

# News Release



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## **Montaña de Oro State Park to Begin Work on Bluff Trail Accessibility Project This Month**

On Monday November 18, 2013, California State Parks will begin accessibility work on the Bluff Trail in Montaña de Oro State Park. This \$1.3 million project will consist of a variety of accessibility improvements, including:

- Replacing the two restrooms at the Coon Creek parking lot and the Bluff Trail Service Road with new ADA compliant restroom facilities;
- Re-contouring the trail surface to reduce erosion impacts, restore natural hydrology and reduce water run-off, and allow for mobility impaired access the full length of the Bluff Trail;
- Installing accessible parking spaces at the north trail head parking area and the south trail head parking lot at Coon Creek;
- Replacing the old pedestrian bridge at Coralina Cove and adding a new bridge north of Coon Creek.
- Improving scenic overlooks by installing new decking, surfaces, railings, and interpretive panels;
- Adding a new accessible picnic area, bench, and table;
- Re-routing sections of trail to avoid future bluff retreat, close unsustainable and severely eroded alignments, and to protect the Coon Creek water shed and other resources.

The initial appearance of the trail will change as vegetation is removed and the trail is re-contoured and widened to correct drainage problems. After the initial re-grading and re-contouring, native vegetation will be restored and the trail tread will narrow to more conventional widths as the plants re-establish along the trail edges.

This project will require partial periodic closures to sections of the Bluff Trail. On occasion, there will be heavy equipment traveling on Pecho Rd between the quonset hut staging area at Spooner Ranch House and the Coon Creek parking lot. California State Parks will inform the public of these closures via our website, social media sites, and park postings, and we urge the public's cooperation in avoiding any closed sections of trail and parking areas during the duration of the project. However, all trails and trailheads on the east side of Pecho Rd will remain open.

Work is anticipated to be completed by December of 2014.

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