



### NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

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

**PROJECT TITLE:** Oleander Removal at Agua Caliente (ABDSP 143)

**LOCATION:** Anza-Borrego Desert State Park      **COUNTY:** San Diego

**DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:** Located at Agua Caliente County Park within Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, the project is to remove non-native oleander shrubs (*Nerium oleander*) to eliminate the possibility that toxic foliage will impact the bighorn sheep that frequently use the area. Most of the oleander is confined to three rows demarcating campsite boundaries (sites 66/67/68 & sites 94/95). There are approximately 25 plants in this population. Individual plants outside of this population may be targeted as well if this activity is unlikely to impact campers. With the approval of County Park Rangers, other non-native/invasive species may also be removed as they are encountered. These invaders include, but are not limited to, Mexican Palo Verde (*Parkinsonia aculeate*) and Tree tobacco (*Nicotiana glauca*).

**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:**

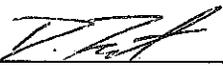
- Declared Emergency (Section 15269(a))
- Emergency Project (Section 15269(b) and (c))
- Statutory Exemption (Section            )
- Categorical Exemption  
Class: 1 and 4                      Section: 15301 and 15304

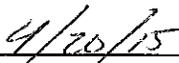
**REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:** No potential for significant impact to the environment is anticipated in compliance with CEQA §15300.2. If the project is implemented as indicated within the project description including comments provided by CDPR specialists, then it is exempt under CEQA §15301 – Existing Facilities and 15304 – Minor Alterations to Land. The action falls under the Departmental List of Exempt activities according to CEQA §15300.4 as:

- "Landscape plant replacement"
- "Resource management projects"

**CONTACT:** Terry Gerson  
Senior Park and Recreation Specialist  
Colorado Desert District

**PHONE NO.:** (760) 767-4960  
**EMAIL:** terry.gerson@parks.ca.gov

  
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Dan Falat, District Superintendent  
Colorado Desert District

  
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DATE