From: Reimagining Big Basin
Subject: Notice of Availability of Supplemental EIR
Date: Monday, October 20, 2025 12:55:16 PM

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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY:

DRAFT SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT for the Reimagining Big Basin Redwoods State Park Facilities Management Plan and General Plan Amendments

Public Comment Period: October 17 to December 1, 2025

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) has directed the preparation of a supplemental environmental impact report (EIR) to the 2013 Big Basin Redwoods State Park General Plan EIR (State Clearinghouse No. 2001112104) (2013 General Plan) for the proposed Reimagining Big Basin Redwoods State Park Facilities Management Plan and General Plan Amendments (proposed project) consistent with requirements under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and State CEQA Guidelines. State Parks is the lead agency under CEQA.

PROJECT TITLE:
Big Basin Redwoods State Park General Plan Supplemental EIR for the Reimagining Big Basin Redwoods State Park Facilities Management Plan and General Plan Amendments

PROJECT LOCATION:
Big Basin Redwoods State Park is in the western, coastal portion of the Santa Cruz Mountains between State Route (SR) 1 and SR 9, which both run north to south. The majority of the park is in Santa Cruz County and a small northern portion is in San Mateo County, as shown in Figure 1, *Regional Vicinity*. The park is surrounded by other parks and open space with communities along SR 9. Big Basin Redwoods State Park encompasses approximately 18,200 acres; however, the proposed project focuses specifically on areas along SR 236 and Sky Meadow Road encompassing approximately 5,500 acres. This area in the eastern portion of the park is referred to as the Focus Area and is the location of the proposed project (see Figure 2, *Focus Area*).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
The proposed project is being prepared due to the 2020 CZU Lightning Complex fire (CZU fire) which destroyed all park facilities. The proposed project includes the Big Basin Redwoods State Park Facilities Management Plan (BBFMP)—which is being prepared to guide the rebuilding, stewardship, management, and use of existing and future park facilities consistent

with the 2013 General Plan—and General Plan Amendments, which are being prepared to create consistency with the park's General Plan.

The proposed General Plan Amendments would include text changes to increase clarity of consistency between the BBFMP and General Plan given the loss of facilities from the CZU fire and the goals to rebuild park facilities in alignment with General Plan recommendations. The General Plan Amendments would expand the park boundary to include parcels that State Parks is in the process of acquiring to include in the Big Basin Redwoods State Park. The proposed BBFMP would provide guidance and direction for implementing the goals and objectives of the 2013 General Plan, the 2022 Reimagining Big Basin Vision Summary, and the 2023 Big Basin Redwoods State Park Cornerstone Document. Additionally, the proposed project would guide the rebuilding of facilities lost in the CZU fire that burned 97 percent of the park and most of its facilities.

The proposed project includes proposed facilities and improvement guidance for 19 identified sites within five proposed zones in the Focus Area. The sites either hosted pre-fire facilities or have otherwise been identified as suitable facility locations based on sensitive habitat avoidance, access considerations, and slope stability. Facilities included in the proposed project include visitor-serving facilities such as picnic areas, amphitheaters, restrooms, interpretation areas, information desks, a café, and camp stores; overnight facilities like camp sites and cabins; tribal facilities like cultural interpretation sites and centers, outdoor workspaces, and lodging; transportation-related facilities like parking lots, electric vehicle charges, and shuttle infrastructure; utilities infrastructure like water distribution and storage, wastewater collection and treatment, stormwater, electrical and solar facilities, and telecommunications; administrative facilities like offices, maintenance shops, and storage; and staff residences. All these facilities would be consistent with the 2013 General Plan and proposed General Plan Amendments. Focus Area-wide proposed project components include road and circulation improvements, the introduction of a shuttle program throughout the Focus Area, utility upgrades and replacement, habitat restoration, and an improved emergency response and evacuation plan.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD:
The Draft EIR is being circulated for public review and comment for a period of 45 days, beginning October 17, 2025. Written comments germane to the environmental review will be considered and responded to in the Final EIR. Written comments should be submitted with a contact name and mailing address for the public record. Your views and comments on this project are welcome. Written comments should be submitted no later than December 1, 2025. Comments should be submitted as follows:

Written:
Santa Cruz District, California Department of Parks and Recreation
303 North Big Trees Park Road
Felton, CA 95018

Contact: Will Fourt

Email: Reimagining.BigBasin@parks.ca.gov with "Big Basin Redwoods State Park General Plan Supplemental EIR" as the subject line

Copies of the Draft EIR and related materials may be reviewed online at the project website: https://reimaginingbigbasin.org.

The following locations will display printed copies during normal business hours:

Santa Cruz District Headquarters
Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park
303 N Big Trees Road
Felton, CA 95018

Boulder Creek Library
13390 W Park Avenue
Boulder Creek, CA 95006

STATE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION HEARING
This project will be considered before the State Park and Recreation Commission in a public hearing to be held at a local venue after the public comments are received, State Parks' responses are developed, and a Final EIR is prepared. Notice of the hearing will be mailed to all agencies, organizations, and individuals that have expressed interest.