



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

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

TO: Office of Planning and Research
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Parks and Recreation
1416 Ninth Street
P.O. Box 942896
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

PROJECT TITLE: Trail Conditions Board(s)

LOCATION: Big Basin, Castle Rock, Portola

COUNTY: Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, San Mateo

DESCRIPTION OF THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROJECT: The Project will add signs displaying trails conditions to visitors to the parks in order to cut down on visitor confusion and reduce the risk of lost hikers. Work will:

- Excavate two (2) 36" deep postholes per sign;
- Placement of 48"x30"x3" display cases on 2 4"x4" posts for each location;
- Secured in place with road base filler;
- Hand tools only.

PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING THE PROJECT: California Department of Parks and Recreation

NAME OF DIVISION OR DISTRICT CARRYING OUT THE PROJECT: Santa Cruz District

EXEMPT STATUS:

☒ Categorical Exemption

Class: 3 & 11

Section: 15303 & 15311

REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT: Sign installation projects are categorically exempt. Class 3 Section 15303 "construction or installation of... fencing, signs,... " and Class 11 Section 15311 "installation of signs".

CONTACT: Sheila Branon
Santa Cruz

PHONE NO.: (831) 335-6385
EMAIL: sheila.branon@parks.ca.gov

Governor's Office of Planning & Research

DEC 02 2019

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE

Chris Spohrer
District Superintendent
Santa Cruz District

DATE

Hello Everyone,


Please take a look at this PEF "Trail Conditions Board(s)" at Big Basin, Castle Rock, and Portola.
Please leave in my box when you are finished reviewing.

Thanks,

-Allee


 Terry Kiser

 Dan Osanna

 Mark Hylkema

 Rachel Arias

 Joanne Kerbavaz

 Elizabeth Hammack

 Sheila Branon

 Chris Spohrer

PLEASE UPDATE PROJECT MANAGER INFORMATION

Project ID No. _____

PCA No. _____

PROJECT EVALUATION (PEF)

PROJECT CONCEPT		
PROJECT TITLE Trail Conditions Board(s)		PARK UNIT NAME Big Basin, Castle Rock, Portola
DISTRICT NAME Santa Cruz		FACILITY NO. N/A
PROJECT MANAGER Patrick Rosso	PHONE NO. 831.338.8862	EMAIL patrick.rosso@parks.ca.gov
DISTRICT PROJECT MANAGER - <i>UPDATE</i> Tim Hyland	PHONE NO. 831.335.6384	EMAIL tim.hyland@parks.ca.gov
PROJECT BID DATE N/A	CONSTRUCTION START DATE ASAP	FUNDING SOURCE N/A

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Identify the scope of the project in detail, including its purpose, location, and potential impacts. If the ground is to be disturbed, describe the depth and extent of excavation. Describe the existing site conditions, including previous development. Note if work will impact or extend beyond park property. Indicate if work will be done in conjunction with, or as part of, other projects. (Use additional pages if necessary.)

The goal of this project is to install "trail condition" display cases at Big Basin Redwoods State Park, Castle Rock State Park, and Portola Redwoods State Park. The biggest benefit of this project, is that it will provide park users with an opportunity to get up date information regarding trail/park conditions. This should cut down on visitor confusion, give CDPR another avenue to provide the public with information, and potentially reduce lost hikers.

The 48"X30"X3" display cases will each be secured in place with two 4"X4"posts that will be buried approximately 36" in the ground, with approximately 72" above ground. The posts will be secured with a road base filler. Only hand tools will be used for the project and there will be no disruption to park/visitor activities.

The board at Big Basin will be located at the entrance of the campfire center, near Big Basin Park Headquarters. It will be right of the trail leading to the Camp Fire Center and will be to the left of the existing map board. It will not impact physical or visual access to the Campfire Center.

The board at Portola Redwoods State Park will be located to the left of the Visitor Center. It will be left of the existing map board and should not negatively impact the visual appeal and park feel of the Visitor Center.

Two boards will be placed at Castle Rock State Park. The first one will be located directly across from the kiosk, at the park's Kirkwood entrance. It will be left of the existing map board and will not obscure views of the native grass area. The second Castle Rock location will be at the Overflow Lot, placed to the left of the existing map board and should not negatively impact the visual appeal and park feel of the Overflow lot trail head.

