



2019048617

**NOTICE OF EXEMPTION**

**TO:** Office of Planning and Research  
1400 Tenth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**FROM:** Department of Parks and Recreation  
1416 Ninth Street  
P.O. Box 942896  
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

**PROJECT TITLE:** Defensible Space Project at Boucher Hill (PMSP 211)

**LOCATION:** Palomar Mountain State Park      **COUNTY:** San Diego

**DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:** This project will establish wildfire defensible space around the historic Boucher Fire Lookout and will be focused on the western aspect of the hilltop below the fire lookout tower and directly around the tower itself. The distance trimmed will be either from the edge of any structure to the pavement and/or approximately 50' total. On the west side of the roadway, 100' of the coffee berry brush both directions will be removed and chipped for soil stabilization. The only soil disturbance will be foot traffic only. The goal is to have 100 feet of minimized fuel load around the lookout tower in order to reduce a wildfire's ability to spread and to better defend the tower. The roadside of the Boucher Loop will be clearing from the pavement out 20'. Tools used will be hand lopper, chipper, and weed whacker.

**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 and 4                                 Section: 15303 and 15304

**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 project description including comments provided by CDPR specialists, then it is exempt under CEQA §15304 – Minor Alterations to Land. The action falls under the Departmental List of Exempt activities according to CEQA §15300.4 as:

- “Resource management projects” (Class 4, Section 15304)

**CONTACT:** Terry Gerson, District Services Manager  
Colorado Desert District

**PHONE NO.:** (760) 767-4960  
**EMAIL:** terry.gerson@parks.ca.gov

*Gina Moran*

Gina Moran, District Superintendent  
Colorado Desert District

April 30, 2019  
DATE

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

APR 30 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE