

DRAFT

**Recirculated
Revised MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION**

for

**REDWOOD NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS
REDWOOD MAINTENANCE FACILITY RELOCATION PROJECT**

June 2007

Lead Agency



State of California
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
North Coast Redwoods District
P.O. Box 2006
Eureka CA 95502

RECIRCULATED
REVISED INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

PROJECT: Redwood Maintenance Facility Relocation Project
Del Norte County, California

LEAD AGENCY: California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR)

INTRODUCTION AND REGULATORY GUIDANCE

This Recirculated Revised Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (Recirculated RIS/MND) for the Redwood Maintenance Facility Relocation Project has been prepared by the California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR). The purpose is to present changes in project conditions and related mitigations since the Revised IS/MND was circulated for public review and comment (per CCR § 15073.5), and to evaluate the potential environmental effects of these changes. The Revised IS/MND for this project was circulated for public comment on June 26, 2005 (SCH#2004122039) for a period of thirty days.

The Recirculated RIS/MND has been prepared in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code §21000 *et seq.*, and the State CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations (CCR) §15000 *et seq.* It will receive the same kind of notice and public review given to the original draft, under CCR §15087 *et seq.*, and will be filed with the Office of Planning and Research/State Clearinghouse (OPR).

The Project Description and Summary of Mitigation Measures sections below reflect changes as specified in the Corrections and Additions section of this document.

LEAD AGENCY

The lead agency is the public agency with primary approval authority over the proposed project. In accordance with CEQA Guidelines §15051(b) (1), "the lead agency will normally be an agency with general governmental powers, such as a city or county, rather than an agency with a single or limited purpose." The lead agency for the proposed project is CDPR. The contact person for the lead agency, for general project information, is:

Jeff Bomke or Ray Cozby
Redwood National and State Parks Headquarters
1111 Second Street
Crescent City, California 95531
707-465-7332 or 7303

All comments regarding this environmental document must be submitted in writing, and postmarked no later than July , 2007.

Recirculated Revised IS/MND
Redwood Maintenance Facility Relocation Project
Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park

Send by regular mail to:

:

_____, CA 95____

By Fax: 707/_____

By Email: _____

All inquiries regarding environmental compliance for this project should be addressed to _____ at the address above, or at 707-_____.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS:

This Recirculated Revised IS/MND for the Redwood Maintenance Facility Relocation Project and a copy of the original Revised IS/MND and all associated documents for this project will be available throughout the 30-day public review period at the following locations:

Del Norte County Public Library
190 Price Mall
Crescent City, California 95531

Library
Government Documents Section
Humboldt State University
1 Harpst Street
Arcata California 95521

Humboldt County Public Library
Government Documents Section
1313 Third Street
Eureka, California 95501

Redwood National and State Park
Headquarters
1111 Second St.
Crescent City, CA 95531

CA Dept. Parks and Recreation
North Coast Redwoods District
3431 Fort Ave (95503)
P.O. Box 2006
Eureka, CA 95502-2006

CA Dept. Parks & Recreation
Northern Service Center
One Capitol Mall, Suite 410
Sacramento, California 95814

The document will also be available at http://www.nps.gov/redw/current_ppm.htm and http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=981.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
REDWOOD MAINTENANCE FACILITY RELOCATION PROJECT, JEDEDIAH SMITH REDWOODS
STATE PARK**

Redwood National and State Parks proposes to develop a maintenance facility in a 10-acre field (the "Midway" site) in the middle of the Aubell Ranch property near Crescent City, California (**Figs. 1 & 2**). The new facility is needed to combine the maintenance operations of state and national parks into a single facility located closer to reliable transportation and supply networks for increased efficiency and long-term cost effectiveness. It would replace a C DPR maintenance complex formerly located at Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park that was destroyed by fire, and would also replace an aging NPS maintenance facility at the Requa area, in a geologically unstable area. The new maintenance facility would be sited outside of a 125-foot setback from an unnamed intermittent tributary of Elk Creek. The land occupied by the proposed facility and the rights-of-way for the utility systems, including a leach field, are currently owned by C DPR. As part of this project, the National Park Service boundary will be adjusted to include the entire 69.9 acre Aubell property. In addition, the State will transfer ownership of about 17 acres of the land included in the boundary adjustment to NPS for a 75 year period, after which the agreement can be renegotiated.

The maintenance facility would include a variety of work, shop, storage and maintenance office functions. Maintenance facility operations would include welding, electrical repair work, carpentry, equipment repair, telecommunications operation, sign development and maintenance, groundskeeping, road and trail maintenance, and related office support space.

NPS and C DPR would consolidate functions within 2 structures: 1) a main shop building and 2) a combined central warehouse and covered storage "pole barn" building. This consolidation would minimize the amount of perimeter wall and developed footprint, and improve heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) energy conservation and other building system efficiencies. The buildings would be oriented in an east-west configuration to provide the maximum sun exposure, optimum day-lighting potential, and other passive solar opportunities. The building is being designed to give a more residential feel to blend better with the neighborhood. However, the site is well-screened from all but one house, which is on a ridge about 1,000-feet northeast of the site.

The new maintenance facility would include sustainable technologies to the extent practicable and would include approximately 30,000 square feet of building area for the main shop and warehouse, including a 4,000 square foot open-sided structure attached to the warehouse for covered equipment storage.

The maintenance facility would have about 200,000 square feet (4.6 acres) of developed area, including about 75,000 square feet of paved lots and yard, 38,000 square feet of gravel lots, 44,000 square feet of unpaved outdoor storage yard, 15,000 square feet of landscaping and screen planting, 2,000 square feet of sidewalks, and the approximately 30,000 square feet of buildings mentioned above. Another roughly 150,000 square feet



