



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: Varner Harbor Tamarisk Removal

LOCATION: Salton Sea SRA

COUNTY: Riverside

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: California State Parks staff will remove approximately 100 invasive tamarisk (*Tamarix ramosissima*) from four acres surrounding Varner Harbor. Mature tamarisk will be cut stump and treated with herbicide, while saplings will be hand pulled. Biomass will be stored in the park maintenance yard and burned once dry. The area will be revegetated with native plants and a drip irrigation system will be installed. Wooden benches may be installed. Work will occur outside of the nesting bird season and avoid all waterways and the harbor. Measures to be implemented to avoid impact 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: Ocotillo Wells District

EXEMPT STATUS:

- Declared Emergency (Section 15269(a))
 Emergency Project (Section 15269(b) and (c))
 Statutory Exemption (Section)
 Categorical Exemption
Class: 4, 33 Section: 15304, 15333

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: No potential for significant impact to the environment is anticipated in compliance with CEQA §15300.4. If the project is implemented as indicated within the C DPR Project Evaluation Form, then it is exempt under CEQA §15304 - Minor Alterations to Land and §15333 – Small Habitat Restoration Projects. Comparable activities are covered under the Departmental List of Exempt Activities according to CEQA §15300.4.

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Steve Quartieri
District Superintendent
Ocotillo Wells District

DATE