



State of California – The Natural Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

## NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND INTENT TO ADOPT AN INITIAL STUDY/NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE PROPOSED FOX CAMP PRAIRIE RESTORATION PLAN

**Date:** May 29, 2012

The California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has directed the preparation of and intends to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the proposed project in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and State CEQA Guidelines. DPR is the lead agency for the proposed project under CEQA.

**PROJECT LOCATION:** Humboldt Redwoods State Park, Humboldt County

**DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT:** California State Parks (CSP) proposes to restore prairie habitat by removing trees on up to 35 acres of closed canopy forests and adjacent small clumps of trees within a 102-acre project area. Active fire suppression and a lack of fire ignitions – historically ignited by Native Americans – has allowed trees to colonize these prairies and convert them into closed canopy forests. The encroaching trees are primarily Douglas-firs.

Trees will either be removed by heavy equipment or will be felled with a chainsaw. An excavator or other piece of heavy equipment will be used to push over trees so that the root wads stay attached. Trees will then be removed, either by truck or helicopter, or burned on site. The excavator will remove most of the dirt from root wads and may push loose soil into holes created by tree removal. Duff material and redistribute duff material to prevent erosion but soil disturbance will be minimized. No vehicles will travel on slopes greater than 40%. The removed trees will primarily be used for instream restoration projects within the Park. The stump of trees felled with a chainsaw shall be cut to within 18” of the ground if greater than 24” in diameter or eight inches if less than 24”.

**PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD:** The Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration is being circulated for public review and comment for a period of 30 days, beginning May 30, 2012. Questions regarding the project should be directed to John E. Harris, Senior Environmental Scientist, at California State Parks North Coast Redwoods District, PO Box 2006, Eureka, CA 95502-2006 or by email at: [jharris@parks.ca.gov](mailto:jharris@parks.ca.gov).

Your views and comments on this project are welcomed. Written comments should be submitted no later than June 28, 2012, to the following address:

John E. Harris  
California State Parks, North Coast Redwoods District  
PO Box 2006, Eureka, CA 95502-2006

Copies of the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration may be reviewed at the following locations during normal business hours:

California Department of Parks and Recreation

Northern Service Center  
One Capitol Mall – Suite 410  
Sacramento, CA 95814

California Department of Parks and Recreation  
North Coast Redwoods District  
3431 Fort Avenue  
Eureka, CA 95503

Humboldt Redwoods State Park  
17119 Avenue of the Giants  
Weott, CA 95571

Humboldt County Public Library  
1313 Third Street  
Eureka, CA 95501

California Department of Parks and Recreation Internet Website.  
[http://parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page\\_id=980](http://parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=980)

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