



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

June 2, 2022

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 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.

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.

The Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration was updated from the previous version (dated December 16, 2020) which was circulated for public review but not adopted. Updates include: supplemental information and plans to address controllable sediment discharge sources on historic logging roads converted to multi-use trails and service roads; and revising the proposed action related to the R-1 road which leads to a private inholding.

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
- <http://www.humboldt.gov/mckayforest>

REVIEW PERIOD: The review period begins June 3, 2022, and ends July 5, 2022. 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. 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. The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors is expected to consider adoption of the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration on or around the meeting of August 16, 2022.