



**State of California – The Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**#104
ER#10301**

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 222
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
1416 Ninth Street
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

PROJECT TITLE: Carrizo Marsh Habitat Restoration and Right-of-Entry Permit
LOCATION: Anza-Borrego Desert State Park **COUNTY:** San Diego and Imperial

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

This project proposes to restore approximately 318 acres of Carrizo Marsh through the removal of tamarisk stands and other non-native species. This will be completed as a requirement for the Ocotillo Wind Energy Facility to mitigate for impacts to Peninsular bighorn sheep, waters of the U.S, waters of the State, and sensitive vegetation communities. The primary tools to be used for tamarisk eradication will be mechanical treatment and prescribed burn. Fire will reduce the amount of above ground biomass prior to the manual and/or chemical control of non-native plant species. The initial effort will be followed by 5 years of maintenance to remove tamarisk re-sprouts and other non-native weed species. This mitigation was included in Ocotillo Wind Energy Facility Final Environmental Impact Statement and Environmental Impact Report dated February 2012 (SCH #2010121055 and DOI Control No. DES 11-20).

This project also includes issuance of a Right-of-Entry permit to provide Ocotillo Express LLC and its contractors/subcontractors permission to access Anza-Borrego Desert State Park for purposes of carrying out the Off-Site Habitat Restoration project at Carrizo Marsh.

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.

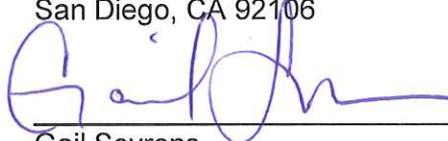
PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation
NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Colorado Desert District
EXEMPT STATUS:

Categorical Exemption
Class: 4, 5 **Section:** 15304; 15305

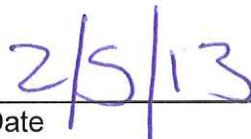
REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: No potential for significant impacts to the environment is anticipated in compliance with Section 15300.2. If the project is implemented as indicated within the CDPR Project Evaluation Form including measures provided by CDPR staff, then it is exempt under CEQA §15304–Minor Alterations to Land and §15305–Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations. The actions fall under the Departmental List of Exempt activities as established according to CEQA §15300.4 as “prescribed burns to restore native vegetation, reduce fuel loads and control invasive, exotic or alien species” and “issuance of easements and permits”.

CONTACT: Luke Serna, Environmental Coordinator
California Department of Parks and Recreation
Southern Service Center
2797 Truxtun Rd.
San Diego, CA 92106

PHONE NO.: 619-221-7060
EMAIL: enviro@parks.ca.gov



Gail Sevrens
District Superintendent, Acting
Colorado Desert District



Date

TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

TIME : 02/05/2013 16:02
NAME : DPR COLORADO DESERT_
FAX : 7607673427
TEL : 7607674037
SER.# : 000D1N792429

DATE, TIME	02/05 16:01
FAX NO./NAME	19163233018
DURATION	00:00:49
PAGE(S)	02
RESULT	OK
MODE	STANDARD ECM