



IN REPLY REFER TO:

**United States Department of the Interior****NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**Mojave National Preserve  
2701 Darlow Road  
Barstow, California 92311**OFFICIAL ELECTRONIC MAIL SENT VIA FACSIMILIE  
HARD COPY TO FOLLOW IN MAIL**

L7617 (MOJA)

April 5, 2005

Mr. Curt Taucher, Regional Manager  
Eastern Sierra-Inland Deserts Region  
California Department of Fish and Game  
Los Alamitos Administrative Office  
4665 Lampson Avenue, Suite J  
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

Dear Mr. Taucher:

This letter is to advise you that the National Park Service is withdrawing the approval, set forth in our letter of January 31, 2005, for the California Department of Fish and Game to convert four ranching well developments in Mojave National Preserve into wildlife watering devices. These four well developments are Eagle UTM, Watson UTM, Caruthers UTM and Lecyr UTM.

Upon further review of this matter, the National Park Service has determined that additional NEPA compliance is desirable before a decision is made whether these ranching well developments are converted into wildlife watering devices. As a result, the Department of Fish and Game and any agents working on its behalf need to stop any actions that would change the status quo of these ranching well developments until the NEPA process has been completed and a decision is made.

The National Park Service will consult with the Department of Fish and Game and other interested parties on the scope of issues to be addressed in the NEPA document for this action. The NEPA process will also incorporate any necessary compliance under the Endangered Species Act and other applicable statutes. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact me at (760) 252-6101.

Sincerely,

Mary G. Martin  
Superintendent