
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND INITIAL STUDY

DATE: February 5, 2021

TO: Responsible Agencies, Interested Parties, and Organizations

SUBJECT: **Fort Ross State Historic Park Kashia Loop Trail Project — SONOMA COUNTY**

The California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) is the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Lead Agency for the proposed Fort Ross State Historic Park Kashia Loop Trail Project (Proposed Project). DPR has directed the preparation of an Initial Study (IS) in compliance with CEQA.

Project Location: The project is located within Fort Ross State Historic Park, at 19005 Coast Highway 1 Jenner, CA 95450. The Park is located along Highway 1, approximately eight miles north of Jenner and 23 miles south of Gualala, Sonoma County.

Project Description: The Fort Ross State Historic Park Kashia Loop Trail (Project) is a proposed Class I pedestrian interpretive trail route totaling approximately 1.66 miles. The project encompasses the integration of new trail construction (approximately 1.26 miles), and existing road and trail routes (approximately 0.4 mile). Together, the combined routes will link many existing park features with areas of interest previously unidentified to the general public.

Overall design will include interpretation at selected points to bring together stories from the indigenous Kashia Band of Pomo Indians; Alaska Natives; the Call Ranch Period; and others in the international community once associated with the Russian American Company's Ross Settlement. The project will create an interpretive multimedia experience encouraging park visitors to explore the deep and complex layered cultural landscape of the park.

Potentially Significant Environmental Impacts: Potentially significant impacts to air quality, aesthetics, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazards, hydrology/water quality, noise, and tribal cultural resources identified in the Initial Study. All impacts are reduced to a less than significant level with the implementation of project specific requirements.

Hazardous Waste Sites: Pursuant to Section 15087(c)(6) of the Guidelines for California Environmental Quality Act, State Parks acknowledges the non-existence of hazardous waste sites within the project area reviewed by this Negative Declaration (ND).

IS/MND Document Review and Availability: The public review and comment period for the IS/MND will extend for 30 days starting **February 5, 2021 and ending March 7, 2021**. The IS/MND can also be viewed and/or downloaded on the DPR website:

https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=981

Comments/Questions: Comments and/or questions regarding the IS/ND may be directed to Brad Michalk, California Department of Parks and Recreation, One Capitol Mall (Suite 410), Sacramento, CA 95814 or email: ceqa.nsc@parks.ca.gov