



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
7360 West Lake Blvd.
P.O. Box 266
Tahoma, CA 96142

PROJECT TITLE: Warm Springs and Navy Beach Resources Protection Fence and Monitoring

LOCATION: Mono Lake Tufa State Natural Reserve **COUNTY:** Mono

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Install a total of 8,100ft. of fence at Mono Lake Tufa State Natural Reserve to protect wetlands and unique geologic features from wild horse damage. The fence will be divided into six (6) different fenced areas located in two (2) geographic zones: approx. 4,500ft. of fence at Warm Springs (one (1) 8-acre enclosure), and approx. 3,600ft. of fence at Navy Beach (four (4) separate enclosures varying in size from 0.5-2 acres). Work will:

- Paint T-posts a color chosen to reduce visual impact to no more than 500ft.;
- Use, ATVs, if needed, to transport fencing materials between exiting dirt roads and remote work locations along pre-determined routes only (approx. 1,500ft. at Warm Springs and approx. 1,000ft. at Navy Beach).
- Manually pound T-posts (no excavation) into the ground every 8-12ft. to a depth of approx. 2ft.;
- Use metal clips to affix 4-5 strands of barbed/barbless wire to the T-posts:
 - Top strand height will be a minimum of 54in. to prevent horse jumping; and
 - Bottom strand height will be minimum 16in. and barbless to allow wild game passage (i.e., deer, antelope).
- Affix resource protection and interpretive signage to the fence T-posts (no additional posts needed); and
- Install wildlife camera monitoring stations near the fence to monitor the horse interactions/activities:
 - If needed install 3-4 additional T-posts as camera station indicators.

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

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Sierra District

EXEMPT STATUS:

Categorical Exemption

Class: 1, 3, 4 & 6

Section: 15301, 15303, 15304 & 15306

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of the operation, maintenance and minor alterations of existing public or private structures or facilities involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond current levels; the construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures; the minor public alterations in the condition of land and vegetation that does not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees and is included as “fencing”; and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource and is included as “Experimental resource management” in the Department of Parks and Recreation’s list of exempt activities, in accordance with CCR § 15300.4.

CONTACT: Silver Hartman
Sierra District

PHONE NO.: (530) 525-9533

EMAIL: Silver.Hartman@parks.ca.gov

DocuSigned by:
Dan Canfield 3/23/2022
Dan 2276737EFF82491... uperintendent DATE
Northern / Sierra District