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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
Colorado Desert District
200 Palm Canyon Drive
Borrego Springs, CA 92004

PROJECT TITLE: Mason Valley Truck Trail Vehicle Exclusion Gate Replacement

LOCATION: Anza-Borrego Desert State Park **COUNTY:** San Diego

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:
The project consists of replacing two existing vehicle exclusion gates located along a historic trail connector between Mason Valley and Oriflamme Canyon within Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. The project's purpose is to maintain effective vehicle exclusion, protect natural and cultural resources, and ensure safe emergency access while preventing illegal motor vehicle use on a non-motorized trail corridor. Both existing gates are constructed of lightweight aluminum, and have been repeatedly damaged by Illegal vehicle intrusions, which have resulted in resource damage to trail surfaces and adjacent habitat, Increased maintenance and enforcement burden.

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

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Colorado Desert District

EXEMPT STATUS:
☐ Declared Emergency (Section 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (Section 15269(b) and (c))
☐ Statutory Exemption (Section)
☒ Categorical Exemption
Class: 3 *Section:* 15303

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: No potential for significant impact to the environment is anticipated in compliance with CEQA §15300.2. If the project is implemented as indicated within the CDPR Project Evaluation From, including conditions provided by CDPR reviewers, then it is exempt under CEQA §15303-New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures: The action falls under the Departmental List of Exempt activities established under CEQA §15300.4 as:

- Construction or installation of park facilities such as fencing and gates (Class 3, Section 15303)

CONTACT: Rama Ewing
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Colorado Desert District

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Ray Lennox
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Ray Lennox, District Superintendent
Colorado Desert District

9/14/2026
DATE