NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

2019058342

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: Wetland Protection at Mono Lake Tufa State Natural Reserve

LOCATION: Mono Lake Tufa State Natural Reserve COUNTY: Mono

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT:

Use a combination of hand tools and herbicides to remove three (3) invasive plants: *Lepidium latifolium*, *Cirsium arvense*, and *Gypsophyla scorzonerifolia* from wetland and upland habitats at Mono Lake Tufa State Natural Reserve to protect sensitive natural resources. Work will:

- Apply herbicide Telar XP to remove approx. 1,000-10,000 Lepidium latifolium plants (342 m² or 0.085 acres):
 - If standing or running water is found in or within 30 ft. of the Lepidium latifolium patch, treat with mowing and water safe Roundup Custom.
- Use repeated mowing on approx. 1,000 Cirsium arvense plants (286 m² or 0.071 acres);
 - Survey and retreat Lepidium latifolium and Cirsium arvense 3-4 times per growing season (1x/month; June-Sept.) for approx. 5-10 years (longer if needed) and gradually decrease effort and herbicide use (L. latifolium) over the years; and
 - Treat any additional small infestations (<1 acre) of Lepidium latifolium and/or Cirsium arvense if located.
- On up to 2 acres, use hand tools to dig 6-12 in. deep to remove Gypsophyl scorzonerifolia root crowns;
 - Survey and retreat for at least 5 years, or as long as these plants are detected, whichever is longer.

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

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Sierra

EXEMPT STATUS:

□ Categorical Exemption

Class: 4

Section: 15304

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: This project consists of minor public alterations in the condition of land and/or vegetation which does not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees and is included as "Resource management projects" in the Department of Parks and Recreation's list of exempt activities in accordance with CCR§ 15300.4.

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Sovemor's Office of Planning & Research

Matt Green Acting District Superintendent

Northern / Sierra District

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DATE