



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

FILING REQUESTED BY AND WHEN FILED, RETURN TO:

Marin County Parks and Open Space District
3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 260, San Rafael, CA 94903
www.marincountyparks.org
(415) 473-6387

FILED

06/15/2022

Marin County Clerk
3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 234
San Rafael, CA 94903

SHELLY SCOTT
MARIN COUNTY CLERK
By **J. Gilardi, Deputy**
21-2022 - 125

DATE: June 15, 2022
PROJECT TITLE: **SUBSURFACE INFORMATION COLLECTION**
PROJECT LOCATION: Stafford Lake Park, 3549 Novato Boulevard, Novato; Unincorporated Marin County, CA
ASSESSORS' PARCEL: 125-090-19

Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of the Project: The purpose of the proposed project is to conduct subsurface information collection at Stafford Lake Park to gather subsurface archaeological information to inform conceptual design of the future potential Asphalt Pump Track Project, for which a separate compliance document would be prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The proposed project would be carried out per the Archaeological Testing Plan prepared by Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc dated May 2022, which was developed in coordination with Marin County Parks and the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria (FIGR). Far Western would also implement the proposed subsurface information collection. A tribal monitor representing the FIGR would be present during this activity, which is expected to occur over a two to three day period in June 2022.

Prior to subsurface work, a ground survey would occur to assess surface conditions utilizing 10-meter transects. Subsurface work would include excavating trenches utilizing a backhoe and examination of the soil for cultural material. The trenches would be approximately 3 feet in width and between 4 to 10 feet in depth. The trenches would be backfilled with the excavated material after examination. Hand rakes will be used to assist in visually inspecting the soils as they are removed and a fine-mesh screen, 1/8- or 1/16-inch, would be available should cultural materials be identified.

Any archaeological materials identified on the surface would be recorded in place. Native American archaeological materials would be documented and described by Far Western and the tribal monitor. Any human remains identified on the surface would be treated in accordance with California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5, CEQA Guidelines section 15064.5(d), and Marin County Code Chapter 5.32. In accordance with the Stafford Lake Park Master Plan Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration of Historic Resources, if human remains are uncovered, work within 25 feet of the discovery shall be redirected and the Marin County Coroner notified immediately. At the same time, a qualified archaeologist shall be contacted, if one is not already on-site, to assess the situation and consult with agencies as appropriate. If the human remains are of Native American origin, the Coroner must notify the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) within 24 hours of this identification. The NAHC will identify a Native American MLD to inspect the site and provide recommendations for the proper treatment of the remains and associated grave goods. Work within 25 feet of the discovery can resume only after the MLD has inspected the site, provided recommendations, and the remains and associated grave goods removed from the site by a qualified archaeologist in consultation with the MLD.

Within three working days of confirmation of the discovery, Far Western would ensure that Native American tribes likely to be affiliated with the discovered human remains such as from lineal descendant, culturally affiliated Indian tribe, Indian tribe with other cultural relationship, and Indian tribe that aboriginally occupied area are notified by telephone or in person, with written confirmation. Treatment and handling of the remains will be determined through consultation between Marin County and FIGR.

Public Agency Approving Project: Marin County Parks and Open Space District

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out the Project: Max Korten, Director and General Manager

Reasons for Exemption: Marin County Parks has reviewed the project along with its environmental setting and has determined it to be categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act under the following sections of the California Administrative Code:

Section 15306: Information Collection: The proposed project consists of the Marin County Parks conducting basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource for the purpose of gathering information to inform conceptual design of the future

potential Asphalt Pump Track Project, for which a separate compliance document would be prepared pursuant to the CEQA. Implementation of the proposed subsurface information collection would not result in significant based on location and would not impact an environmental resource or any designated environmental resource of critical concern. The project area is not located on a hazardous waste site pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 or within a state scenic highway. Implementation of the proposed project would not affect scenic resources, historical buildings, rock outcroppings, result in cumulative impacts; or result in a significant effect to the environment due to unusual circumstances.

Section 15004: Time of Preparation: A separate compliance document would be prepared for the proposed Asphalt Pump Track Project pursuant to CEQA after the conceptual design is complete and sufficient meaningful information is available to conduct an assessment of environmental effects. Implementation of the proposed geotechnical information collection is necessary in advance of completing the conceptual design to provide information necessary to inform the conceptual design. Implementation of the proposed geotechnical information collection would not commit Marin County Parks to implementation of the future potential Asphalt Pump Track project. This Notice of Exemption does not serve as CEQA compliance for the future potential Asphalt Pump Track project, nor does it foreclose alternatives or mitigation measures that would ordinarily be part of CEQA review of the future potential project.

Lead Agency Contact Person:

Michelle Julene

Michelle Julene, Regulatory Open Space Planner
Marin County Parks and Open Space District
mjulene@marincounty.org
(415) 444-6740 Office Cell

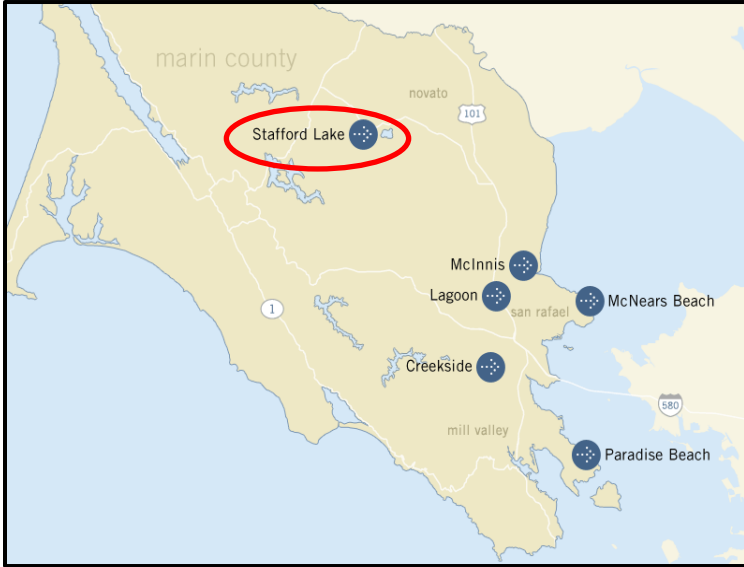
POSTED: 06/15/2022 TO: 07/15/2022



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

STAFFORD LAKE PARK PROPOSED ASPHALT PUMP TRACK PROJECT – SUBSURFACE INFORMATION COLLECTION

June 15, 2022



Regional Location

Source: Marin County Parks



Proposed Subsurface Archaeological Testing Area

Source: Far Western