
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND INITIAL STUDY

DATE: June 16, 2025
TO: Responsible Agencies, Interested Parties, and Organizations
SUBJECT: **Bothe-Napa Valley State Park – Day Use Road/Bothe State Park Road-Ritchey Creek Fish Passage Barrier Removal Project, Napa County**

The California Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) is the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Lead Agency for the proposed Bothe-Napa Valley State Park – Day Use Road/Bothe State Park Road-Ritchey Creek Fish Passage Barrier Removal Project. State Parks has directed the preparation of an Initial Study (IS) Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) in compliance with CEQA.

Project Location: The 0.5-acre restoration Project Area is located within Bothe-Napa Valley State Park (BNVSP), Napa County, approximately 3.5 driving miles southeast of Calistoga situated entirely on the west side of Highway 128. The project area corresponds to portions of Section 16 of Township 8 North, Range 6 West and the un-sectioned Rancho Carne Humana Landgrant of the Calistoga, California 7.5-minute quadrangle (U.S. Geological Survey 1997).

Project Description: The Bothe-Napa Valley State Park (BNVSP) Day Use Road/Bothe State Park Road-Ritchey Creek Fish Passage Barrier Removal Project (Project) is a proposed reconstruction of a road and bridge crossing over Ritchey Creek to restore fish passage in the BNVSP.

Overall design will involve restoring the channel by reconstructing the road crossing with a natural bottom structure. This will require the removal of two 60" culverts, concrete road crossing, and associated footings, creek channel grading in the vicinity of the bridge crossing, construction of replacing the existing facilities with a natural bottom box culvert and constructing an engineered streambed with natural materials at natural grade, construction of a retaining wall, and re-paving of the day use and campground roads in the vicinity of improvements.

Potentially Significant Environmental Impacts: Potentially significant impacts to biological resources, cultural resources, and tribal cultural resources were identified in the Initial Study. All impacts would be reduced to a less than significant level with the implementation of identified mitigation measures.

Hazardous Waste Sites: Pursuant to Section 15087(c)(6) of the Guidelines for California Environmental Quality Act, State Parks acknowledges the non-existence of hazardous waste sites within the project area reviewed by this Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND).

IS/MND Document Review and Availability: The public review and comment period for the IS/MND will extend for 30 days **starting June 16, 2025 and ending July 16, 2025**. The Draft IS/MND can be viewed and/or downloaded at the following website: https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=981

Comments/Questions: Comments and/or questions regarding the IS/MND may be directed to:

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