



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
Colorado Desert District
200 Palm Canyon Drive
Borrego Springs, CA 92004-5005

PROJECT TITLE: Oleander Removal and Native Re-vegetation

LOCATION: Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, Palm Canyon Drive and Montezuma Grade/S-3 and Highway 78

COUNTY: San Diego

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: The project proposes to remove non-native poisonous oleander (*Nerium oleander*) landscaping from Borrego Palm Canyon Campground (BPC) located around maintenance and residence buildings and Tamarisk Grove Campground located near the amphitheater and residence across County Road S-3). Both areas are within or immediately adjacent to designated critical habitat for the federally listed Peninsular bighorn sheep; oleander is toxic to sheep and has been documented to be the cause of death for sheep recently in the Coachella Valley of Southern California. Treatment would involve cutting the plants with chainsaws and applying herbicide. All cut material would be disposed of through the contracted waste management company.

Re-landscaping with appropriate native vegetation would be implemented in locations with existing or potential irrigation or a reasonable expectation that the native plantings will thrive without it. Appropriate native vegetation would include shrub species of locally genetically derived stock specific to localities of the project.

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: 1 Section: 15301

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: No potential for significant impacts to the environment is anticipated in compliance with CEQA Section 15300.2. The project consists of the maintenance or minor alteration of existing public facilities involving no expansion of use (class 1). The activities are included in DPR's list of exempt activities as "landscape plant replacement" in accordance with CEQA Section 15300.4.

CONTACT: Gail Sevrens
Colorado Desert District

PHONE NO.: (760) 767-4307
EMAIL: gail.sevrens@parks.ca.gov



Dan Falat, District Superintendent



DATE

TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

TIME : 04/26/2013 16:27
NAME : DPR COLORADO DESERT_
FAX : 7607673427
TEL : 7607674037
SER.# : 000D1N792429

DATE, TIME	04/26 16:20
FAX NO./NAME	19163233018
DURATION	00:00:58
PAGE(S)	02
RESULT	OK
MODE	STANDARD ECM