

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
750 Hearst Castle Rd
San Simeon, CA 93452

PROJECT TITLE: Sandspit Exotic Plant Removal

LOCATION: Montaña de Oro State Park **COUNTY:** San Luis Obispo County

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

This project will reduce the occurrence of invasive plant species in the Morro Dunes Natural Preserve at Montaña de Oro State Park. Up to 500 acres of sand dunes containing cape ivy, iceplant, pampas grass, and veldt grass will be treated with Razor Pro and Fusilade herbicide by authorized Environmental Scientists. Isolated plants will be removed by hand pulling. Sensitive plant species will be protected from treatment and will be monitored. Herbicide treatment within Western Snowy Plover habitat will not occur during breeding season from September 30th through March 1st. No vehicles shall be allowed to operate within the boundaries of the Morro Dunes Natural Preserve. Access to the project site shall be conducted by tracked Gators along Army Road and along the beach below the mean high tide line.

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

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: San Luis Obispo Coast District

EXEMPT STATUS:

Categorical Exemption Classes: 4, 7 Section: 15304; 15307

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:

This project consists of minor alteration in the condition of public land and/or vegetation which does not involve the removal of mature, scenic trees; and actions taken by regulatory agencies as authorized by state law or local ordinance to assure the maintenance, restoration, or enhancement of a natural resource where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment; and is included in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities in accordance with Title 14 CCR §15300.4.

CONTACT: Doug Barker, District Environmental Coordinator **TELEPHONE:** (805)927-2119
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Nicholas Franco, District Superintendent

DATE 5/2/11