:

Exempt status: *(check one)*

- ☐ The proposed activity is not a project under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378.
- ☐ The proposed activity is not subject to CEQA as specified under CEQA Guidelines Section 15060 (c).
- ☐ The proposed activity is exempt from CEQA as specified under CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3).
- ☐ **Ministerial Project** involving only the use of fixed standards or objective measurements without personal judgment.

☐ **Statutory Exemption** other than a Ministerial Project (CEQA Guidelines Section 15260 to 15285).

Specify type:

☒ **Categorical Exemption**

Class 4 15304 - Minor Alterations to Land

Reasons why the project is exempt:

The trenching work involves limited, short-term disturbance in previously disturbed areas and does not have the potential for significant environmental impacts. All sensitive biological and cultural resources will be protected through monitoring and restoration measures. The work is minor, temporary, and necessary for site planning. Impacts to coastal scrub and sitka willow scrub habitat will be mitigated upon completion of trenching.

Signature: Jessica deGrassi
Jessica deGrassi

Date: 9.17.2025 Titled: Resource Planner IV

THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN POSTED AT THE CLERK
OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OFFICE FOR A
PERIOD COMMENCING 9/19/2025
AND ENDING 10/24/2025