

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

PROJECT TITLE: Salton Sea Visitor Center Tamarisk Removal

LOCATION: Salton Sea SRA

COUNTY: Riverside

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: Eight invasive tamarisk trees, *Tamarix ramosissima*, will be removed from the viewshed of the Salton Sea SRA Visitor Center. Staff will utilize handsaws and loppers to cut the tamarisk, then treat the stumps with an application of Garlon 4 Ultra. All biomass will be transported to the park "boneyard," staged there for 6-12 months, then disposed of. Disposition may consist of burning, chipping, or removal in a dumpster

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

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Ocotillo Wells District

EXEMPT STATUS:

 Declared Emergency (Section 15269(a))
 Emergency Project (Section 15269(b) and (c))
 Statutory Exemption (Section)
 Categorical Exemption Class: Class 33 Section: 15333

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Project will result in the removal of eight invasive tamarisk, with no significant adverse impacts to the environment, sensitive species, or when considering cumulatively. The project will disturb less than 0.25 acres

CONTACT: Sara Lockett Ocotillo Wells District

PHONE NO.: (760) 767-1084 EMAIL: sara.lockett@parks.ca.gov

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

Jun 23 2020

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Steve Quartieri District Superintendent Ocotillo Wells District

6/19/2020

DATE

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

PROJECT EVALUATION (PEF)

Project ID No. 206379

PCA No.

State Professional Contractor	PROJECT CONCEP	T - Constant and the second		
PROJECT TITLE	PARK UNIT NAME			
Salton Sea Visitor Center Tamaris	Salton Sea SRA			
DISTRICT NAME Ocotillo Wells SVRA		FACILITY NO.		
PROJECT MANAGER	PHONE NO.	EMAIL		
Jeffrey Price	760-767-5772	Jeff.Price@parks.ca.gov		
DISTRICT PROJECT MANAGER	PHONE NO.	EMAIL		
Sara Lockett	760-767-1320	Sara.Lockett@parks.ca.gov		
PROJECT BID DATE	CONSTRUCTION START DATE	FUNDING SOURCE		

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Identify the scope of the project in detail, including its purpose, location, and potential impacts. If the ground is to be disturbed, describe the depth and extent of excavation. Describe the existing site conditions, including previous development. Note if work will impact or extend beyond park property. Indicate if work will be done in conjunction with, or as part of, other projects. (Use additional pages if necessary.)

Utilizing California State Park staff and California State Parks Foundation Parks Champion volunteers, 8 invasive tamarisk, Tamarix ramosissima, will be removed from the Salton Sea State Recreation Area Visitor Center's view shed of the Salton Sea. Staff and volunteers will utilize hand saws and loppers to cut the tamarisk and follow with an application of Garlon 4 Ultra. Herbicide application will be conducted by a qualified applicator, or one trained by the qualified applicator. All cut biomass will be transported to the park "boneyard", staged there for 6 – 12 months and then burned, if permitted by Riverside County Air Pollution Control District. If burning is not permitted all biomass will be hauled off in a roll off dumpster or go through a wood chipper. See attached for full description.

DOCUMENTS ATTACHED

- 7.5 minute (quad) map of project area (*Required*)
 - Site Map (Required Scale should show relationship to existing buildings, roads, landscape features, etc.)
- DPR 727 Accessibility Review and Comment Sheet (*Required* Attach DPR 727 or emailed project exemption from the Accessibility Section.)
 - Sea-level Rise Worksheet (for coastal park units)
 - Graphics (Specify photos, diagrams, drawings, cross-sections, etc.):
 - Other (Specify):

Project Description

Utilizing California State Park staff and California State Parks Foundation Parks Champion volunteers, 8 invasive tamarisk, *Tamarix ramosissima*, will be removed from the Salton Sea State Recreation Area Visitor Center's view shed of the Salton Sea. Staff and volunteers will utilize hand saws and loppers to cut the tamarisk and follow with an application of Garlon 4 Ultra. Herbicide application will be conducted by a qualified applicator, or one trained by the qualified applicator. All cut biomass will be transported to the "boneyard", staged there for 6 - 12 months and then burned, if permitted by Riverside County Air Pollution Control District. If burning is not permitted all biomass will be hauled off in a roll off dumpster or go through a wood chipper.