No plant life will be removed for the project and all four of the project areas are already heavily impacted by park visitors.

DOCUMENTS ATTACHED

- ☒ 7.5 minute (quad) map of project area *(Required)*
- ☒ Site Map *(Required - Scale should show relationship to existing buildings, roads, landscape features, etc.)*
- ☐ DPR 727 Accessibility Review and Comment Sheet *(Required – Attach DPR 727 or emailed project exemption from the Accessibility Section.)*
- ☐ Sea-level Rise Worksheet *(for coastal park units)*
- ☒ Graphics *(Specify - photos, diagrams, drawings, cross-sections, etc.):* Photos, quad, park maps.
- ☐ Other *(Specify):*

PROJECT EVALUATION (PEF)

Project ID No. _____

PCA No. _____

REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

IS AN APPLICATION, PERMIT, OR CONSULTATION REQUIRED?

Coastal Development Permit
 DFG Stream Alteration Permit
 State & Federal Endangered Species Consultation
 Corps of Engineers 404 Permit
 RWQCB or NPDES Permit
 DPR Right to Enter or Temporary Use Permit
 PRC 5024 Review
 Stormwater Management Plan
 Encroachment Permit (Specify Agency):
 Native American Consultation
 Other (Specify):

YES	MAYBE	NO	CONTACT
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

COMMENTS:

DEPARTMENT POLICY COMPLIANCE

HAS A GENERAL PLAN BEEN APPROVED FOR THE UNIT?

If YES, is the project consistent with the GP?

If NO, what is the project justification?

Is it a temporary facility? (No permanent resource commitment)

Health and Safety?

Is it a Resource Management Project?

Is it repairing, replacing, or rehabilitating an existing facility?

YES	NO
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

IS THE PROJECT WITHIN A CLASSIFIED SUBUNIT?

Natural Preserve

Cultural Preserve

State Wilderness

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

IS THE PROJECT CONSISTENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIRECTIVES?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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IS THE PROJECT CONSISTENT WITH THE DEPARTMENT'S OPERATIONS MANUAL CHAPTER 0300?

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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COMMENTS:

SHOULD HAVE A CLEAN PROFESSIONAL APPEARANCE AND NOT DETRACT FROM NATURAL ENVIRONMENT.

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT PROJECT CONCEPT APPROVAL OR DESIGNEE

TITLE

DATE

[Signature]

SPS TB

10/11/19

PROJECT EVALUATION (PEF)**RESOURCES**

Explain all 'Yes' or 'Maybe' answers in the 'Evaluation and Comments' section (reference by letter and number). Attach additional pages, if necessary.

YES	MAYBE	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

A. EARTH – WILL THE PROJECT:

1. Create unstable soil or geologic conditions?
2. Adversely affect topographic features?
3. Adversely affect any unusual or significant geologic features?
4. Increase wind or water erosion?
5. Adversely affect sand deposition or erosion of a sand beach?
6. Expose people, property, or facilities to geologic hazards or hazardous waste?
7. Adversely affect any paleontological resource?

YES	MAYBE	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

B. AIR – WILL THE PROJECT:

1. Adversely affect general air quality or climatic patterns?
2. Introduce airborne pollutants that may affect plant or animal vigor or viability?
3. Increase levels of dust or smoke?
4. Adversely affect visibility?

YES	MAYBE	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

C. WATER – WILL THE PROJECT:

1. Change or adversely affect movement in marine or fresh waters?
2. Change or adversely affect drainage patterns or sediment transportation rates?
3. Adversely affect the quantity or quality of groundwater?
4. Adversely affect the quantity or quality of surface waters?
5. Expose people or property to flood waters?
6. Adversely affect existing or potential aquatic habitat(s)?

YES	MAYBE	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

D. PLANT LIFE – WILL THE PROJECT:

1. Adversely affect any native plant community?
2. Adversely affect any unique, rare, endangered, or protected plant species?
3. Introduce a new species of plant to the area?
4. Adversely affect agricultural production?
5. Adversely affect the vigor or structure of any tree?
6. Encourage the growth or spread of alien (non-native) species?
7. Interfere with established fire management plans or practices?

