

## FINAL NEGATIVE DECLARATION

**PROJECT:** Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park Campground Cabin Project (“Proposed Project”)

**LEAD AGENCY:** California Department of Parks and Recreation (“DPR” or “State Parks”)

**AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS:** The Draft Initial Study/ Mitigated Negative Declaration (“Draft IS/MND”) was made available throughout the 30-day public review period available on DPR’s CEQA notices page for the Central California Region. [https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=982](https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=982). The Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (“Final IS/MND”) and all supporting materials will be available, by request, at DPR's Monterey District Headquarters.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The Proposed Project consists of constructing and operation of new camping facilities (i.e., low-cost visitor-serving accommodations) and associated infrastructure within the Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park. More specifically, the Proposed Project would result in the construction and operation of new low-cost overnight accommodations consisting of nine (9) rustic cabins and related infrastructure. The Proposed Project would comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (“ADA”) and State Parks’ 2015 Accessibility Guidelines. The proposed improvements include the following:

- Nine (9) prefabricated hard wall camping cabins with accessible ramps and exterior amenities (e.g., picnic table, fire pit, etc.)
- A comfort station (combination restroom and shower building) consisting of three (3) lavatories and three (3) showers,
- Renovation of the existing parking lot,
- Internal campground paths,
- Split rail cedar fencing around the outer perimeter of the site to preclude access and associated direct and indirect effects to adjacent sensitive habitats (i.e., riparian),
- Infrastructure improvements, including extending existing utilities to the site and upgrading existing water distribution lines and sanitary sewer facilities,
- Restoration and landscaping in temporarily disturbed areas, as well as other associated environmental enhancements to create, restore, and enhance existing habitat values, and
- Other miscellaneous site improvements (e.g., signage, interpretive elements, maintenance, lighting, fire hydrants, etc.).

### FINDINGS

State Parks prepared an Initial Study to assess the Proposed Project’s potential impacts on the environment and the significance of those impacts and is incorporated in the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration. Based on this Initial Study, State Parks has determined that the Proposed Project would not have any significant impacts on the environment once all proposed mitigation measures have been implemented. The California Department of Parks and Recreation approved this Project on September 14, 2021 and made the following determinations:

- The Proposed Project would not result in any potential adverse impacts on Agricultural Resources, Mineral Resources, or Population and Housing.

- Potential adverse impacts resulting from the Proposed Project were found to be less than significant in the following areas: Aesthetics, Air Quality, Energy, Geology & Soils, Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Hydrology and Water Quality, Land Use, Noise, Public Services, Recreation, Transportation, Utilities and Service Systems, and Wildfire.
- The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration concluded that implementation of the Project could result in potentially significant effects on the environment (i.e., Biological Resources and Cultural Resources) and identified appropriate and feasible mitigation measures that would reduce the significant effects to a less than significant level. Full implementation of the proposed mitigation measures included in this Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration would ensure that potential adverse impacts on Biological Resources and Cultural Resources would be reduced to a less than significant level.
- The Department of Parks and Recreation prepared the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act Cal. Pub. Res. Code Section 21000 et seq and associated Guidelines (California Code of Regulations Title 14, Chapter 3 Section 15000 – 15387).
- Department of Parks and Recreation prepared a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (“MMRP”), which meets the requirements of CEQA (Public Resources Code, Sec. 21081.6) and Sec. 15074(d) of the CEQA Guidelines) and contains measures for the reporting on and monitoring of measures to mitigate or avoid significant environmental effects.
- Pursuant to Section 21082.1 of the California Environmental Quality Act, the California Department of Parks and Recreation independently reviewed and analyzed the Draft Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, Final Initial/Study Mitigated Negative Declaration, and other information in the record and considered the information contained therein, prior to adopting and certifying the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration and acting upon or approving the Project. The California Department of Parks and Recreation finds that these documents reflect the independent judgment of DPR. DPR, as lead agency, also confirms that the mitigation measures detailed in these documents are feasible and will be implemented as stated in the “MMRP”.
- In accordance with Sec. 15065 of the CEQA Guidelines, the California Department of Parks and Recreation makes the following additional findings: (1) the Proposed Project, as mitigated, does not have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of an endangered, rare, or threatened species, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory; (2) the Proposed Project would not result in the achievement of short-term environmental goals to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals; (3) the Proposed Project would not result in environmental effects that are cumulatively considerable; and (4) the Proposed Project would not cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

This document, along with the Draft Initial Study/Negative Declaration (SCH#2021050593), public comments received on the Draft IS/MND, and the Notice of Determination, constitute the Final Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Pfeiffer Big Sur State Park Campground Cabin Project.

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*Matthew Allen*

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Matthew Allen  
Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor

9/23/2021

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Date

DocuSigned by:

*Brian Dewey*

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Brian Dewey  
Assistant Deputy Director

9/23/2021

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Date