SCOPE

Eight invasive tamaraisk, *Tamarix ramosissima*, are damaging the viewshed from the visitor center's panoramic view. They are currently about 30 to 40 feet from the visitor center with GPS coordinates for each individual listed below. This species can be a many branched shrub or a shrubby tree usually connected at the base with a deep tap root. Often times, the connection between the many branches is not visible above ground. Each individual tamarisk will be cut within 2 inches of the ground using hand tools (i.e.: loppers, hand saws, etc.). The cut surface should be horizontal to the ground in preparation of herbicide application and reduce runoff. All debris and biomass around the stumps will be removed to bare mineral soil prior to the final cut and herbicide application to maximize absorption. Tamarisk removal activity will only occur above ground, no digging will occur.

Once a tamarisk has been cut down, a permitted herbicide applicator will apply Garlon 4 Ultra herbicide to the stumps within 5 minutes. Garlon 4 Ultra will be applied onto tamarisk the entire cut surfaces with either a paint brush, backpack sprayer, or small hand pump bottle. Personal protective equipment (i.e.: gloves, long sleeves, eye protection, etc.) will be worn and used by the applicator at all times when handling the herbicide. After herbicide application a heavy black plastic sheet will be placed over the stumps to reduce the possibility of regrowth. Sheets will be removed when stumps are checked for the success of removal.

Tamarisk that has been cut will be transported to the park "boneyard." The discarded tamarisk will be left to dry out until they are ready to be burned in a burn pit, between 6 – 12 months, if permitted by Riverside County Air Pollution Control District. If burning is not permitted all biomass will be hauled off in a roll off dumpster or go through a wood chipper.

To insure the success of tamarisk removal and continued value of the visitor center viewshed, continued maintenance cutting tamarisk and applying herbicide will occur if stumps show signs of regrowth.

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PCA No.

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REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS					81
IS AN APPLICATION, PERMIT, OR CONSULTATION REQUIRED Coastal Development Permit DFG Stream Alteration Permit State & Federal Endangered Species Consultation Corps of Engineers 404 Permit RWQCB or NPDES Permit DPR Right to Enter or Temporary Use Permit PRC 5024 Review Stormwater Management Plan Encroachment Permit (Specify Agency): Native American Consultation Other (Specify):	D? YES		N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N N		
COMMENTS:					
DEPARTMENT POLICY COMPLIANCE			YES	NO	
HAS A GENERAL PLAN BEEN APPROVED FOR THE UNIT? If YES, is the project consistent with the GP?					
If NO, what is the project justification? Is it a temporary facility? (No permanent resource con	nmitment)				
Health and Safety? Is it a Resource Management Project? Is it repairing, replacing, or rehabilitating an existing fa					
IS THE PROJECT WITHIN A CLASSIFIED SUBUNIT? Natural Preserve				\boxtimes	
Cultural Preserve State Wilderness				\mathbb{X}	
IS THE PROJECT CONSISTENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S C RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIRECTIVES?	ULTURAL	4			
IS THE PROJECT CONSISTENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S C MANUAL CHAPTER 0300?	PERATIONS		\boxtimes		
COMMENTS:					
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT PROJECT CONCEPT APPROVAL OR DESIGNEE	TITLE District Sup (Ac	brig)		9/23/19	
		1.00			

Project ID No. _____

PROJECT EVALUATION (PEF)

