

Notice of Exemption

To:

Office of Planning and Research
For U.S. Mail:
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, California 95812 - 3044

From:

Department of Fish and Wildlife
Central Region 4
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, California 93710



Street Address:

1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Project Title: Morro Dunes Ecological Reserve Native Plant Restoration

Project Location (San Luis Obispo County): The project is located at the Morro Dunes Ecological Reserve. (35.03054°N, 120.8344°W); See Exhibit A.

Project Description: The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), with the assistance of CalFire, plan to thin vegetation and burn piles to reduce fuel loading and promote regeneration of three rare, threatened and endangered plant species that are either fire-dependent or which benefit from fire: Bishop pine (*Pinus muricata*), Morro manzanita (*Arctostaphylos morroensis*) and Indian Knob mountainbalm (*Eriodictyon altissimum*). The project will involve selectively trimming vegetation to create burn piles in an area of less than five acres, then burning the piles.

Public Agency Approving Project: CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Person or Public Agency Carrying Out Project: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Exempt Status:

- Statutory Exemption.
- Categorical Exemption. Type – Class 7; California Code of Regulations, title 14, section 15307 and 757(7)(D). Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Natural Resources.

Reasons why project is exempt: This project is a regulatory agency action for protection of natural resources, specifically to promote the regeneration of fire dependent listed species. Title 14, Section 757(7)(D) specifically includes controlled burning for habitat productivity as an exempt activity for CDFW. None of the exceptions in Section 15300.2 apply.

CDFW Contact Person: Brandon Swanson, (805) 305-8291

DocuSigned by:
Julie A. Vance
Signature: _____ Date: 4/8/2026
Julie A. Vance, Regional Manager

Date received for filing at OPR: _____

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Exhibit A: Approximate Treatment Areas

