



**State of California – The Natural 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
1416 Ninth Street
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

PROJECT TITLE: Crystal Cove State Park – Illegal Trail Eradication

LOCATION: Crystal Cove State Park

COUNTY: Orange

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

Volunteer trails have been a consistent problem at Crystal Cove State Park. In 2010, Parks successfully shut down one of the most highly used illegal trails through the use of trail cameras, Cal Fire crews to brush entrances and exits, installation of "Area Closed" signs, and 195 hours of direct Park staff time as well as help from our neighbors OC Parks. This project looks to use these same efforts at a neighboring trail and others. Efforts would include:

- Focus on identifying, mapping illegal trails in park
- Educational component-tent set up on Saturdays with PA to distribute maps and educate about trail system, install signs
- Close Better to do Nothing (BTDN) and work on closing others
- Break up trail bed and seed with natives to restore.

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

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation

EXEMPT STATUS:

- Declared Emergency (Section 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (Section 15269(b) and (c))
- Statutory Exemption
- Categorical Exemption

Section: 15301; 15304 **Class:** 1; 4

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: No potential for significant impacts to the environment is anticipated in compliance with Section 15300.2. The project is exempt under CEQA §15301 - Existing Facilities and §15304 – Minor Alterations to Land. The project does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees (class 4). This project seeks to remove illegal trails. The actions fall under the Departmental List of Exempt activities as established according to CEQA §15300.4 as:

- "Trail maintenance" and "Landscape plant replacement" (Class 1, Section 15301); and
- "Resource management", "Stewardship projects", and "Trail removal" (Class 4, Section 15304)

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Brian Ketterer
District Superintendent
Orange Coast District

9-4-13

DATE