

**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-2024-226)

**Project Location:** The Western Joshua Tree Hazard Management Project (Project) will take place at 56759 Joshua Drive, Yucca Valley, CA 92284, or Assessor’s Parcel Number 0585-081-10 in San Bernardino County.

**Project Description:** The California Department of Fish and Wildlife is issuing a western Joshua tree hazard management permit to Margaret Decker and Keith Kutscher (Permit No. 1927-HMP-2024-226) pursuant to Fish and Game Code section 1927.4 for a project to remove one 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:** Margaret Decker and Keith Kutscher

**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 do not involve the removal of healthy, mature trees.

**Lead Agency Contact Person:** Mika Samoy

Area Code/Telephone/ Extension: (916) 531-8347

**Signature:**  **Date:** 10/31/2024

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Isabel Baer, Native Plant Program Manager

- Signed by Lead Agency
- Date Received for filing at OPR: \_\_\_\_\_