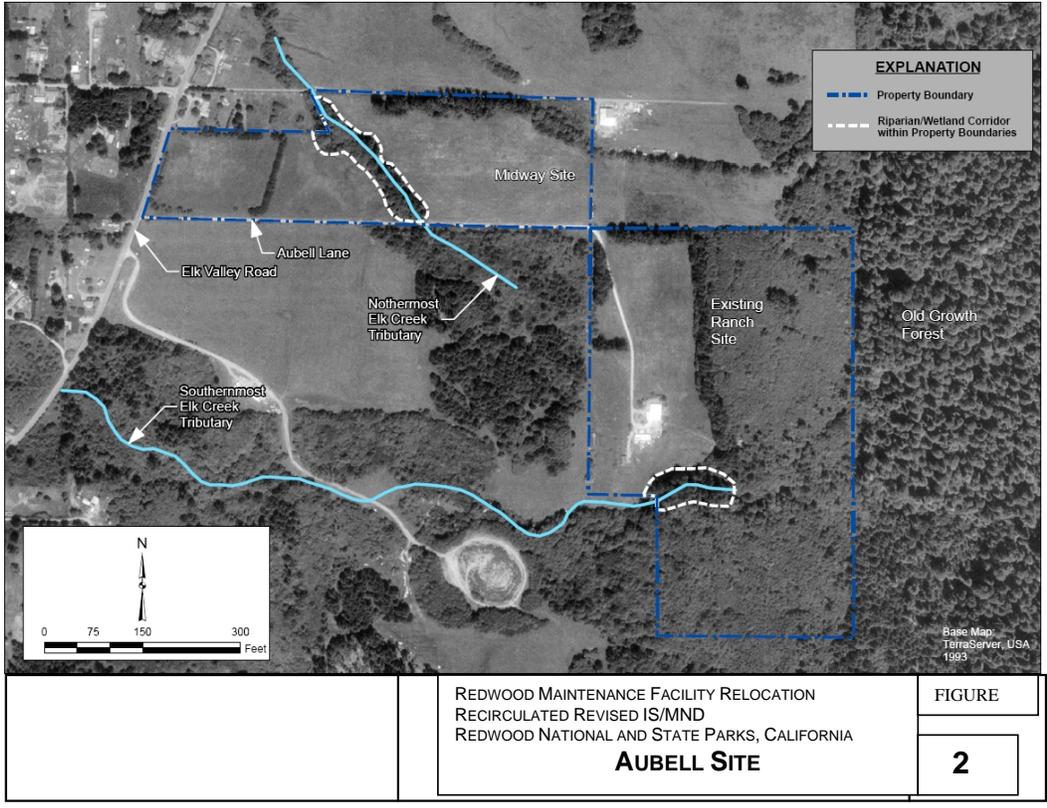
BASE MAP:
Redwood National and State Parks,
Official Map and Guide

Approximate Scale: 1" = 2 miles

SLC7Q052.ppt

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| <p>Date: 02/12/2007</p> | <p>Redwood Maintenance Facility Relocation Recirculated Revised IS/MND Redwood National and State Parks, California</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Project Location</p> | <p>FIGURE 1</p> |
|-------------------------|--|----------------------------|

Recirculated Revised IS/MND
Redwood Maintenance Facility Relocation Project
Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park



(about 3.4 acres) of road shoulders, drainage swales, leach field sites, and other disturbed ground at Aubell would be replanted in grass following construction.

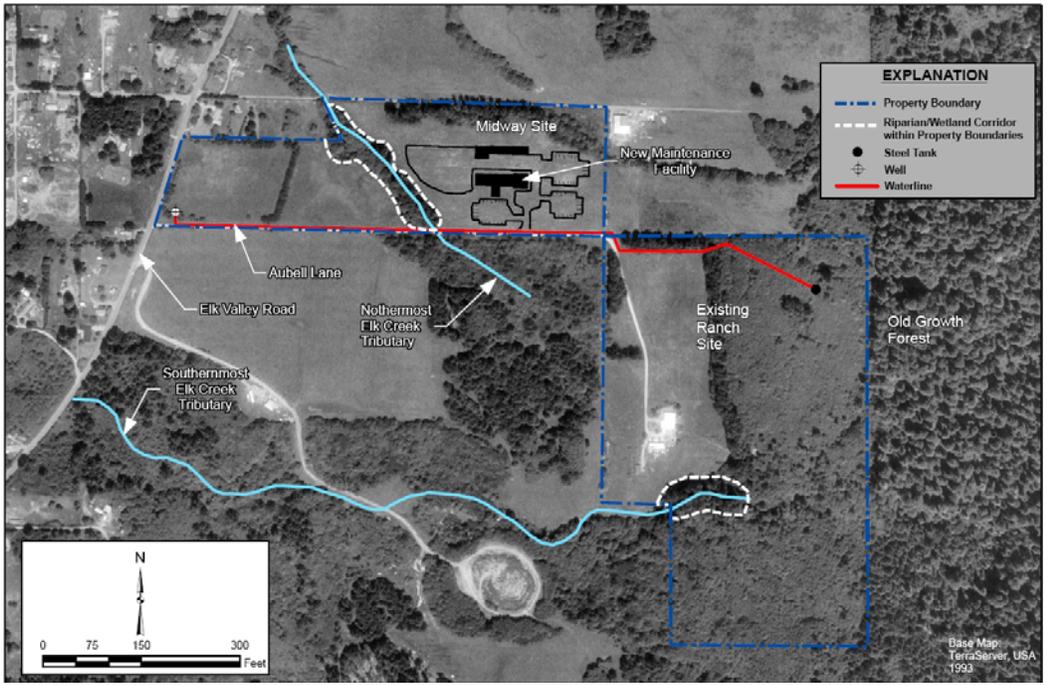
About 10,000 cubic yards of earth moving would occur for site grading to develop level building pads and parking lots and create appropriate drainage patterns. Perimeter fencing, an access gate, site lighting, and signs would be installed. Site lighting would be kept to the absolute minimum needed for safety and security to minimize impacts on the neighbors and save energy.

The facility would include approximately 100 equipment, park vehicle, and employee parking spaces, including an appropriate number of parking spaces that meet or exceed the minimum requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act and other applicable accessibility standards.

The proposed project would include road modifications to the existing single lane Aubell Lane to accommodate maintenance vehicles and increased traffic following the development of the new facilities. The intersection of Aubell Lane and Elk Valley Road would be relocated to the north to allow for better vehicular sight distances and safer turning. It would be designed to meet County standards. In addition, approximately 1,800 feet of Aubell Lane would be widened to two lanes to provide adequate access for park vehicles to the proposed facility and for public access to a planned trail head at the end of Aubell Lane. A new larger, "fish friendly" culvert would be installed to replace an existing undersized culvert over the crossing of the Elk Creek tributary. The culvert would accommodate the road widening and adequately pass a 100-year flood event. **Up to 16 Douglas Fir trees that are 12 to 18 inches in diameter at breast height and 4 Douglas Fir trees that are 18 to 24 inches diameter at breast height will be removed. The majority are adjacent to Elk Valley Rd. and will be cleared for the entrance realignment and one is in the area of existing road widening.**

Aubell's current onsite water system consists of an infiltration gallery at a freshwater spring. A 1 ½-inch line delivers the spring water to a slow sand filter, chlorinator, and to a 1,200 gallon redwood water storage tank. The water system supports the on-site CDPR ranger station and does not have the capacity to support the proposed maintenance facility. Under the Revised IS/MND, circulated June, 2005, the water supply would have been obtained from the City of Crescent City municipal water supply by connecting to the proposed water system on adjacent Elk Valley Rancheria property. A 10-inch water pipe would have been installed on the Aubell site to a connection point at the boundary between the two properties. After further site-specific planning, this proposal was determined to be infeasible. The project as now proposed would have an on-site water system consisting of a water well, water storage tank and distribution lines, which would provide water for potable water uses and fire flow (**Figure 3**). The waterline would be approximately 3,330 feet in total length from the wellhead to the water tank and would be standard 10-inch plastic waterline pipe. The water tank would hold approximately 70,000 gallons of water and be constructed of carbon steel. Except for the waterline to the water tank the project would take place within the same footprint as that for the new maintenance facility. The portion of the water system that lies within 500 feet of old growth would be constructed during the non-nesting season.

