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CEQA #

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
FAX (916) 323-3018

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
Oceano Dunes District
340 James Way, Suite 270
Pismo Beach, CA 93449

PROJECT TITLE: Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area (SVRA) Southern Exclosure Closure During the Non-Breeding Season 2025/26

LOCATION: Oceano Dunes SVRA

COUNTY: San Luis Obispo

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

The Southern Exclosure is approximately 300 acres of Oceano Dunes SVRA that runs from Post 6 to the North Oso Flaco Foredunes. This area has been operated as a seasonal closure (closed to all public access) during the March 1 through September 30 nesting season for western snowy plover since at least 2004.

The department has made an operational decision to keep the Southern Exclosure closed for the non-breeding season (October 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026) to further compliance with regulations, including but not limited to the Stipulated Order of Abatement (SOA) with the San Luis Obispo Air Pollution Control District. The five month closure allows the department to further evaluate approaches to compliance with the SOA, retaining some habitat within the Southern Exclosure while managing for nesting shorebirds and motorized recreation.

This operational decision is only for one non-breeding season (October 1, 2025 – February 28. 2026) and not intended to be a basis for future decisions concerning the seasonal nature and extent of the Southern Exclosure.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT:

California Department of Parks and Recreation

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT:

Oceano Dunes District

EXEMPT STATUS: ☒ Categorical Exemption *Class: 1 Section: 15301*

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REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:

Project consists of an operational decision to manage an existing facility (the Southern Exclosure) in a different manner for a 5-month period.

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Oceano Dunes District

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DocuSigned by:
Jon O'Brien
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10/1/2025
Date

District Superintendent