



NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

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

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

PROJECT TITLE: Veteran's Pass Trail Grading

LOCATION: Ocotillo Wells SVRA

COUNTY: Imperial

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: This project would allow grading of Veterans Pass, which partially follows a historic era trail from WWII, under prescribed conditions to maintain historic characteristics. The historic trail, referred to as Military Dump Road (MDR) in site records at the district, is associated with the WWII rocket target areas Winona I and II. MDR is marked on USGS Quadrangle maps as being a Jeep Trail. Veterans Pass Trail was created in the early 2000's after Ocotillo Wells SVRA purchased additional land to the north of existing park boundaries. The trail is roughly three miles long, following a generally straight east to west orientation. Veterans Pass is utilized recreationally by park visitors and as a means of transit by maintenance to reach facilities at Pumpkin Patch. Veterans Pass trail overlaps the historic MDR trail for roughly a mile. For a list of project conditions, please contact the project contact 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: 1 Section: 15301


REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: The proposed action complies with CEQA because it is: (1) categorically exempt under Class 1, Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines, Existing Facilities, as it involves maintenance of existing public facilities with no expansion of existing use; and (2) there are no unusual circumstances or other applicable exceptions to the exemptions.

CONTACT: Sara Lockett
Ocotillo Wells District

PHONE NO.: (760) 767-1084
EMAIL: sara.lockett@parks.ca.gov



Enrique Arroyo
District Superintendent
Ocotillo Wells District



DATE