A test well was drilled in the western end of the Aubell site near Elk Valley Road and Aubell Lane. The test well log indicates that the test well was screened from 37 feet to



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| | REDWOOD MAINTENANCE FACILITY RELOCATION RECIRCULATED REVISED IS/MND REDWOOD NATIONAL AND STATE PARKS, CALIFORNIA PROPOSED MAINTENANCE FACILITY | FIGURE |
| | | 3 |

57 feet below ground surface. According to the test well log, subsurface sediments consist of clay from a depth of 3 feet to 26 feet. The log also indicates that a 24 hour pump test was performed at a rate of more than 25 gallons per minute. Results from the test well verified that a well at this location would produce substantially more water than needed for this facility after the fire water storage tank is filled. The tank would be filled over a period of time so as to not adversely affect the water table in the area. The producing aquifer would be located at the same depth as the screened interval. Due to the depth of the aquifer and the overlying clay layer, it is not likely that pumping of groundwater would impact surface features or reduce creek flow. A county well permit will be obtained to verify this conclusion.

A small 10 x 12 foot wellhead building would be constructed in a similar style as the new maintenance facility structures and would house the well and the pump system. Approximately 40 feet of waterline would be trenched from the wellhead to the road prism. Both the well and waterline would pass through pasturelands consisting almost exclusively of non-native grass species. Electrical power service would be available from nearby above ground utility poles (about 50 feet) located adjacent to Aubell Lane.

The waterline would extend within the two-lane road prism approximately 2,180 feet to the east along Aubell Lane, crossing the unnamed tributary of Elk Creek within the planned road prism for the maintenance facility. The waterline would continue from the east end of the two-lane road (Aubell Lane) along an existing logging road to the water tank site approximately 1,100 feet. This area consists of smaller second growth trees, primarily alders, redwood, Sitka spruce and hemlock, with fewer Douglas-fir. Shrubs are primarily native species: sword fern, thimbleberry, salal, huckleberry and salmonberry. No rare plant species were found within the Area of Potential Effect, or nests of any raptor species.

Minor improvements to the existing logging road would consist of light grading and placing four inches of gravel along the approximately 12-foot wide corridor. The waterline trench would be approximately two feet wide and approximately three feet in depth. The area disturbed during construction would be approximately 12 to 14 feet wide.

The water storage tank would be constructed on or near the prism of an abandoned logging road. Low shrubs and immature trees would be grubbed out of an area approximately 20 feet wide along the abandoned logging road and about 60 feet in diameter at the tank site. The tank pad would be 28-feet in diameter and placed within the 60 foot grubbed out area. The bolted steel water tank would be 25-feet in diameter and approximately 20-feet tall with a capacity of 70,000 gallon, which would be constructed on the tank pad. Gravel would be placed around the tank pad to minimize upkeep around the water tank. Electric power for the water supply system would be provided as part of the development of the new maintenance facility.

Construction of the water system would coincide with the construction of the new maintenance facility, which is expected to begin in spring 2008 and be completed by fall 2009. The water storage tank terminates approximately 300 feet from an old growth redwood stand in Redwood National and State Parks, which is within the noise restriction buffer prescribed by U.S. Fish

and Wildlife Service to protect marbled murrelets (federally listed as threatened, state endangered) during their nesting season. In order to avoid impacts to murrelets from construction noise, the tank along with the portion of the water line that is within 825 feet of old growth forest would be constructed outside the nesting period of March 24 through September 15. Once installed, the water tank would be virtually noise free. Surveys to date have detected no northern spotted owls within or adjacent to the project site.

The proposed project would include an onsite wastewater treatment and disposal system. It would be designed for up to 1,400 gallons of wastewater per day, but actual use is expected to be much lower. The wastewater treatment system would include a septic tank and leach field system connected by a sewer line. The leach field would be located on the west side of the creek at what was referred to as the Elk Valley Road site, where soils are more suitable for a disposal field. The disposal field would be more than 300 feet away from the creek and well out of the floodplain. The effluent pipe would run parallel to Aubell Lane and be buried in the road shoulder as it passes over the Elk Creek tributary. The pipe would be double lined to protect the creek in case of a break.

For storm water treatment the site would be divided into two watersheds (north and south) into which surface run-off from the parking lots would be directed. The run-off would be dispersed and filtered through grassy areas and swales before it entered the creek.

The new maintenance facility would be supplied with three-phase power. The overhead electrical line that parallels Elk Valley Road has three-phase power. The existing power line that parallels Aubell Lane would be modified to carry three-phase power. The service line from the overhead line to the building (about 250 feet) would be placed underground.

SUMMARY OF MITIGATION MEASURES

(Corrections and Additions indicated below have been incorporated into this section.)

The following mitigation measures have been incorporated into the scope of work for the Redwood Maintenance Facility Relocation Project. Because this project is being conducted jointly by CDPR and NPS, mitigation measures will be fully implemented by both agencies to avoid or minimize adverse environmental impacts identified in this MND. These mitigation measures will be included in contract specifications and instructions to all personnel involved in implementing the project.

MITIGATION MEASURE AESTHETICS – d, Light and glare

- Include the minimum lighting required for site security.
- Use downward-facing and unobtrusive luminaries at facilities and building entrances and exits. Direct and shield night lighting to minimize light scatter effects.
- Design color of facility to match the vernacular of the landscape.
- Where feasible, consolidate construction equipment and materials to the staging areas at the end of each work day to limit the visual intrusion of construction equipment during non-work hours.

- Provide native vegetation to screen new developed facilities from park visitors' and adjacent land users' views.
- Design new facilities in an architectural style consistent with the national and state park setting, and that of the surrounding community.

MITIGATION MEASURE AIR QUALITY- d, Pollutants

- Cover truck beds for vehicles leaving construction sites to minimize blowing dust or loss of debris.
- Limit truck and related construction equipment speeds in active construction areas (e.g., exposed dirt surfaces) to a maximum of 25 miles per hour while inside park boundaries, unless a lower speed limit is posted.
- Maintain adequate dust suppression equipment, using clean water obtained from off-site to control excess airborne particulates at staging areas, active construction zones, and unpaved roads leading to/from active construction areas.

MITIGATION MEASURE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES – General

- NPS/CDPR natural resources staff will monitor construction activities as necessary to ensure implementation of the mitigation measure required in this document.

