State of California – The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
Tehachapi District
15101 Lancaster Road
Lancaster, CA 93536

PROJECT TITLE: Restoration of Hill Climbs and a Primitive Route within the Steep Trail Complex.

LOCATION: Red Rock Canyon State Park **COUNTY: Kern**

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:
This project is to stabilize, remove and restore two hill climbs within the Steep Trail Complex by controlling the water volume and velocity within the trail tread. A series of erosion-control measures will be implemented over the length of the trail to pull water off the abandoned and eroding trail tread. This project will also include the removal of the primitive route that leads to the hill climbs. The removal, closure and restoration of these hill climbs, along with the removal, closure and restoration of the primitive route will not limit or reduce connectivity to any other primitive routes within the Park. This portion of the park was closed to all vehicle access February 8, 2011 per District Superintendent Closure order – 955-11-001. Weed-free erosion control blankets and/or other erosion materials will be used to help stabilized the area. Vertical mulching will be used to reduce visual impacts of the project area. A peeler post fence will be installed above and below the project area.

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: Tehachapi

EXEMPT STATUS:
☐ Declared Emergency (Section 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (Section 15269(b) and (c))
☐ Statutory Exemption (Section)
☒ Categorical Exemption
Class: 1, 3, 4 *Section(s):* 15301 15303 15304

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 §15301 – Existing Facilities, §15303 – New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures, and §15304 – Minor Alterations to Land. The actions fall under the Departmental List of Exempt activities as established according to CEQA §15300.4 as:

- "Trail or road repairs" (Class 1, Section 15301);
- "Construction or installation of park facilities such as… fencing …" (Class 3, Section 15303);
- "Project does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees" (Class 4, Section 15304);

- "Project will result in the improvement of habitat for fish and wildlife resources" (Class 4, Section 15304d);
- "Temporary use of land having negligible or no permanent effects on the environment" (Class 4, Section 15304e); and
- "Surface restoration" (Class 4, Section 15304f)

CONTACT: Russ Dingman, District Environmental Coordinator **PHONE NO.:** (661) 724-2380
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Tehachapi District Headquarters
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Lancaster, CA 93536

KA Weatherman

Kathy Weatherman
District Superintendent, Tehachapi District

4/24/13

Date