

News Release



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California State Parks Postpones Armstrong Redwoods Water Improvement Project; Public Meetings to be Held

GUERNEVILLE, CA – In recognition of public concern and in order to prepare a thorough Environmental Impact Report (EIR) which addresses questions, concerns and potential impacts, California State Parks has delayed construction of the proposed Waterline Improvement Project at Armstrong Redwoods State Natural Reserve until September 2015. Three public meetings will be scheduled in the coming months to gain valuable public input. The public meetings will be scheduled prior to the start of the construction to ensure that all stakeholders have an equal opportunity to comment. Dates for the public meetings are being set and will be announced via public notice soon.

The Armstrong Redwoods Water Improvement Project consists of construction activities required to improve the existing antiquated and failing water system in the park. California State Parks, which is the lead agency preparing the EIR, proposes to replace the existing four inch waterline with an eight inch C900 line from the front of the park near the entrance kiosk to the existing 50,000 gallon water tank near the administration building at the back of the park, approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile away. The larger line is required by the State Fire Marshal for fire suppression. Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) would be used as the primary waterline installation method and would use open trenching at connection points or short distances where HDD would not be practical or cost effective. The Draft EIR will evaluate potential environmental impacts from anticipated project activities in the park.

State Parks has received more than 100 public comments regarding the project. This feedback helps State Parks to further its mission to protect its valuable resources and secure its public responsibility to complete environmental due diligence. This input is critical to the environmental process, and California State Parks is grateful to the community and shares its commitment to ensuring the best stewardship of this park.

Interested parties are urged to familiarize themselves with project information and planning documents pertaining to the project, which are available at http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=981. For further information regarding the project and EIR, please contact Patricia DuMont, Environmental Coordinator for California State Parks Northern Service Center at CEQANSC@parks.ca.gov (Subject Line: Armstrong Redwoods).

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