MITIGATION MEASURE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES – a, Special Status species

- No construction will occur within 825 feet of old growth redwood (approximately 500 feet down the waterline from the tank) between the dates of March 24 through September 15.
- Conduct Northern spotted owl surveys following approved USFWS protocol prior to construction activities. If owls are detected, construction activities will be excluded within 825 feet of owl habitat from February 1 through July 31. If any other listed special-status species are detected, additional consultation will be undertaken with the U.S. Fish and wildlife Service or California Dept. of Fish & Game to determine construction stipulations that would be required. Additional measures required by regulatory agencies will be implemented prior to and during project construction, and could include restrictions on construction timing, monitoring for presence of listed species, identification of special-status species protection buffers, and modification of facility siting.
- Implement on-going program and new measures to reduce potential threats to listed special-status bird species as part of the *Conservation Strategy for Managing Threatened and Endangered Species in Redwood National and State Parks* (NPS 2003a) including but not limited to, noise reduction measures, and stopping work if listed special-status bird species are encountered during project activities.
- Coho salmon (state and federally listed as threatened) and coastal cutthroat trout (state species of concern) occur in the unnamed tributary to Elk Creek that will be affected by this project. The NPS submitted a biological assessment to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on June 22, 2005, as required under

Section 7 of the federal Endangered Species Act, that described the project, potential effects of the project on Coho salmon, and mitigation to avoid or reduce any adverse effects on Coho salmon or Coho salmon critical habitat. NMFS issued Biological Opinion 151422SWR2003AR8948:BAD, dated October 27, 2005, that documented its determination that the project is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of threatened Coho salmon or result in the destruction or adverse modification of Coho salmon critical habitat. On July 19, 2006 the California Dept. of Fish and Game determined that the biological opinion was consistent with the California Endangered Species Act (CESA No. 2080-2006-014-01). In a subsequent discussion with NOAA Fisheries on 2/16/2007 (Note to file, B. Holden) regarding the changes made to the water system for the project, the agency concluded that the changes to the project did not meet the criteria warranting reinitiating the consultation as stated in the Biological Opinion.

The project will incorporate a series of mitigation measures into contract specifications to avoid or reduce potential adverse effects on Coho salmon and its habitat and will be implemented under the reasonable and prudent measures and non-discretionary terms and conditions as specified in the Biological Opinion. The measures are as follows:

1. Ground-disturbing work will be conducted only during the normal operating season (NOS) which is between June 1 and October 15. Culvert replacement will occur during the NOS but prior to upstream migration of adult anadromous salmonids. The stream course will not be dewatered when eggs or alevins are present. Riparian vegetation will be removed only if absolutely necessary for culvert upgrade or road widening activities. Temporary low water crossings will be designed, and inspected daily, to insure fish passage. The construction schedule for culvert replacement will be carefully timed in consultation with the park fish biologist.
2. All stream crossings will be constructed to accommodate at least the 100-year flood, including associated bed load and debris. Fish passage will be provided and maintained at all road crossings of existing and potential fish-bearing streams. Crossings will be constructed and maintained to prevent diversion of stream flow out of the channel and down the road in event of a crossing failure.
3. Listed salmonids that would be in the area under construction will be captured prior to and during stream flow diversion and dewatering and relocated to a suitable instream location immediately up or down stream of the work area. This will be done by RNSP Fishery Biologists by using an electroshocker and netting methods. RNSP Fishery Biologists will follow NOAA Fisheries guidelines. All efforts will be taken to neither exhaust nor kill listed salmonids during collection and relocation.
4. Water bars will be installed in temporary access roads located on slopes to control and reduce surface scouring.

5. If there is a live stream at the crossing when the culvert will be replaced, stream flow will be diverted around the culvert construction site. Presence of alevins or eggs will be determined by a RNSP Fishery Biologist prior to dewatering. The diverted flows will be returned to their natural stream course as soon as construction is complete and prior to the rainy season. Any wastewater from project activities and de-watering will be disposed of off-site in a location that will not drain directly into a stream channel or carry sediment laden water into a stream channel. Installation of hay bales and silt fences will be completed before flow is restored to its natural stream channel. Ground-disturbing work will temporarily cease and disturbed sites will be winterized if the National Weather Service 5-day forecast predicts 100 percent chance of rain over 0.5 inches on a given day in the Aubell area and/or if the 1-day forecast predicts a 50 percent chance of over 0.5 inches of rain the next day.
6. Sediment delivery to streams from roads will be minimized. Road surfaces will be outsloped, except in cases where outsloping would increase sediment delivery to streams or where outsloping is unfeasible or unsafe. Road drainage will be routed away from potentially unstable channels, fills, and hillslopes. Side casting will be restricted as necessary to prevent the introduction of sediment into streams.
7. Culvert and dip construction will take place from the bank, if possible, or on a temporary, removable pad underlain with filter fabric.
8. When constructing the new arch culvert for the northernmost tributary that crosses Aubell Lane, the agencies will avoid placement of new structures, such as footings, within the streambed.
9. Removal, installation, or operation of hazardous material storage tanks will comply with federal and state regulations.
10. Disruption of natural hydrologic flow paths, including diversion of stream flow and interception of surface and subsurface flows, will be minimized.
11. To minimize the effects of effluent entering the stream if the sewer line is ever damaged, the sewer line will be double lined and placed in the fill of the arch culvert where the line crosses the stream.

MITIGATION MEASURE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES - b Riparian vegetation

- Minimize the disturbance to and removal of riparian vegetation. Where riparian vegetation extends outside of the designated 100-foot setback from the creek and into the construction zone, avoid disturbance to this vegetation and establish a 25-foot protective buffer at the edge of riparian habitat. Prior to construction, install protective fencing material to demarcate all setbacks (100-foot and 25-foot setbacks) that protect the creek and the edge of riparian vegetation. If riparian vegetation cannot be avoided or protected within buffer zones, then the area of riparian vegetation disturbed will be replaced at a 1:1 ratio within the project

vicinity as described under the revegetation measures. Store equipment and materials in designated setback zones. For these activities, provide proper and timely maintenance for vehicles and equipment used during construction to reduce the potential for mechanical breakdowns. Conduct maintenance and fueling within designated setback areas for these activities.

MITIGATION MEASURE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES – c Wetlands

- When constructing the new arch culvert over the northernmost tributary that crosses Aubell Lane, the agencies will avoid placement of new structures, such as footings, within the streambed and bank.
- Work activities in active streambeds (areas of flowing water) will occur during periods of low flow (e.g., June through October).
- Avoid effects on waterways and wetlands during construction activities. Use protective materials identified in park and agency best management practices, such as silt fencing at waterways and wetlands to prevent construction materials from escaping work areas.
- To avoid disturbance to bird species protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, NPS will remove nesting substrate that would be subsequently disturbed by construction (trees and large shrubs) before the nesting season (February 1 through September 30) to encourage migratory birds to select nesting trees outside the project area. Nesting trees for migratory birds are abundant in the parks.
- Additional mitigation, protective measures, and applicable permit conditions imposed by permitting and/or regulatory agencies identified following the completion of the environmental compliance phase will be implemented as required.

MITIGATION MEASURE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES – d. Vegetation

- Avoid removal and damage to large trees. Retain native trees with a diameter of 20 inches or greater at breast height throughout the site. Removal of trees greater than 20 inches in diameter at breast height will be assessed by park biologists to determine whether they provide suitable habitat for listed species. If so, regulatory agencies will be consulted, and their requirements followed. Any large trees that are approved to be removed will be cut into the longest possible segments with root wads attached, if possible, and stockpiled for use in natural resource projects; they will be replaced at a 1:1 ratio. Only plantings of trees will be used, no seeds will be substituted. Smaller removed trees will be used as mulch material.
- Install temporary barriers to contain construction activities, thereby protecting natural surroundings (including trees, plants, and root zones) from damage. Avoid fastening ropes, cables, or fences to trees.
- Install fencing material to minimize use of highly sensitive sites, such as riparian corridors and wetlands, and install signs as needed to direct use to more appropriate areas.

