

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
 PALM SPRINGS-SOUTH COAST FIELD OFFICE

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION REVIEW AND DECISION RECORD

CX Number: CA-660-05-14

Name of Proposed Action: Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Visitor Center Landscaping and Maintenance

Legal Description: SE1/4 SE1/4 Section 1 and NE1/4 NE1/4 Section 12, T6S, R5E, SBBM, Riverside County

Land Use Plan conformance: In compliance with 43CFR1610.5-3 and BLM MS1617.3, the proposed action is in conformance with the *California Desert Conservation Area Plan* (1980 as amended), and the *Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Plan and Final EIS* (2004).

Description of Proposed Action: BLM would perform landscaping and landscape maintenance activities at the Highway 74 Visitor Center in Palm Desert, California, during FY 05 and FY 06. Proposed activities include the removal of hazardous or diseased trees, removal of weeds, and pruning and planting of native desert plants in areas and sites that are currently disturbed. Maintenance of the irrigation system would also occur. The work would be accomplished using hand tools and power tools (e.g., chain saws for tree removal). The work would be performed by BLM staff, BLM volunteers, and/or contractors.

Categorical Exclusion Reference: 516 DM 2, Appendix 1: 1.7 (Routine and continuing government business, including such things as supervision, administration, operations, maintenance and replacement activities having limited context and intensity, e.g., limited size and magnitude or short-term effects.)

Screening for Exceptions: The following exceptions apply to individual actions within categorical exclusions. The following determinations have been made relative to the Proposed Action:

2.1	Have significant adverse effects of public health or safety?	No
2.2	Have adverse effects on such unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources, park, recreation or refuge lands, wilderness areas, wild or scenic rivers, sole or principal drinking water aquifers, prime farm lands, wet lands, flood plains, or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the Department's National Register of National Landmarks?	No

2.3	Have highly controversial environmental effects?	No
2.4	Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?	No
2.5	Establish a precedent for future actions or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?	No
2.6	Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects?	No
2.7	Have adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places?	No
2.8	Have adverse effects on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species or have adverse effects on designated critical habitat for these species?	No
2.9	Require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act?	No
2.10	Threaten to violate a Federal, State, or local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?	No

Prepared by: Danella George, National Monument Manager

Reviewed by: _____
Environmental Coordinator

DECISION: It is my decision to approve the proposed action as described in Categorical Exclusion (CX) number CA-660-05-14. I find this action conforms with 516 Departmental Manual (DM) 2 and DM 6 with no exceptions. I further find this action in conformance with applicable land use plans and that it will not cause unnecessary or undue degradation. Conditions of approval, if attached, are incorporated by reference as the decision of the Bureau of Land Management regarding this action. A copy of this Decision Record and attendant conditions of approval shall be in the possession of the on-site operator during all undertakings approved herein.

APPEALS:

This decision may be appealed to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations at Title 43 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 4, and the information provided in Form 1842-1 (enclosed). If an appeal is taken, your notice of appeal must be filed in the Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior, 690 West Garnet Avenue, P.O. Box 581260, North Palm Springs, California 92258, within 30 days from receipt of this decision. The appellant has the burden of

showing that the decision appealed from is in error.

If you wish to file a petition for a stay of the effectiveness of this decision during the time that your appeal is being reviewed by the Board, pursuant to Title 43 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 4, Subpart E, the petition for a stay must accompany your notice of appeal. A petition for a stay is required to show sufficient justification based on the standards listed below. Copies of the notice of appeal and petition for a stay must also be submitted to each party named in this decision and to the Interior Board of Land Appeals and to the appropriate Office of the Solicitor (see 43 CFR 4.413) at the same time the original documents are filed with this office. If you request a stay, you have the burden of proof to demonstrate that a stay should be granted.

Standards for Obtaining a Stay

Except as otherwise provided by law or other pertinent regulations, a petition for a stay of a decision pending appeal shall show sufficient justification based on the following standards:

- (1) the relative harm to the parties if the stay is granted or denied,
- (2) the likelihood of the appellant's success on the merits,
- (3) the likelihood of immediate and irreparable harm if the stay is not granted, and
- (4) whether the public interest favors granting the stay.

APPROVED BY:

Field Manager
Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office
Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
690 W. Garnet Avenue; P.O. Box 581260
North Palm Springs, CA 92258-1260

Date