YES	MAYBE	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

E. ANIMAL LIFE – WILL THE PROJECT:

1. Adversely affect any native or naturalized animal population?
2. Adversely affect any unusual, rare, endangered, or protected species?
3. Adversely affect any animal habitat?
4. Introduce or encourage the proliferation of any non-native species?

YES	MAYBE	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

F. CULTURAL RESOURCES – WILL THE PROJECT:

1. Adversely affect a prehistoric or historic archeological site, or tribal cultural resource?
2. Adversely affect a prehistoric or historic building, structure, or object?
3. Cause an adverse physical or aesthetic effect on an eligible or contributing building, structure, object, or cultural landscape?
4. Diminish the informational or research potential of a cultural resource?
5. Increase the potential for vandalism or looting?
6. Disturb any human remains?
7. Restrict access to a sacred site or inhibit the traditional religious practice of a Native American community?

Project ID No. _____

PROJECT EVALUATION (PEF)

PCA No. _____

YES	MAYBE	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

G. AESTHETIC RESOURCES – WILL THE PROJECT:

1. Adversely affect a scenic vista or view?
2. Significantly increase noise levels?
3. Adversely affect the quality of the scenic resources in the immediate area or park-wide?
4. Create a visually offensive site?
5. Be incompatible with the park design established for this unit or diminish the intended sense of "a special park quality" for the visitor?

YES	MAYBE	NO
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

H. RECREATIONAL RESOURCES – WILL THE PROJECT:

1. Be in a public use area?
2. Have an adverse effect on the quality of the intended visitor experience?
3. Have an adverse effect on the quality or quantity of existing or future recreational opportunities or facilities?
4. Have an adverse effect on the accessibility of recreational facilities (e.g., ADA requirements)?

YES	MAYBE	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I. SEA-LEVEL RISE AND EXTREME EVENTS (COASTAL UNITS ONLY):

1. Has this project been evaluated for potential impacts from sea-level rise, coastal storm surge, and other extreme events, using the Department's Sea-Level Rise and Extreme Events Guidance Document or an equivalent process? *Please attach the Sea-Level Rise Worksheet (provided in the guidance document) or other detailed evaluation.*
2. Based on the evaluation described above, will the project be adversely impacted by frequent flooding or permanent inundation during its expected lifetime?

☒ Non-coastal unit**EVALUATION AND COMMENTS****ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

To Be Completed by Qualified Specialist(s) ONLY
Attach additional reviews or continuation pages, as necessary.

TRIBAL LIAISON COMMENTS AND SIGNATURE (REQUIRED FOR ALL FINDINGS)

- ☒ Reviewer is Designated District/Service Center/Division Tribal Liaison or Designee
- ☐ NAHC Listed Tribe(s) contacted (attach correspondence record for contact and findings)
- ☐ DN 2007-05 Tribal Consultation Only
- ☐ AB52 Consultation Initiated

Findings:

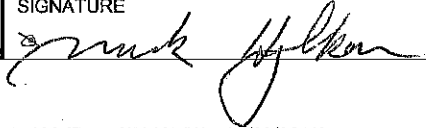
- ☒ Project action does not have potential to affect "tribal cultural" resources (explain)

Check more than one box if tribes provide differing responses, and describe all consultations below.

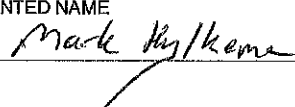
- ☐ Tribe(s) did not respond
- ☐ Tribe(s) approved project as written
- ☐ Tribe(s) approved project with treatments or conditions
- ☐ Tribe(s) and DPR unable to reach mutual agreement on project treatments or conditions

Explain *sign placement in existing signed locations does not involve Tribal Consultation.*

SIGNATURE





PRINTED NAME



Project ID No. _____

PROJECT EVALUATION (PEF)