- All trees to be removed shall be identified on site prior to construction using visible markings within the vegetation clearing limit. Trees to remain on site (i.e., saved trees outside of the vegetation clearing limit) will be protected during construction. Prior to the start of any clearing, stockpiling, excavation, grading, compaction, paving, change in ground elevation, or construction, remaining trees that are immediately adjacent to or within the project construction corridor shall be clearly delineated by constructing short post and plank walls, or other protective fencing material, at the dripline of each tree to hold back fill. The delineation markers shall remain in place for the duration of all project work. Where proposed development or other site work must encroach upon the dripline of a saved tree, special construction techniques will be required to allow the roots to breathe and obtain water (examples include, but are not limited to use of hand equipment for tunnels and trenching, allowance of only one pass through a tree's dripline). Tree wells or other techniques may be used where advisable. Excavation adjacent to any trees, when permitted, will be in such a manner that will cause only minimal root damage. No tree roots 3 inches in diameter or larger will be cut.
- If any saved tree is damaged sufficiently by project implementation to result in mortality, then the contractor will replace the tree at a 1:1 ratio
- The following shall not occur within the dripline of any saved tree: parking; storage of vehicles, equipment, machinery, stockpiles of excavated soils, or construction materials; or dumping of oils or chemicals. No burning or use of equipment with an open flame shall occur near or within the dripline.
- Seed or plant bare natural areas disturbed by demolition and construction activities using native species in compliance with CDPR's state and North Coast Redwood District's genetic conservation policies.
- Develop and implement a revegetation approach with specific components of a strategy that would include, but not be limited to, the following:
 - Soil salvage/reuse
 - Plant salvage
 - Soil preparation
 - Selection, use, and treatment of new soil
 - Use of native plants of native genotypes
 - Use of fertilizers
 - Non-native weed control
 - Supplemental revegetation if initial revegetation fails (survival less than 75 %)
 - Repair/replacement of damaged trees
 - Mulching (utilize locally derived material, if available)
- Implement a non-native species control program in accordance with the Redwood National and State Parks Exotic Plant Management Plan and Executive Order 13122 – Invasive Species. Standard measures include the following elements: ensure construction-related equipment arrives on site free of mud or seed-bearing material, use native seeds and straw materials to the extent feasible, and identify and treat areas of non-native species prior to construction.

MITIGATION MEASURE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES – Wildlife

- If natural resources monitor detects any vertebrate species vulnerable to mortality, entrapment, or other direct effects, the species shall be avoided or the monitor will relocate the species.
- Inform workers of the dangers of intentional or unintentional feeding of wildlife, and on inadvertent harassment through observation or pursuit. Work sites would be closed to the public.
- All trash that may attract wildlife shall be contained and removed daily from the site(s).
- Maintain routes of escape from excavated pits and trenches for animals that might become entrapped. Cover postholes, open pipe ends and other narrow pits at the end of each construction workday. Inspect pits, trenches, postholes, pipes, and other excavations each morning for trapped animals and contact the agency staff to free them.

MITIGATION MEASURE CULTURAL RESOURCES – b and c, Significant resources

- A qualified archeologist, as directed by the Secretary of the Interior and NPS/CDPR standards, and an Elk Valley Rancheria tribal representative will monitor ground disturbing construction activities until it is determined that no subsurface cultural resources exist within the area of potential effect for the project area.
- In the event unknown cultural resources are encountered within the Aubell area during the course of construction, e.g. lithic scatters, charcoal residue, burial remains, the findings will be examined by a qualified archeologist per the *Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for Archaeology* (48 FR 44739). If any find is determined to be significant, representatives of the Elk Valley Rancheria and the qualified archeologist will meet to determine the appropriate avoidance measures or other appropriate mitigation.

MITIGATION MEASURE CULTURAL RESOURCES –d, Human remains

- In the event of the discovery of human remains, the California Health and Safety Code, Section 7050.5, requires that construction or excavation stop in the vicinity of discovered human remains until the coroner can determine whether the remains are those of a Native American. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the coroner must contact the Native American Heritage Commission, and the project sponsors must comply with state and federal laws relating to the disposition of Native American burials.
- If human remains of Native American origin are discovered on non-federal land during project construction, CEQA Guidelines 15064.5 (e)(1)(b) will be implemented:
 - If the coroner determines the remains to be Native American:
 1. The coroner will contact the Native American Heritage Commission within 24 hours.

2. The Native American Heritage Commission will identify the person or persons it believes to be the most likely descended from the deceased Native American.
3. The most likely descendent may make recommendations to the landowner or the person responsible for the excavation work, for means of treating or disposing of, with appropriate dignity, the human remains and any associated grave goods as provided in Public Resources Code Section 5097.98.

MITIGATION MEASURE GEOLOGY AND SOILS – a,c Landslides and unstable soils

- Implement siltation and sediment control measures approved by the California Stormwater Quality Association (Stormwater Best Management Practices for construction) and Regional Water Quality Control Board in construction areas to reduce erosion and surface scouring and to capture eroding soil before discharge to riparian channels. Measures at a minimum include the use of silt fencing and hay bales, and winterizing stockpiles.
- All ground disturbing activities will occur between June 1 and October 31.

MITIGATION MEASURE GEOLOGY AND SOILS – b, Soil erosion

- Install water bars in temporary access roads located on slopes to control and reduce surface scouring.
- Conserve and salvage topsoil for reuse. Materials will be reused to the maximum extent possible.

MITIGATION MEASURE HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS – a – h, Hazard through use, transport, accident or fire; and

MITIGATION MEASURE PUBLIC SERVICES – a, Parks

- Identify the construction zone and inspect the project to ensure that impacts stay within the parameters of the project area and do not escalate beyond the scope of the environmental compliance documentation, as well as to ensure that the project conforms to all applicable permits or project conditions. Store all construction equipment within the delineated work limits. Confine work areas within stream channels to the smallest area necessary.
- Implement compliance monitoring to ensure that the project remains within the parameters of NEPA, CEQA, and National Historic Preservation Act compliance documents, all applicable permits, etc.
- Provide a project orientation for all construction workers to increase their understanding and sensitivity to the challenges of the special environment in which they will be working.
- Remove all tools, equipment, barricades, signs, surplus materials, and rubbish from the project work limits upon project completion. Remove all debris from the project area, including all visible concrete, timber, and metal pieces not specifically required on-site in the project plans and specifications.

