Notice of Exemption

To: Office of Planning and Research
P.O. Box 3044, 1400 Tenth Street, Rm. 113
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Habitat Conservation Planning Branch
Native Plant Program
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

Project Title: Western Joshua Tree Hazard Management Project (Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act Permit No. 1927-HMP-2023-043)

Project Location: The Western Joshua Tree Hazard Management Project (Project) will take place at 8820 San Vicente Drive, Yucca Valley, CA 92284, or Assessor's Parcel Number 0588-682-04 in San Bernardino County.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a western Joshua tree hazard management permit to Bonne and F.D. Watters (Permit No. 1927-HMP-2023-043) pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1927.4 for a project to remove a dead and detached western Joshua tree. Western Joshua tree hazard management permits are issued to property owners for the purpose of removing or trimming a dead western Joshua tree or trimming a living western Joshua tree, provided that the dead western Joshua tree or any limb to be removed meet one of the following conditions: (A) has fallen over and is within 30 feet of a structure; (B) is leaning against an existing structure; or (C) creates an imminent threat to public health or safety.

California Public Agency Approving Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Person or Agency Carrying Out Project: Bonne and F.D. Watters

Exempt Status:

- ☐ Emergency Project. Type and section number: Section 15269(b)
- ☒ Categorical Exemption. Type and section number: Section 15304, Class 4

Reasons why project is exempt: The Project consists of minor private alterations in the condition of land or vegetation which does not involve the removal of healthy, mature trees.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Joanne Heraty Area Code/Telephone/ Extension: (916) 594-4574

Signature: DocuSigned by: 36A908313DB6442... **Date:** 9/13/2023

Isabel Baer, Native Plant Program Manager

☐ Signed by Lead Agency Date Received for filing at OPR: _____