



# NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION ROY'S REDWOODS RESTORATION PROJECT

Roy's Redwoods Open Space Preserve, San Rafael, California

February 06, 2023

The Marin County Open Space District (MCOSD) is proposing a project to implement a restoration project to enhance the resiliency of the redwood forest, improve the hydrologic processes of Larson Creek, improve trail sustainability, reduce environmental effects from visitor use, and improve the visitor experience at Roy's Redwoods Open Space Preserve and has prepared an Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Declaration (IS/MND) to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

**PURPOSE OF THE NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION (NOI):** The purpose of the NOI is to initiate the 30-day public review and comment period on the IS/MND. The document and the online comment form is available for review on the Marin County Parks website at Roy's Redwoods Restoration Project. Hard copies of the IS/MND are available at the MCOSD's Administrative office, address listed below, at the Civic Center Library located at 3501 Civic Center Dr, Room 427, San Rafael, CA, and the Fairfax Library located at 2097 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, Fairfax, CA.

**COMMENT PERIOD AND HOW TO SUBMIT COMMENTS:** The comment period on the IS/MND is **February 06 – March 10, 2023 at 5:00pm**. Comments can be submitted online using the online comment form at [Roy's Redwoods Restoration Project](#), by email, or USPS as follows:

Jon Campo, Principal Planner at [jcampo@marincounty.org](mailto:jcampo@marincounty.org)

Marin County Open Space District; 3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 260; San Rafael, CA 94903

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**FEB 06 2023**

**PROJECT TITLE:** Roy's Redwoods Restoration Project

**PROJECT LOCATION:** Roy's Redwoods Open Space Preserve, Woodacre, CA

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**SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT:** The purpose of the proposed project is to implement the MCOSD Road and Trail Management Plan (RTMP) to provide the public with a safe multi-use trail system to enhance the visitor experience, reduce the environmental impacts on sensitive resources by reducing sedimentation and erosion, and establish a sustainable system of roads and trails that meet design and management standards and would provide year-round access along the trail alignment. The project includes the following elements, which are summarized below and fully described in the Project Description section of the IS/MND:

**Ecological and Hydrologic Restoration:** Reestablish a multi-threaded Stage Zero wetland-channel complex to reconnect Upper Larsen Creek to its surrounding floodplain, reduce erosion, restore hydrologic functions, and increase infiltration and raise the groundwater table, rehabilitate approximately 77,170 square feet of heavy visitor use areas throughout the valley floor to reduce soil compaction and increase conditions for natural regeneration of vegetation, halt development and persistence of incised channel reaches of Upper Larsen Creek through the valley floor using large and small wood structures, and re-orient existing fallen trees and downed branches and obtain and place additional logs, where needed, through the floodplain to improve natural hydrologic function by slowing and spreading water throughout the floodplain to allow flows to infiltrate into the soil.

**Trail Improvements:** Upgrade and realign approximately 5,670 feet of existing trails to improve drainage, prevent future erosion and sedimentation, meet RTMP trail design standards and upgrade approximately 1,900 feet of existing trails to meet Marin County Parks Inclusive Access Plan standards for an Access and Discovery Trail.

**Parking and Entryway Improvements:** Develop two new designated entryways and improve the existing entryway adjacent to Nicasio Valley Road, relocate the existing porta-toilet out of the floodplain and closer to the existing entryway, install one inclusive access parking spot on the shoulder of Nicasio Valley Road, and reinstall fencing along the Nicasio Valley Road shoulder.

**Social Trail Decommissioning:** Decommission approximately 6,465 feet of existing social trails located in sensitive areas using passive trail closure methods and active methods that involve heavy equipment and hand tools.

**Visitor Education:** Install new fencing and visitor information signage to notify visitors of closed trails and discourage development of new social trails, construct a Nature Exploration Area and Scramble, provide visitor interpretive services and wayfinding signage.

**SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES:** The IS/MND identified potentially significant environmental impacts in the areas of Biological Resources and Transportation. Mitigation measures to reduce the significance of these impacts to a less-than-significant level is included in the IS/MND. The IS/MND concludes that, with implementation of the mitigation measures, the proposed project would not result significant environmental impacts.

**CONTACT:** Please contact Jon Campo, Principal Planner at [jcampo@marincounty.org](mailto:jcampo@marincounty.org) for additional information.

**POSTED 2/6/23 TO 3/10/23**