- Develop and implement a safety plan, which includes emergency notification procedure that complies with park, federal, and state requirements and allows contractors or staff to properly notify park, federal, and/or state personnel in the event of an emergency during construction activities. This will address notification requirements related to fire, personnel, and/or visitor injury, releases of spilled material, evacuation processes, etc. The emergency notification procedure will be submitted to the parks for review/approval prior to implementation and start of work.
- Consult with utilities companies (i.e., water, wastewater, electric, communications, and telephone service suppliers) prior to the start of construction to determine the location of facilities within the project area. Locate and flag existing utility lines, pipelines, etc., and appropriate buffer zones, prior to the start of any excavation, heavy equipment use, or other activities that could damage the utilities. Advise the Underground Services Alert and agency maintenance staff at least 72 hours in advance of any planned ground disturbance in the vicinity of these areas (or in accordance with notification requirements).
- Minimize the use of hazardous materials for the project. Store and use all hazardous materials in compliance with federal regulations. All applicable Materials Safety Data Sheets will be kept on site for inspection. Dispose of hazardous materials at a licensed facility
- Removal, installation, or operation of underground and aboveground storage tanks will comply with federal and state regulations.
- Develop and implement a comprehensive spill prevention/response plan that complies with federal and state regulations and addresses all aspects of spill prevention, notification, emergency spill response strategies for spills occurring on land and water, reporting requirements, monitoring requirements, personnel responsibilities, response equipment type and location, and drills and training requirements. The spill prevention/response plan will be submitted to the parks for review/approval prior to commencement of construction activities.
- Prior to entry into the parks, clean heavy equipment to prevent importation of non-native plant species, tighten hydraulic fittings, ensure hydraulic hoses are in good condition and replace if damaged, and repair all petroleum leaks.
- To minimize the possibility of hazardous materials seeping into soil or water, check equipment frequently to identify and repair any leaks. Measures will include hazardous materials storage and handling procedures; spill containment, cleanup, and reporting procedures; and limitation of refueling and other hazardous activities to upland/non-sensitive sites. Provide an adequate hydrocarbon spill containment system (e.g., absorption materials, etc.) on site, in case of unexpected spills in the project area. Ensure equipment is equipped with a hazardous spill containment kit. Ensure that personnel trained in the use of hazardous spill containment kits are on site at all times during construction activities.
- Reuse and recycle project materials to the extent feasible. Dispose of project waste at an approved landfill.

MITIGATION MEASURE HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY – a-f, Water quality, discharge

- Design storm drain systems to minimize stormwater pollutant concentrations and avert erosion of streambed deposits in receiving water bodies associated with stormwater discharge locations. Filter stormwater runoff from parking lots and maintenance areas prior to discharge.
- Develop and implement a comprehensive stormwater pollution prevention plan for construction activities that complies with federal and state regulations and addresses all aspects of stormwater pollution prevention. The stormwater pollution prevention plan will be submitted to the parks for review/approval prior to construction activities. The stormwater pollution prevention plan would include, but is not limited to the following measures:
 - Take measures to control erosion, sedimentation, and compaction, and thereby reduce water pollution and adverse water quality effects on Elk Creek. Use silt fences, sedimentation basins, etc. in construction areas to reduce erosion, surface scouring, and discharge to water bodies.
 - To the extent possible, schedule the use of mechanical equipment during periods of low precipitation to reduce the risk of accidental hydrocarbon leaks or spills. When mechanical equipment is necessary outside of low precipitation periods, use agency–approved methods to protect soil and water from contaminants.
 - Dispose of volatile wastes and oils in approved containers for removal from construction sites to avoid contamination of soils, drainages, and watercourses.
 - Inspect equipment for hydraulic and oil leaks prior to use on construction sites, and implement inspection schedules to prevent contamination of soil and water.
 - Keep absorbent pads, booms, and other materials on site during projects that use heavy equipment to contain oil, hydraulic fluid, solvents, and hazardous material spills.

MITIGATION MEASURE HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY – d Flooding

- Design storm drain systems to adequately handle and convey surface water flows during a 100-year storm event without causing flooding onsite or in downstream locations.

MITIGATION MEASURE NOISE – a and c, Permanent increases

- Locate noise intensive maintenance operations at proposed new facility as distant from sensitive receptors as possible. If they must be located near sensitive receptors, muffle stationary noise sources to the extent feasible and/or, where practicable, enclose within sheds.
- Design new maintenance facility buildings to attenuate interior noise, such that noise generated within the maintenance facility would be less audible in the ambient environment.

MITIGATION MEASURE NOISE – d, Substantial temporary increases

- Ensure that all construction equipment has functional exhaust/muffler systems.
- Use hydraulically or electrically powered construction equipment, when feasible.
- Locate stationary noise sources as far from sensitive receptors (e.g., residences) to the extent possible.
- Limit the idling of motors, except as necessary (e.g., concrete mixing trucks).

MITIGATION MEASURE TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC – a, Increase

- Develop and implement comprehensive traffic control and visitor protection measures for park review/approval that:
 - Provide procedures for preparing and submitting specific street closure, traffic control, and detour plans.
 - Provide procedures for managing staging areas to restrict public access and maintain site safety.
 - Ensure that motorists are safely and efficiently routed around construction areas, including advance warning signs and a traffic director to maintain safe and efficient traffic flow during the construction period. Minimum access requirements for emergency vehicles and personnel would be maintained at all times.
- Install appropriate traffic signs.

CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS

The following corrections, additions, and deletions will supersede the applicable portions of the previously circulated Revised IS/MND for this project. Additions and corrections are underlined; strikeout indicates a deletion. In some cases, in areas where there were many individual changes, an entire paragraph or section was deleted and re-written, even if portions of the narrative remained the same in both versions. This was done for ease of presentation and public review. Minor punctuation, spelling, and grammatical corrections that contribute to ease of understanding, but have no significant impact on the content, have not been included in this document.

Location:

Revised IS/MND: 8. Description of Project, p. 3

Aubell's current onsite water system consists of an infiltration gallery at a freshwater spring. A 1 ½-inch line delivers the spring water to a slow sand filter, chlorinator, and to a 1,200 gallon redwood water storage tank. The water system supports the on-site CDPR ranger station and does not have the capacity to support the proposed maintenance facility. -As proposed in the EA, water was to be supplied to the maintenance facility by connecting to the Bertsch Ocean View Water District's public water supply system. In the currently proposed project, water would be supplied to the maintenance facility by connecting to the proposed water system on adjacent Elk Valley Rancheria property. A 10-inch water pipe would be installed on the Aubell site to a connection point at the boundary between the two properties. The estimated daily water requirement for the new maintenance facility would be up to 2,000 gallons per day, including demand for building uses and some minor hand watering requirements until plants are established. The fire flow requirements for the new facility, which would be equipped with a fire sprinkler system, would be approximately 1,500 gallons per minute for two hours (180,000 gallons) with 20 pounds per square inch residual pressure at the fire hydrant. Under the Revised IS/MND, circulated June, 2005, the water supply would have been obtained from the City of Crescent City municipal water supply by connecting to the proposed water system on adjacent Elk Valley Rancheria property. A 10-inch water pipe would have been installed on the Aubell site to a connection point at the boundary between the two properties. After further site-specific planning, this proposal was determined to be infeasible. The project as now proposed would have an on-site water system consisting of a water well, water storage tank and distribution lines, which would provide water for potable water uses and fire flow (Figure 3). The waterline would be approximately 3,330 feet in total length from the wellhead to the water tank and would be standard 10-inch plastic waterline pipe. The water tank would hold approximately 70,000 gallons of water and be constructed of carbon steel. Except for the waterline to the water tank the project would take place within the same footprint as that for the new maintenance facility. The portion of the water system that lies within 500 feet of old growth would be constructed during the non-nesting season.

