



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: Wildlife Monitoring Nest Boxes

LOCATION: Silverwood Lake SRA

COUNTY: San Bernardino

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

Artificial nest boxes will be installed for wildlife, including northern flying squirrels (*Glaucomys sabrinus*). The nest boxes will be used to monitor wildlife presence and restore cavity habitat. Natural nest cavities found in large living and dead trees have been lost to forest fires and other causes. Northern flying squirrels occupied mature forest in Miller Canyon in the past and were found in Black Oak Day Use Area.

The nest boxes will be installed in dense forest (2 per acre), as far as possible from Hwy 138 and other roads. To avoid disturbing wildlife near trails, the nest boxes will be installed out of sight of trails. Nest box design and placement will follow standard techniques established by the US Forest Service. Nest boxes will be inspected and cleaned every 1 to 3 years. Monitoring will be passive and no squirrels or other wildlife will be disturbed.

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: 4, 6 Section(s): 15304 15306

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 specialists, then it is exempt under CEQA §15304 – Minor Alterations to Land and §15306 – Information Collection. The actions fall under the Departmental List of Exempt activities as established according to CEQA §15300.4 as:

- “Resource management projects” (Class 4, Section 15304);
- “Temporary use of land having negligible or no permanent effects on the environment” (Class 4, Section 15304e); and
- “Baseline monitoring” (Class 6, Section 15306)

The project will result in the improvement of habitat for wildlife resources (Class 4).

CONTACT: Russ Dingman, District Environmental Coordinator **PHONE NO.:** (661) 724-2380
California Department of Parks & Recreation **EMAIL:** Russ.Dingman@parks.ca.gov
Tehachapi District Headquarters
15101 Lancaster Road
Lancaster, CA 93536

Kathy Weatherman

Kathy Weatherman
District Superintendent, Tehachapi District

12/4/14

Date