



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
C O U N T Y O F H U M B O L D T

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NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

December 16, 2020

Humboldt County Department of Public Works is providing notice of the intent to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration of environmental impact for the following project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act:

PROJECT TITLE: McKay Community Forest Trail Plan

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The proposed project would establish a trail network with approximately 31 miles of multi-use roads, multi-use trails, hiking trails, and mountain bike trails within the McKay Community Forest located southeast of Eureka. The purpose of the project is to create a place for residents and visitors of all ages and abilities to enjoy walking, hiking, mountain-biking, wheeling (in mobility devices), horseback-riding, learning, and connecting with the natural world. The Trail Plan describes the overall goals, objectives, guiding principles, design standards, and construction practices for building sustainable trails. Initial access points include Northridge Road, Harris Street, and Redwood Acres. Future access points are anticipated to be developed near Redwood Fields, Manzanita Avenue, and Walnut Drive within approximately two to five years (or longer) as large parcels are permitted for subdivision. Amenities include signs, restrooms, benches, and trash receptacles. Construction activities include vegetation clearing, removing stumps and roots, grading and surface preparation, forming the trailbed, placing and compacting the trail surface, forming drainage features, re-vegetation, and bridge installation. Ongoing maintenance activities include trail surface maintenance, erosion control, vegetation management, and repairing short-cuts. As a separate project, Humboldt County has initiated preparation of a Forest Stewardship Plan and nonindustrial timber management plan with a target completion date of September 2021.

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The purpose of this notice is to inform the public that the Department of Public Works plans to recommend that the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project. An Initial Study was prepared to identify potentially significant impacts on the environment, and it was determined that the project will have a less than significant effect on the environment with the incorporation of specified mitigation measures.

LEAD AGENCY: County of Humboldt

ADDRESS WHERE COPY OF INITIAL STUDY IS AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW:

- Department of Public Works, 1106 Second Street, Eureka, CA 95501
- <https://humboldt.gov.org/1808/McKay-Community-Forest>

REVIEW PERIOD: The review period begins December 17, 2020, and ends January 19, 2021. Public comments regarding the correctness, completeness, or adequacy of the Initial Study are invited. Comments received by the end of the review period will be considered before adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration. Public meetings for the project are not planned at this time. Written comments should be addressed to the Humboldt County Department of Public Works, 1106 Second Street, Eureka, CA 95501, or e-mailed to hseemann@co.humboldt.ca.us.