PCA No. _____

			RESOURCES lain all 'Yes' or 'Maybe' answers in the "Evaluation and Comments" section reference by letter and number). Attach additional pages, if necessary.
YES			 A. EARTH - WILL THE PROJECT: 1. Create unstable soil or geologic conditions? 2. Adversely affect topographic features? 3. Adversely affect any unusual or significant geologic features? 4. Increase wind or water erosion? 5. Adversely affect sand deposition or erosion of a sand beach? 6. Expose people, property, or facilities to geologic hazards or hazardous waste? 7. Adversely affect any paleontological resource?
YES			 B. AIR - WILL THE PROJECT: 1. Adversely affect general air quality or climatic patterns? 2. Introduce airborne pollutants that may affect plant or animal vigor or viability? 3. Increase levels of dust or smoke? 4. Adversely affect visibility?
YES			 <u>C. WATER</u> – WILL THE PROJECT: 1. Change or adversely affect movement in marine or fresh waters? 2. Change or adversely affect drainage patterns or sediment transportation rates? 3. Adversely affect the quantity or quality of groundwater? 4. Adversely affect the quantity or quality of surface waters? 5. Expose people or property to flood waters? 6. Adversely affect existing or potential aquatic habitat(s)?
¥□□□□⊠□□		2 NN⊔NNN2 S	 D. PLANT LIFE - WILL THE PROJECT: 1. Adversely affect any native plant community? 2. Adversely affect any unique, rare, endangered, or protected plant species? 3. Introduce a new species of plant to the area? 4. Adversely affect agricultural production? 5. Adversely affect the vigor or structure of any tree? 6. Encourage the growth or spread of alien (non-native) species? 7. Interfere with established fire management plans or practices?
YES	MAYBE		 E. ANIMAL LIFE - WILL THE PROJECT: 1. Adversely affect any native or naturalized animal population? 2. Adversely affect any unusual, rare, endangered, or protected species? 3. Adversely affect any animal habitat? 4. Introduce or encourage the proliferation of any non-native species?
YES		NXXX XXX35	 F. CULTURAL RESOURCES – WILL THE PROJECT: 1. Adversely affect a prehistoric or historic archeological site, or tribal cultural resource? 2. Adversely affect a prehistoric or historic building, structure, or object? 3. Cause an adverse physical or aesthetic effect on an eligible or contributing building, structure, object, or cultural landscape? 4. Diminish the informational or research potential of a cultural resource? 5. Increase the potential for vandalism or looting? 6. Disturb any human remains? 7. Restrict access to a sacred site or inhibit the traditional religious practice of a Native American community?

PCA No. _____

PROJECT EVALUATION (PEF)

YES	MAYBE	N N N N N N N	4. Create a visually offensive sit	a or view? evels? f the scenic resources in the immediate area or park-wide? te? k design established for this unit or diminish the intended	
YES		N N N S	Have an adverse effect on th opportunities or facilities?	e quality of the intended visitor experience? e quality of the intended visitor experience? e quality or quantity of existing or future recreational e accessibility of recreational facilities (e.g., ADA	
YES	MAYBE	NO D	 SEA-LEVEL RISE AND EXTREME EVENTS (COASTAL UNITS ONLY): Has this project been evaluated for potential impacts from sea-level rise, coastal storm surge, and other extreme events, using the Department's Sea-Level Rise and Extreme Events Guidance Document or an equivalent process? Please attach the Sea-Level Rise Worksheet (provided in the guidance document) or other detailed evaluation. Based on the evaluation described above, will the project be adversely impacted by frequent flooding or permanent inundation during its expected lifetime? 		
A6. H follow D5. N E1-3.	EVALUATION AND COMMENTS A6. Herbicides will be applied to tamarisk stumps. All applicators would be trained Parks staff and BMPs would be followed. D5. Non-native tamarisk trees would be cut down as a result of this project. E1-3. The tamarisk may provide habitat for a variety of wildlife, particularly birds. H1. The project will occur in a public use area. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW				
			To Be Completed by Qua Attach additional reviews or co		
		ITAL C	OORDINATOR COMMENTS AND SI	GNATURE (REQUIRED FOR ALL FINDINGS)	
Findings: ☑ No Impact □ Impact(s), see conditions/mitigations below or on attached page(s) □ Potential Significant Impact					
Explain The project will remove a small number of tamarisk trees and improve the viewshed of the Salton Sea from the Visitor Center. No impacts are anticipated.					
SIGNAT	URE	l —		PRINTED NAME	
TITLE	~ (}		Sara Lockett DATE	
Enviro	Environmental Scientist 12 4 2019				

