



State of California  
 The Natural Resources Agency  
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

## NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>	Puerta La Cruz Conservation Camp Water Main Replacement Project		
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>	32363 Highway 79, Warner Springs, CA 92086	<b>COUNTY</b>	San Diego
	Portion of San Jose Del Valle Spanish Land Grant. Projected as NW ¼, Section 9, T 10S, R 3E, SBBM		
<b>LEAD AGENCY</b>	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
<b>CONTACT</b>	Cheyenne Borello		
<b>ADDRESS</b>	CAL FIRE – Monte Vista Headquarters 2249 Jamacha Rd El Cajon, CA 92019	<b>PHONE</b>	(619) 590-3123

**Project Description:**

This project proposes the construction/replacement of an existing water distribution loop that was constructed in 1957 with a new eight inch water main for the Puerta La Cruz Conservation Camp located at 32363 Highway 79, approximately six miles north of the unincorporated community of Warner Springs in San Diego County. The project site is an existing facility that is State owned, has been previously disturbed, and consists of: C.D.C. office, officers' quarters, dormitory, mess hall, equipment building, warehouse, and shop. The surrounding environmental setting is comprised of mixed chaparral, grassland, coast live oak woodland, disturbed habitat, with limited areas of coast live oak/riparian woodland located in the nearby (but outside the project boundary) San Luis Rey River. This is a rural area with a limited residential population. The project activities include:

- Excavation of a new trench, approximately 2,000 feet in length, 24 inches wide, at a minimum depth of 36 inches to a maximum depth of 72 inches (trenches deeper than five feet will require shoring). The trench depth will be determined by the required elevation of the pipe in relation to the elevation of the natural grade.
- Installation of an eight inch, C900 PVC water line, including all required connections: related valves, valve boxes, six wharf hydrants, and connections to the existing building's water distribution plumbing.
- The majority of spoils will be used to back-fill the excavated trench and the remaining spoils will be spread out compacted around the Camp.
- Pavement repairs at several locations will require removal and replacement with concrete of a similar thickness.

All work will be performed by CAL FIRE employees and camp crews using CAL FIRE equipment including a backhoe and hand tools.

**EXEMPTION STATUS**

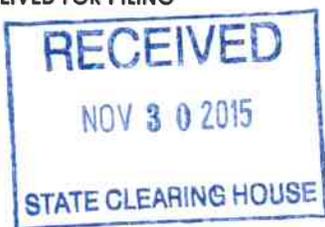
- |                                     |   |                             |  |
|-------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Categorical Exemption                         | Type/Section: Class 3 and 4 | 15303 (d) New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Statutory Exemption (state code section):     |                             | 15304 (f) Minor Alterations to Land                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)             |                             |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))   |                             |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c)) |                             |  |

**REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT**

This project is contained within the descriptions of two Categorical Exemptions listed in the CEQA Guidelines: 15303, Class 3 New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures and 15304, Class 4 Minor Alterations to Land. After completing an environmental analysis, the Department has determined this project will have no significant impact on the environment. This determination is based on field assessments, a CNDDDB search, greenhouse gas emission calculations, and archaeological review completed by CAL FIRE staff.

Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is retained on file at CAL FIRE MVU Headquarters in El Cajon.

**DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING**



Duane Shintaku 11/30/15  
 Deputy Director, Resource Management Date  
 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection