

**Visitor Center Project
Calaveras Big Trees State Park
Initial Study Mitigated Negative Declaration
January 2005**

Mitigation Measure	Timing	Responsible for Implementing Mitigations	Responsible for Mitigation Oversight	Verification and Implementation	
				Date Completed	Status / Comments
Air Quality					
Mitigation Measure Air - 1					
All active construction areas will be watered at least twice daily during dry, dusty conditions. Any activities that cause visible dust plumes that cannot be controlled by watering will be suspended.	Construction phase	Contractor	State's Representative		
All trucks hauling soil, sand, or other loose materials on public roads will be covered or required to maintain at least two feet of freeboard.	Construction phase	Contractor	State's Representative		
All gasoline-powered equipment will be maintained in good mechanical condition (according to manufacture's specifications), and in compliance with all State and federal requirements.	Construction phase	Contractor	State's Representative		
Excavation and grading activities will be suspended when sustained winds exceed 15 mph, instantaneous gusts exceed 25 mph, or dust from construction might obscure driver visibility on public roads.	Construction phase	Contractor	State's Representative		
Disturbed areas will be re-vegetated as quickly as feasible following completion of construction.	Construction phase/post-construction	Contractor	State's Representative		
Earth or other material that has been transported by trucking or earth moving equipment, erosion by water, or other means onto paved streets will be promptly removed.	Construction phase	Contractor	State's Representative		

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Biological Resources					
Mitigation Measure Bio 1 - Nest Protection For Spotted Owls And Northern Goshawk					
A DPR-qualified resource ecologist will conduct surveys for nests of spotted owl and northern goshawk to identify active nests within 0.25 miles of the project area. The surveys will be conducted during each breeding season beginning in 2004 and continued for each year of the construction period. The surveys will follow protocols approved by the California Department of Fish and Game.	Pre-construction/ Construction phase	DPR-qualified resource ecologist	DPR-qualified resource ecologist		
In the event that nesting spotted owls are found in the vicinity of the project area, an appropriate buffer zone with activity restrictions will be established, in consultation with DFG. Restrictions will remain in place from February 1 to August 31.	Construction phase	DPR-qualified resource ecologist	DPR-qualified resource ecologist		
Mitigation Measure Bio 2 - Wildlife Tree Retention					
A DPR Resource Ecologist will identify wildlife trees on the project site during initial planning. Trees in the active construction zone will be identified with flagging and protected if necessary with fencing or weed-free straw bales. Any such tree scheduled for removal will be felled between August and April to avoid the breeding season, and left on site, if possible, to function as coarse woody debris.	Pre-construction/ Construction phase	DPR-qualified resource ecologist	DPR-qualified resource ecologist		

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Mitigation Measure Bio 3 - Tree Protection Measures					
Prior to construction, trees selected for retention will be identified, and all areas of ground disturbance will be flagged on the ground and inspected by a DPR Ecologist for potential impacts to roots, trunks and limbs.	Pre-construction/ Construction phase	DPR-qualified resource ecologist	DPR-qualified resource ecologist		
In the event that construction work takes place next to mature retention trees, these will be protected by the contractor with safety fencing and/or certified weed-free straw bales to prevent damage to roots, trunk, and limbs.	Construction phase	Contractor	State's Representative		
In the event that retention trees must be removed due to damage based on an evaluation by a DPR Resource Ecologist, then the contractor will mitigate at a ratio of 1 seedling per inch of dbh for each retention tree removed as directed by a DPR Resource Ecologist.	Construction phase	Contractor	State's Representative/ DPR-qualified resource ecologist		
Cultural Resources					
Mitigation Measure Cult. 1					
Existing mature vegetation at the proposed construction site will be retained, with limited pruning to protect the viewshed of the historic Hotel Annex building.	Construction phase	Contractor	State's Representative		

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Mitigation Measure Cult. 2 - Preconstruction Testing					
In those areas of the APE where project redesign is impossible and ground disturbances are unavoidable, a pre-construction archaeological testing program will be implemented to determine if archaeological deposits exist below the surface. The data generated from this investigation will determine if a data recovery or archaeological monitoring will be implemented.	Pre-construction/ Construction phase	DPR-qualified cultural resource specialist	State's Representative/ DPR-qualified cultural resource specialist		
If archaeological monitoring is determined to be necessary during ground-disturbing activities, the work will be conducted by and at the discretion of the DPR archaeologist assigned to the project. The archaeological monitor will be notified a minimum of two weeks prior to the start of ground-disturbing work to schedule monitoring, unless other arrangements are been made in advance.	Construction phase	Contractor/DPR-qualified cultural resource specialist	State's Representative/ DPR-qualified cultural resource specialist		

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Mitigation Measure Cult. 3 - Monitoring					
In the event that previously unknown cultural resources (including but not limited to dark soil containing shellfish, bone, flaked stone, groundstone, or deposits of historic trash) are encountered during project construction by anyone, the state representative will put work on hold at that specific location and contractors will be redirected to other tasks. A DPR-qualified archaeologist will record and evaluate the find and work with state representative to implement avoidance, preservation, or recovery measures as appropriate prior to any work resuming at that specific location.	Construction phase	Contractor/DPR-qualified cultural resource specialist	State's Representative/DPR-qualified cultural resource specialist		
In the event that significant cultural resources are found in a project location, a qualified historian, archaeologist, and/or Native American representative (if appropriate) will monitor all subsurface work including trenching, grading, and excavations in that area from that point forward to ensure avoidance of significant impacts to cultural resources.	Construction phase	Contractor/DPR-qualified cultural resource specialist	State's Representative/DPR-qualified cultural resource specialist		

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<p>In the event that human remains are discovered, work will cease immediately in the area of the find and the project manager/site supervisor will notify the appropriate DPR personnel. Any human remains and/or funerary objects will be left in place or returned to the point of discovery and covered with soil. The DPR Sector Superintendent (or authorized representative) will notify the County Coroner, in accordance with §7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, and the Native American Heritage Commission (or Tribal Representative). If a Native American monitor is on-site at the time of the discovery, the monitor will be responsible for notifying the appropriate Native American authorities.</p> <p>The local County Coroner will make the determination of whether the human bone is of Native American origin. In many of California's historic townsites and rural communities discoveries have been made of non-Native American human bone including non-Anglo.</p> <p>If the coroner or tribal representative determines the remains represent Native American interment, the NAHC in Sacramento and/or tribe will be consulted to identify the most likely descendants and appropriate disposition of the remains. Work will not resume in the area of the find until proper disposition is complete (PRC §5097.98). No human remains or funerary objects will be cleaned, photographed, analyzed, or removed from the site prior to determination.</p> <p>If it is determined the find indicates a sacred or religious site, the site will be avoided to the maximum extent practicable. Formal consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office and review by the Native American Heritage Commission/Tribal Cultural representatives will also occur as necessary to define additional site mitigation or future restrictions.</p>	Construction phase	Contractor/State's representative	State's Representative		
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Geology and Soils

Mitigation Measure Geo 1 - Erosion Control

<p>A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan will be developed outlining BMPs to be used in all areas to control soil and surface water runoff during construction activities (see Hydro 1). Grading and excavation activities will not be planned during the rainy season (October 31 to May 1), but if storms are anticipated during construction or if construction will occur during winter months, "winterizing" will occur, including the covering (tarping) of any stockpiled soils and the use of temporary erosion control methods to protect disturbed soil. Temporary erosion control measures (BMPs) will be used during all soil disturbing activities and until all disturbed soil has been stabilized (recompacted, re-vegetated, etc.) These BMPs will include, but not be limited to, the use of silt fences, straw bales, or straw or rice coir rolls, to prevent soil loss and siltation into nearby water bodies, such as Big Tree Creek.</p>	<p align="center">Pre-construction/ Construction phase</p>	<p align="center">Contractor</p>	<p align="center">State's Representative</p>		
<p>Permanent BMPs for erosion control will consist of properly compacting disturbed areas and revegetation of appropriate disturbed soil areas with native species using seed collected locally, where possible. Otherwise, if local seed is not available, a weed-free native mixture will be used. Final design plans will include the permanent erosion control measures to be incorporated into the project.</p>	<p align="center">Pre-construction/ Construction phase</p>	<p align="center">Contractor/designer</p>	<p align="center">State's Representative</p>		

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Hazards and Hazardous Materials					
Mitigation Measure Hazmat 1 - Spill Prevention					
All equipment will be inspected by the contractor for leaks immediately prior to the start of construction, and regularly inspected thereafter until equipment is removed from park premises.	Construction phase	Contractor	State's Representative		
Equipment will be cleaned and repaired (other than emergency repairs) outside the park boundaries. All contaminated water, sludge, spill residue, or other hazardous compounds will be disposed of outside park boundaries, at a lawfully permitted or authorized destination.	Construction phase	Contractor	State's Representative		
Construction Management					
Mitigation Measure Hazmat 2					
A fire safety plan will be developed by the contractor and approved by DPR prior to the start of construction.	Pre-construction	Contractor	State's Representative		
Spark arrestors or turbo-charging (which eliminates sparks in exhaust) and fire extinguishers will be required for all heavy equipment.	Construction phase	Contractor	State's Representative		
Fire suppression equipment will also be available and located on park grounds.	Construction phase	Park staff	State's Representative		
Hydrology and Water Quality					
Mitigation Measure Hydro 1 - Water Runoff					
The amount of increased runoff due to the new building, expanded paved parking lot, and pathways will be determined and an appropriately sized and designed stormwater drainage system will be installed to prevent any on- or off-site flooding.	Pre-construction	DPR designer	DPR designer		

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A Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan, and associated erosion control plan, as required by the State Water Resources Control Board, will include BMPs for control of runoff and erosion.	Pre-construction/ Construction phase	Contractor	State's Representative		
Noise					
Mitigation Measure Noise 1					
Construction activities will generally be limited to the daylight hours, Monday - Friday. If work during weekends or holidays is required, no work will occur on those days before 8:00 a.m. or after 5:00 p.m.	Construction phase	Contractor	State's Representative		
Internal combustion engines used for any purpose at the job site will be equipped with a muffler of a type recommended by the manufacturer. Equipment and trucks used for construction will utilize the best available noise control techniques (e.g., engine enclosures, acoustically-attenuating shields or shrouds, intake silencers, ducts, etc.) whenever feasible and necessary.	Construction phase	Contractor	State's Representative		
Stationary noise sources and staging areas will be located as far from sensitive receptors as possible. If they must be located near sensitive receptors, stationary noise sources will be muffled to the extent feasible and/or, where practicable, enclosed within temporary sheds.	Construction phase	Contractor	State's Representative		