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PROJECT	EVALUATION (PEF)
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D FOR ALL FINDINGS)					
 Reviewer is Designated District/Service Center/Division Tribal Liaison or Designee NAHC Listed Tribe(s) contacted (attach correspondence record for contact and findings) 					
 Findings: Project action does not have potential to affect "tribal cultural" resources (explain) Check more than one box if tribes provide differing responses, and describe all consultations below. Tribe(s) did not respond Tribe(s) approved project as written Tribe(s) approved project with treatments or conditions Tribe(s) and DPR unable to reach mutual agreement on project treatments or conditions 					
Explain No known tribal cultural resources are present in the area. A Sacred Lands File Search was conducted on 8/27/2019 and was returned with a negative results. A pedestrian survey was conducted by A. Napier on 8/12/2019 and no surface artifacts were located. This area has been previously disturbed and is in a high traffic day use area, and the presence of intact subsurface archaeological deposits is unlikely. If subsurface archaeological deposits are encountered during the ground disturbance, all work should be immediately terminated until a DPR-qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the deposits.					
PRINTED NAME Alex Napier					
DATE 9/4/2019					
ED FOR ALL FINDINGS)					
Findings: No PRC 5024 necessary (provide justification) PRC 5024 attached; project approved as written PRC 5024 attached, conditions necessary PRC 5024 attached, mitigations and/or potential significant impacts Explain A pedestrian surey was conducted on 8/12/2019 and no cultural resources were located. This area is populated with invasive tamarisk and native bushes and ground visibility was low. Extra care should be taken to search area after tamarisk are removed and while the work is going on. If previously undocumented or subsurface cultural resources are encountered during the project, work should stop within the immediate vicinity of the find until a DPR-qualified					

archaeologist can evaluate and implement avoidance or other appropriate treatment measures. If any changes are made to the scope or location of the project work, additional review by a cultural resources specialst will be necessary.

PROJECT EVALUATION (PEF)

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PCA No.

HISTORIAN COMMENTS AND SIGNATURE (REQUIRED FOR ALL FINDINGS	;)
Findings:	
 No PRC 5024 necessary (provide justification) PRC 5024 attached, project approved as written PRC 5024 attached, conditions necessary PRC 5024 attached, mitigations and/or potential significant impacts 	
Explain TAMANISK IS A NON-NATIVE, INVASIVE	SPECIES, NO
HISTORIC RESOMERS WILL BE EFFECTED B	THIS UNDERFAMAGE
HISTORIC RESOMERS WILL BE EFFECTED B TAMANISIC IS NOT AN ELEMENT OF THE H	ISTONIC CULTURAL
LANDS GPE,	
SIGNATURE RAC. M PRINTED NAME ROSS	DATE OCT- 8, 2019
TITLE STATE HISTORIAN II (RA)	DATE OCT- 8, 2019
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST COMMENTS AND SIGNATURE (REQUIRED F	OR ALL FINDINGS)
Findings	7
No Impact	
Impact(s), see conditions/mitigations below or on attached page(s)	
Potential Significant Impact	
Explain	
	See next page.
SIGNATURE PRINTED NAME	
Sara Lockett	DATE
Environmental Scientist	DATE
MAINTENANCE CHIEF/SUPERVISOR (REQUIRED FOR ALL FINDINGS)	
COMMENTS:	
SIGNATURE PRINTED NAME	
& /	
TITLE	DATE

PROJECT EVALUATION (PEF)

Project ID No.

PCA No.

