



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
200 Palm Canyon Drive
Borrego Springs, CA 92004

PROJECT TITLE: Facility Improvements – Vallecito Ranch
LOCATION: Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, Vallecito Ranch Road and S-2
COUNTY: San Diego

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Conduct facility improvements to open the Vallecito Ranch at Anza-Borrego Desert State Park to public use. Initial use will be limited to previously disturbed areas and areas with limited facilities; some areas within the site will remain closed to the public or closed to some uses such as motorized vehicle access in order to avoid sensitive resources. The proposed work is consistent with goals and guidelines of Section 3.3.2.8 of the 2005 EIR/Park General Plan. The project will construct staging areas, place regulatory and interpretive signs, protect existing structures from vandalism, provide limited visitor facilities, and provide protection for cultural and natural resources. The project will build two new short segments of dirt road into the property, construct a pull-out passenger vehicle parking area, erect fencing and ranch gates to control public access and motor vehicles on-site; and protect natural and cultural resources. Equestrians, hikers and mountain bikers will be allowed on designated ranch roads.

DPR-approved standard project requirements have been incorporated into this project. A copy of these requirements may be obtained by submitting a request to the project Environmental Coordinator listed below.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation
NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Colorado Desert District
EXEMPT STATUS: Categorical Exemption *Class:* 3, 4 *Section:* 15303, 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: No potential for significant impacts to the environment is anticipated in compliance with Section 15300.2. Project consists of construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures and is included as “Construction or installation of park facilities such as kiosks, restrooms, small parking lots, interpretive signing or panels, fencing, signs, above-ground fuel and water tanks, mobile home pads with utility connections, campost sites, fencing and gates, boat launching facilities, concessionaire structures, and tent cabins” in the list of DPR-exempt activities in accordance with Section 15300.4; and minor public alterations in the condition of land and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees.

CONTACT: Gail Sevrens
Colorado Desert District

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Ronilee A. Clark, District Superintendent, Acting

DATE