



## Categorical Exclusion Form

**Project:** CUA-Adventure Bus, Stephanie Emery

**Project Number:** 12-moja-017/PEPC 41052

**Project Description:**

Stephanie Emery, Adventure Bus, Inc., has applied for a commercial use authorization to commercial bus tours to the Kelso Depot, Kelso Dunes, and Hole-in-the-Wall. Visits to Mojave National Preserve would be included as part of Adventure Bus' 6-day tours of the Preserve and Death Valley National Park. Their operating plan describes each tour as follows: From Baker, drive to Kelso Depot to use the comfort stations and visit the exhibits. Continue to Kelso Dunes to hike to the base of the dunes and have lunch in the parking lot. Continue to Hole-in-the-Wall via Interstate highway 40 and Essex Road. Hike the Rings Loop trail and Hole-in-the-Wall Nature trail. Exit the Preserve via Essex Road.

Each group will have up to 12 people. Adventure Bus is planning one to two visits, both in late March/early April. Both drivers (including Emery) hold current First Aid, Wilderness First Responders, and CPR certificates.

**Project Locations:**

**Location 1**

<b>County:</b>	San Bernardino	<b>State:</b>	CA
<b>District:</b>	Kelso	<b>Section:</b>	Kelso Depot
<b>Geo. Marker:</b>		<b>Other:</b>	

**Location 2**

<b>County:</b>	San Bernardino	<b>State:</b>	CA
<b>District:</b>	Kelso	<b>Section:</b>	Kelso Dunes
<b>Geo. Marker:</b>		<b>Other:</b>	

**Location 3**

<b>County:</b>	San Bernardino	<b>State:</b>	CA
<b>District:</b>	Hole-in-the-Wall	<b>Section:</b>	
<b>Geo. Marker:</b>		<b>Other:</b>	

**Mitigation(s):**

- No mitigations identified.

Describe the category used to exclude action from further NEPA analysis and indicate the number of the category (see Section 3-4 of DO-12):

A.6 Commercial use licenses involving no construction.

Mojave National Preserve staff has completed an interdisciplinary review of the proposed action. No review was received from Visitor and Resource Protection. All other reviewers were supportive of issuing a commercial use authorization to Adventure Bus, Inc. They did not identify any potentially significant adverse impacts to the natural or cultural resources of Mojave National Preserve. Impairment is, therefore, not expected to result from the activities described above. A commercial use authorization may be issued to Stephanie Emery, Adventure Bus, Inc.

On the basis of the environmental impact information in the statutory compliance file, with which I am familiar, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No exceptional circumstances (e.g. all boxes in the ESF are marked "no") or conditions in Section 3-6 apply, and the action is fully described in Section 3-4 of DO-12.

Superintendent:

*Laurence J. Whalen*

Date:

*3/13/12*

NPS Contact:

*[Signature]*

Date:

*03/09/2012*