A test well was drilled in the western end of the Aubell site near Elk Valley Road and

Aubell Lane. The test well log indicates that the test well was screened from 37 feet to 57 feet below ground surface. According to the test well log, subsurface sediments consist of clay from a depth of 3 feet to 26 feet. The log also indicates that a 24 hour pump test was performed at a rate of more than 25 gallons per minute. Results from the test well verified that a well at this location would produce substantially more water than needed for this facility after the fire water storage tank is filled. The tank would be filled over a period of time so as to not adversely affect the water table in the area. The producing aquifer would be located at the same depth as the screened interval. Due to the depth of the aquifer and the overlying clay layer, it is not likely that pumping of groundwater would impact surface features or reduce creek flow. A county well permit will be obtained to verify this conclusion.

A small 10 x 12 foot wellhead building would be constructed in a similar style as the new maintenance facility structures and would house the well and the pump system. Approximately 40 feet of waterline would be trenched from the wellhead to the road prism. Both the well and waterline would pass through pasturelands consisting almost exclusively of non-native grass species. Electrical power service would be available from nearby above ground utility poles (about 50 feet) located adjacent to Aubell Lane.

The waterline would extend within the two-lane road prism approximately 2,180 feet to the east along Aubell Lane, crossing the unnamed tributary of Elk Creek within the planned road prism for the maintenance facility. The waterline would continue from the east end of the two-lane road (Aubell Lane) along an existing logging road to the water tank site approximately 1,100 feet. This area consists of smaller second growth trees, primarily alders, redwood, Sitka spruce and hemlock, with fewer Douglas-fir. Shrubs are primarily native species: sword fern, thimbleberry, salal, huckleberry and salmonberry. No rare plant species were found within the Area of Potential Effect, or nests of any raptor species.

Minor improvements to the existing logging road would consist of light grading and placing four inches of gravel along the approximately 12-foot wide corridor. The waterline trench would be approximately two feet wide and approximately three feet in depth. The area disturbed during construction would be approximately 12 to 14 feet wide.

The water storage tank would be constructed on or near the prism of an abandoned logging road. Low shrubs and immature trees would be grubbed out of an area approximately 20 feet wide along the abandoned logging road and about 60 feet in diameter at the tank site. The tank pad would be 28-feet in diameter and placed within the 60 foot grubbed out area. The bolted steel water tank would be 25-feet in diameter and approximately 20-feet tall with a capacity of 70,000 gallon, which would be constructed on the tank pad. Gravel would be placed around the tank pad to minimize upkeep around the water tank. Electric power for the water supply system would be provided as part of the development of the new maintenance facility.

Construction of the water system would coincide with the construction of the new maintenance facility, which is expected to begin in spring 2008 and be completed by fall 2009. The water storage tank terminates approximately 300 feet from an old growth

redwood stand in Redwood National and State Parks, which is within the noise restriction buffer prescribed by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to protect marbled murrelets (federally listed as threatened, state endangered) during their nesting season. In order to avoid impacts to murrelets from construction noise, the tank along with the portion of the water line that is within 825 feet of old growth forest would be constructed outside the nesting period of March 24 through September 15. Once installed, the water tank would be virtually noise free. Surveys to date have detected no northern spotted owls within or adjacent to the project site.

~~For storm water treatment the site would be divided into two watersheds (north and south) where surface run-off from the parking lots would be directed toward drainage inlets and be piped to the west side of the site. A storm water separator would be placed at the last drainage inlet prior to off-site discharge.~~

~~A storm water separator is a structure that efficiently removes sediment and hydrocarbons from storm water run-off, and stores pollutants for safe and easy removal. A typical storm water separator is designed to remove more than 80% of Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and captures Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons (TPH) in storm water runoff. The proposed storm water separator is designed as an in-line structure. Maintenance of the separator consists of annually vacuuming out the solids and oils from the structure. The pipe that discharges the flow offsite would have an outfall structure to dissipate and spread the flow over the site. No structures would be placed in the creek's riparian area.~~

For storm water treatment the site would be divided into two watersheds (north and south) into which surface run-off from the parking lots would be directed. The run-off would be dispersed and filtered through grassy areas and swales before it entered the creek.

Location:

Revised IS/MND:

MITIGATION MEASURE AIR QUALITY- d, Pollutants

- Maintain adequate dust suppression equipment, using clean water obtained from off-site to control excess airborne particulates at staging areas, active construction zones, and unpaved roads leading to/from active construction areas.

MITIGATION MEASURE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES – a, Special Status species, Appendix C: Mitigation Measures, p. C-6

- No construction will occur within 825 feet of old growth redwood (approximately 500 feet down the waterline from the tank) between the dates of March 24 through September 15.
- Conduct Northern spotted owl surveys following approved USFWS protocol prior to construction activities. If owls are detected, construction activities will be

excluded within 825 feet of owl habitat from February 1 through July 31. If any other listed special-status species are detected, additional consultation will be undertaken with the U.S. Fish and wildlife Service or California Dept. of Fish & Game to determine construction stipulations that would be required.

~~Construction stipulations may include implementing work restrictions in accordance with the limiting operating procedure, which would limit construction activities between two hours after sunrise to two hours before sunset July through September 15, and conducting periodic monitoring to ensure that listed species are not present.~~ Additional measures required by regulatory agencies will be implemented prior to and during project construction, and could include restrictions on construction timing, monitoring for presence of listed species, identification of special-status species protection buffers, and modification of facility siting.

- Construction within 825 feet of old growth redwood (approximately 500 feet down the waterline from the tank) must not occur between March 24 and September 15.
- On July 19, 2006 the California Dept. of Fish and Game determined that the biological opinion was consistent with the California Endangered Species Act (CESA No. 2080-2006-014-01). In a subsequent discussion with NOAA Fisheries on 2/16/2007 (Note to file, B. Holden) regarding the changes made to the water system for the project, the agency concluded that the changes to the project did not meet the criteria warranting reinitiating the consultation as stated in the Biological Opinion.

MITIGATION MEASURE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES – d. Vegetation

- Avoid removal and damage to large trees. Retain native trees with a diameter of 20 inches or greater at breast height throughout the site. Removal of trees greater than 20 inches in diameter at breast height will be assessed by park biologists to determine whether they provide suitable habitat for listed species. will require approval by park management. If so, regulatory agencies will be consulted, and their requirements followed. Any large trees that are approved to be removed will be cut into the longest possible segments with root wads attached, if possible, and stockpiled for use in natural resource projects; they will be replaced at a 1:1 ratio. ~~At the Requa area, replace removed 20- to 30-year old trees at 1:1 ratio.~~ Only plantings of trees will be used, no seeds will be substituted. Smaller removed trees will be used as mulch material.
- No tree roots 3 inches in diameter or larger will be cut.
- Seed or plant bare natural areas disturbed by demolition and construction activities using native species in compliance with CDPR's state and North Coast Redwood District's genetic conservation policies.