HISTORIAN COMMENTS AND SIGNATURE (REQUIRED FO	R ALL FINDINGS)
Findings:	/
 No PRC 5024 necessary (provide justification) PRC 5024 attached, project approved as written PRC 5024 attached, conditions necessary PRC 5024 attached, mitigations and/or potential significant impacts 	
Explain	
	See previous page.
SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME
	DATE
TITLE	
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST COMMENTS AND SIGNATUR	RE (REQUIRED FOR ALL FINDINGS)
Findings:	
🖾 No Impact	(3)
 Impact(s), see conditions/mitigations below or on attached page(s) Potential Significant Impact 	2
Explain	
The project will result in the removal of 8 non-native tamarisk tre the goal of the project is to improve the viewshed, no additional removed. Herbicide application may only be done by trained pe	trees will be planted. Native vegetation will not be
The tamarisk must be removed between August 15 th and Decer found during that season, an Environmental Scientist should be can be evaluated.	mber 31 st to avoid impacting nesting birds. If a nest is notified immediately and work must halt until the nest
SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME
× fr f=	Sara Lockett
Environmental Scientist	DATE 10/8/2019
MAINTENANCE CHIEF/SUPERVISOR (REQUIRED FOR ALL	FINDINGS)
COMMENTS: THIS PROSECT WILL BE	EFFICIENT IF WE APPLY THE
HERBICIDE AFTER FRESH CUTTING, A	SO WE NEED TO REMOVE
CUT BRANCHES OF TAMAKISK DEBRIS	FROM ANY WATER OF MOTTER
SOIL TO AVOID RE SPROUTING.	
SIGNATURE	
S ACOBO	ALFICEDO JACOBO
PMCII	12-6-19
DPR 183 (Rev. 3/2018) (Word 3/20/2018)	

PROJECT EVALUATION (PEE)

Project ID No.

PROJECT EVALUATION (PEF)		PCA No.
TITLE		DATE
GIS SPECIALIST (COMMENTER MUST INCLUDE TITLE AND Will more tamartak data to new "invadore	SIGNATURE) plants laye	- on AGOL
SIGNATURE		11.5
TITLE	Don 2	DATE
RATT		12.5.2019
OTHER COMMENTS (COMMENTER MUST INCLUDE TITLE A	ND SIGNATUR	E)
		*
SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	
TITLE	4	DATE
OTHER COMMENTS (COMMENTER MUST INCLUDE TITLE A	AND SIGNATUR	E)
SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	
TITLE		DATE

PCA No.

PROJECT EVALUATION (PEF)

	ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR REVIEW						
YES I	МАҮВЕ	NO	CUMULATIVE IMPACTS 1. Will the project be conducted	ed in conjunctior	n with c	or at the same ti	ime as other projects
		\boxtimes	at the park? 2. Will the project be part of a 3. Are there any other projects	series of inter-re that must be c	elated omplet	projects? ed for any part	of this project to
		\boxtimes	 become operational? 4. Are there any other projects completed or any probable impacts of this project? 	s (including defe future projects t	erred m hat cou	aintenance) tha uld contribute to	at have been the cumulative
		\boxtimes	5. Are any of the projects that	relate to the pro	oposed	work outside th	ne General Plan?
is pres	ent thro	ughout	ding on staff availability, multiple proje the unit and it is probable that future t of this project.	ects may be cor projects may tai	npieteo rget it f	or removal, hov	y at the park. Tamarisk vever these activities
	RECOMMENDATION: Not a project for the purposes of CEQA compliance. Project is covered activity under DOM 0600 (Figure F) that does not require a Notice of Exemption; Project is covered activity under previously prepared CEQA Document (internal or external); cite SCH number The project is exempt. File a Notice of Exemption. A Negative Declaration should be prepared. A Mitigated Negative Declaration should be prepared. An EIR should be prepared.						
SIGNATI	JRE	1		PRINTED N Sara Loc			
TITLE	nmenta		ict			DATE	
Enviro	mmenita	I Scient	DISTRICT SUPER		REVIE	W	
COMMENTS: I acknowledge any constraints placed on the project as a result of the specialists' comments above and recommend the project proceed.							
	T SUPER		T APPROVAL SIGNATURE	TITLE Dishici	Supe	water dut 7	DATE June 19, 2020

