

State of California
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
Sierra District Headquarters
P.O. Box 266
Tahoma, CA 96142

PROJECT TITLE: Install Electric Fence

LOCATION: Mono Lake Tufa State Natural Reserve **COUNTY:** Mono

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Construct approximately 1900 meters of electric fence across the exposed lakebed and land bridge on the eastern margin of *Gaines Island* at Mono Lake Tufa State Natural Reserve if drought conditions continue and the water level drops below elevation 6,381' to protect the California Gull Colony from predators. Work will:

- Along the 6,381 foot contour line at 20' intervals: drive six foot long metal T-posts 2' deep into the ground; drive plastic T-posts approximately half-way between the metal T-posts for reinforcement.
- Use 10' long metal T-posts to construct a fence line that extends approximately 10' into Mono Lake to a depth of approximately 4' at both ends of the fence line to keep predators from going around the fence.
- On the fence along the contour line: connect a 5-9 strand 1-joule electric fence charged by solar panels connected to T-posts; the fence line entering Mono Lake will not be electrified.
- Drop or remove the fence outside of the breeding season of April 1st through August 1st.
- Retain fence if water line drops below 6,381'.
- Remove fencing and leave T-posts after breeding season if drought is projected to continue.
- Remove fence completely if water line is projected to rise above the 6,381' contour line.
- Place signage on fence every 200m warning the public of the electric charge.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Sierra District

EXEMPT STATUS:

Categorical Exemption Class: 3 Section: 15303

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small structures and facilities; and the minor public or private alterations in the condition of land or water which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees; and is included as "signs" and "fencing" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities, in accordance with CCR § 15300.4.

CONTACT: Diane Cassano
Sierra District

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Signature on Original
Marilyn Linkem, District Superintendent

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