PCA No. _____

TITLE <i>SCR Dist Tribal Liaison</i>		DATE <i>10-14-2019</i>
ARCHEOLOGIST COMMENTS AND SIGNATURE (REQUIRED FOR ALL FINDINGS) Findings: <input type="checkbox"/> No PRC 5024 necessary (<u>provide justification</u>) <input type="checkbox"/> PRC 5024 attached; project approved as written <input type="checkbox"/> PRC 5024 attached, conditions necessary <input type="checkbox"/> PRC 5024 attached, mitigations and/or potential significant impacts Explain <i>No archaeological resources involved.</i>		
SIGNATURE 		PRINTED NAME <i>Mark Hylkema</i>
TITLE <i>SCR Dist Archaeologist</i>		DATE <i>10-14-2019</i>
HISTORIAN COMMENTS AND SIGNATURE (REQUIRED FOR ALL FINDINGS) Findings: <input type="checkbox"/> No PRC 5024 necessary (<u>provide justification</u>) <input type="checkbox"/> PRC 5024 attached; project approved as written <input type="checkbox"/> PRC 5024 attached, conditions necessary <input type="checkbox"/> PRC 5024 attached, mitigations and/or potential significant impacts Explain		
SIGNATURE 		PRINTED NAME
TITLE		DATE

PROJECT EVALUATION (PEF)

Project ID No. _____

PCA No. _____

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENTIST COMMENTS AND SIGNATURE (REQUIRED FOR ALL FINDINGS)

Findings:

- ☒ No Impact
☐ Impact(s), see conditions/mitigations below or on attached page(s)
☐ Potential Significant Impact

Explain

SIGNATURE



PRINTED NAME

J. H. KORBMAN

TITLE

SES

DATE

10/31/19

MAINTENANCE CHIEF/SUPERVISOR (REQUIRED FOR ALL FINDINGS)

COMMENTS:

Low Impacts

SIGNATURE



PRINTED NAME

Rachel Aron

TITLE

PMCL

DATE

10/30/19

OTHER COMMENTS (COMMENTER MUST INCLUDE TITLE AND SIGNATURE)

I Support this project and when installed -
 request "add ons" to existing map panels are removed.
 Coordinate with Interpreter on design/content
 for each board using paper font - point size

SIGNATURE



PRINTED NAME

Elizabeth Turner

TITLE

SPR III

DATE

11-14-19

Project ID No. _____

PROJECT EVALUATION (PEF)

PCA No. _____

OTHER COMMENTS (COMMENTER MUST INCLUDE TITLE AND SIGNATURE)

SIGNATURE



PRINTED NAME

TITLE

DATE

OTHER COMMENTS (COMMENTER MUST INCLUDE TITLE AND SIGNATURE)

SIGNATURE



PRINTED NAME

TITLE

DATE

ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR REVIEW

Project ID No. _____

PROJECT EVALUATION (PEF)

PCA No. _____

YES MAYBE NO

☐ ☐ ☒☐ ☐ ☒☐ ☐ ☒☐ ☐ ☒☐ ☐ ☒**CUMULATIVE IMPACTS**

1. Will the project be conducted in conjunction with or at the same time as other projects at the park?
2. Will the project be part of a series of inter-related projects?
3. Are there any other projects that must be completed for any part of this project to become operational?
4. Are there any other projects (including deferred maintenance) that have been completed or any probable future projects that could contribute to the cumulative impacts of this project?
5. Are any of the projects that relate to the proposed work outside the General Plan?

COMMENTS:

RECOMMENDATION:

- ☐ Not a project for the purposes of CEQA compliance.
- ☐ Project is covered activity under DOM 0600 (Figure F) that does not require a Notice of Exemption;
- ☐ Project is covered activity under previously prepared CEQA Document (internal or external); SCH number: _____
- ☒ The project is exempt. File a Notice of Exemption.
- ☐ A Negative Declaration should be prepared.
- ☐ A Mitigated Negative Declaration should be prepared.
- ☐ An EIR should be prepared.
- ☐ AB52 Consultation Initiated. See Tribal Liaison Comment Section above.

SIGNATURE

Sheila Brannon, Sheila Brannon

PRINTED NAME

Dr. Park + Rec Specialist

TITLE

DATE

*11/20/19***DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT REVIEW**

COMMENTS:

I acknowledge any constraints placed on the project as a result of the specialists' comments above and recommend the project proceed.

