



State of California – The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
Sierra District
P.O. Box 266
Tahoma, CA 96142

PROJECT TITLE: County Park Boardwalk Replacement

LOCATION: Mono Lake Tufa State Natural Reserve **COUNTY:** Mono

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Replace the 909-foot wooden County Park boardwalk at Mono Lake Tufa State Natural Reserve that was destroyed in the 2025 Inn Fire with a new ADA-accessible boardwalk to provide a sustainable, fire-resistant structure as well as provide increased accessibility to the Reserve. Work will:

- Stage all materials in County Park gravel parking lot adjacent to restrooms (Mono County property);
- Use hand tools to excavate 106, 1-ft deep x 1-ft wide holes, totaling approx. 3.9 cu yds of soil;
- Install and secure with concrete one (1) Diamond Pier per hole and use excavated soil on site to fill old boardwalk mudsill depressions; and
- Use Glass Fiber Reinforced Polymer (GFRP) materials to construct a 909-ft-long boardwalk and two (2) viewing/overlook platforms (Platform 1 is 10-ft x 20-ft; Platform 2 is approx. 12-ft x 25-ft) using the same alignment and locations as the previous boardwalk/platforms.

GFRP materials are made to withstand the high alkalinity of Mono Lake. To protect the aquatic ecosystem, all minor cutting and drilling will occur over tarps to capture any/all released dust particles. All captured particles will be disposed of offsite.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Sierra District


EXEMPT STATUS:

Categorical Exemption *Class:* 1, 3 & 4 *Section:* 15301, 15303 & 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project consists of the operation, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond current levels; construction and location of limited numbers of new small structures; and minor public alterations in the condition of land which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry purposes.

CONTACT: Lindsay Cline
Sierra District

PHONE NO.: (530) 489-8331
EMAIL: lindsay.cline@parks.ca.gov

Signed by:

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Rich Adams DATE
District Superintendent
Sierra District