MITIGATION MEASURE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES – Wildlife

- If natural resources monitor detects any vertebrate species vulnerable to mortality, entrapment, or other direct effects, the species shall be avoided or the monitor will relocate the species.

MITIGATION MEASURE CULTURAL RESOURCES – b and c, Significant resources

- ~~Consult with the Smith River Rancheria and Elk Valley Rancheria to address their concerns, if any, with respect to the Aubell site actions.~~ This has been completed (see Summary of Change and Significance).

MITIGATION MEASURE GEOLOGY AND SOILS – a,c Landslides and unstable soils

- Measures at a minimum could include, but not be limited to, the use of silt fencing and hay bales, and winterizing stockpiles.
- All ground disturbing activities will occur between June 1 and October 31.

MITIGATION MEASURE HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS – a – h, Hazard through use, transport, accident or fire; and

MITIGATION MEASURE PUBLIC SERVICES – a, Parks

- To minimize the possibility of hazardous materials seeping into soil or water, check equipment frequently to identify and repair any leaks. Standard Measures will include hazardous materials storage and handling procedures; spill containment, cleanup, and reporting procedures; and limitation of refueling and other hazardous activities to upland/non-sensitive sites.

References

Department of Fish and Game, State of California

July 19, 2006 Memorandum to CDPR: Consistency Determination for the Redwood Facility Relocation Project (CESA No. 2080-2006-014-01)

Holden, Baker, Fish Biologist, Redwood National and State Parks

April 17, 2007 email from NOAA Fisheries confirming original Biological Opinion.

Holm, Gregory, Wildlife Biologist, Redwood National and State Parks

March 2007 Letter: Wildlife Consultation, Redwood Maintenance Facility Waterline and Tank EA

Redwood National Park, U.S. Department of the Interior

A Conservation Strategy for Managing Threatened and Endangered Species in Redwood National and State Parks (April, 2003)

Exotic Plant Management Plan and Environmental Assessment, (December, 1994)

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior

Recirculated Revised IS/MND
Redwood Maintenance Facility Relocation Project
Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park

October 27, 2005 Letter to NPS Superintendent of RNSP transmitting Biological Opinion 151422SWR2003AR8948:BAD for the Redwood Maintenance Facility Relocation Project.

July 31 2006 Memorandum From Field Supervisor, Arcata Office, Arcata, California: Transmittal of Guidance: Estimating the Effects of Auditory and Visual Disturbance to Northern Spotted Owls and Marbled Murrelets in Northwestern California

Summary of change and significance

The water supply for the proposed Redwood Maintenance Facility Relocation Project has been changed. Under the Revised IS/MND, water would have been obtained from the City of Crescent City municipal water supply by connecting to the proposed water system on adjacent Elk Valley Rancheria property. Because this proposal was determined to be infeasible, the water for the proposed facility is now proposed to be obtained on-site from a water well, water storage tank and distribution lines.

Under the proposed change in water supply there would be a 20-foot section of pipe installed between the wellhead and the road, as well as access corridor improvements to the water tank, at the east end of the project. During construction activities, disturbance would be limited to the smallest area possible. Revegetation would occur after construction. The effect of this change on park natural resources will be short-term and negligible because amount of vegetation that will be disturbed or removed to install the well, waterline and storage tank is very small, and consist primarily of non-native pasture grasses and small second growth trees that are common in the vicinity and the region. There would be no impacts to vegetation resources along the two-lane road.

No wildlife or wildlife habitat would be adversely affected due to the proposed change. The area disturbed consists of non-native rangeland and small second growth forest. No new barriers to wildlife corridors would result. There would be negligible long-term adverse effects on wildlife resulting from the proposed change.

The proposed change in water system will have no adverse effect on sensitive species. Effects on Coho salmon were adequately addressed under the Biological Opinion for the construction of the facility. In an informal consultation with NOAA Fisheries on 2/16/2007 (Note to file, B. Holden) regarding the changes made to the water system for the project, the agency concluded that the changes to the project did not meet the criteria specified in the Biological Opinion that would warrant reinitiating the consultation.

Although the trees to be removed for the placement of the waterline and tank are too small to be considered suitable northern spotted owl habitat, high construction noise (80-89db) associated with the project might cause nest abandonment and/or failure. However, the potential habitat around the planned Aubell facility has been surveyed according to protocols and no northern spotted owls have been detected. Additionally,

Comment [CS1]: If the 28 inch tree is removed, sentence needs to be revised. In any case, it does not provide suitable nesting habtat for NSO or mamu.

the nearest known breeding northern spotted owls are more than four miles away from the project site. Therefore, construction at the Aubell site would not disturb any northern spotted owl nests (Holm 2007).

The waterline and water tank will terminate approximately 300 feet from an old growth redwood stand at Aubell, which is habitat for the marbled murrelet, a threatened and endangered species. Although this project would not remove marbled murrelet habitat, there is a potential for high construction noise (80-89db) associated with the project to cause nest abandonment and/or failure. Therefore, based on recent guidelines from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Letter of August, 2006), construction within 825 feet of the old growth redwood would not occur during marbled murrelet breeding season, which begins March 24th and ends September 15th (Holm 2007). Due to the fact that construction schedules would be adjusted to avoid the marbled murrelet breeding season, and the project area does not currently contain spotted owls, the Proposed Project would have no effect to either species.

The NPS sent letters in February 2007 soliciting information on the proposed project change from three local American Indian groups with ancestral ties to the area. The Elk Valley Rancheria whose lands are adjacent to the project area has been regularly informed regarding the project. The NPS also sent a letter in April 2007 to the California State Historic Preservation Officer describing the proposal, and a letter of concurrence was received on 4/20/2007.

No additional mitigation measures or constraints are needed for the proposed change in the water system for this project. Implementation of this portion of the project will have less than significant effects.

This Draft Recirculated RIS/MND, along with all associated documents and supporting materials, will constitute the Final MND for the Redwood Maintenance Facility Relocation Project, at Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park, following public review and incorporation of any resulting changes. The Recirculated RIS/MND, the Revised IS/MND with all associated documents and supporting materials, and the certified Final MND will be available by request from North Coast Redwoods District Headquarters office and the RNSP Crescent City.

Pursuant to Section 21082.1 of the California Environmental Quality Act, the California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR) has independently reviewed and analyzed the information contained in the Draft Recirculated RIS/MND for the proposed project and finds that this document reflects the independent judgment of CDPR. CDPR, as lead agency, also confirms that the project mitigation measures detailed in these documents are feasible and enforceable, and will be implemented as stated in the Final MND.

Steve Horvitz
Superintendent
North Coast Redwoods District

June , 2007
Date