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

ACCESSIBILITY DIVISION

	REVIEW & CO	MMEN	TSHEET
Project:	Salton Sea VC Tamarísk Removal	Design Entity:	Ocotillo Wells SVRA
Location:	Salton Sea SVRA	Project Manager:	Jeff Price
Review Date:	10/9/19	Reviewer:	Peter Oliver, CASp-818
Project Phase:	PEF	Phone:	916-445-8769

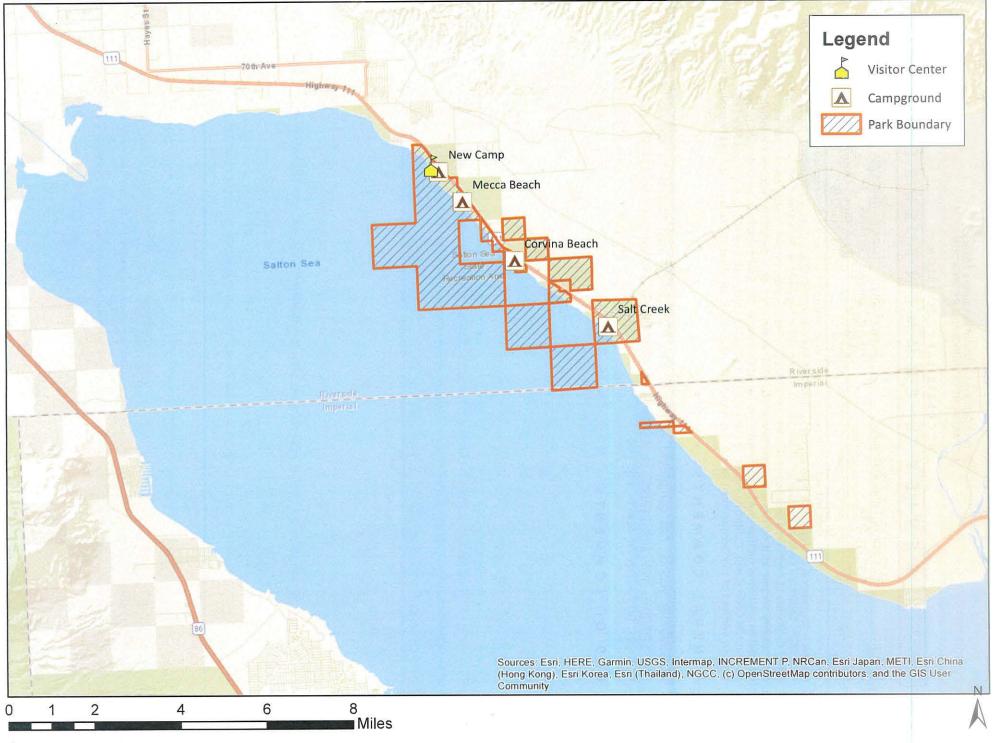
This review and comment does not authorize any omissions or deviations from applicable regulations. The intent of this review is for general conformance with applicable parts of Americans with Disabilities Act Standards for Accessible Design (ADASAD), California Code of Regulations Title 24 - access compliance, and the Department of Parks and Recreation's (DPR) California State Parks Accessibility Guidelines (CSPAG). Plans were reviewed solely on the items submitted to the Accessibility Section as it relates to standards in design and construction of accessibility features for individuals with disabilities. All construction must comply with the Latest Editions of the California Building Code (CBC), California Mechanical Code (CMC), California Plumbing Code (CPC), California Electrical code (CEC), California Fire Code (CFC), current editions of the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) and all other prevailing state and federal regulations.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Accessibility Section has completed review of this PEF, determined that there are no accessibility requirements, and the project is exempt for accessibility compliance. Unless the scope of work changes, no further review is required.

END OF COMMENTS

Salton Sea SRA



Salton Sea SRA Visitor Center Tamarisk Removal



0	50	100	200 Feet
	 		

SSSRA Tamarisk to remove