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT APPROVAL SIGNATURE

TITLE

DS II

DATE

11.20.19

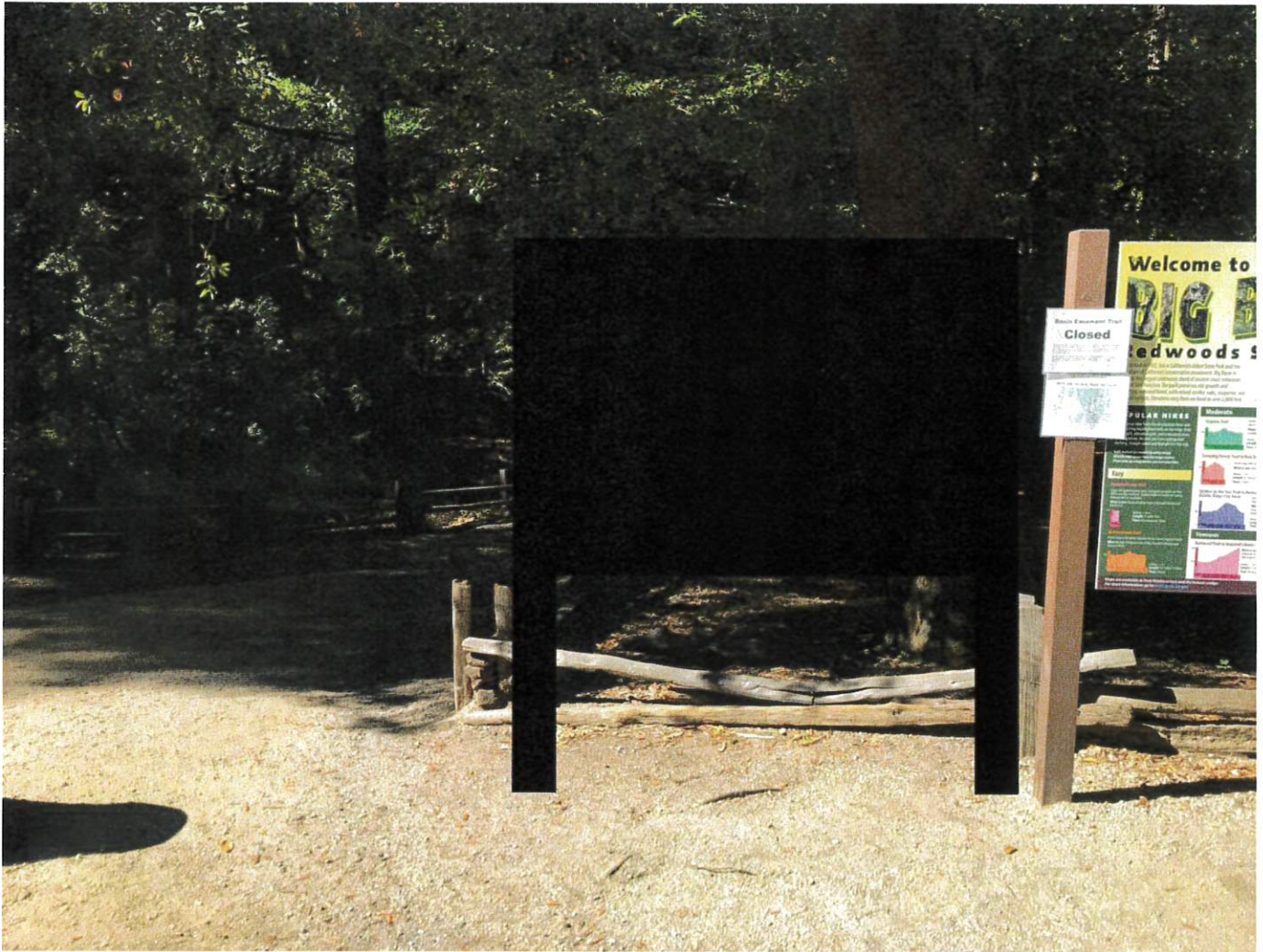
Photos/Maps (Big Basin Redwoods State Park)



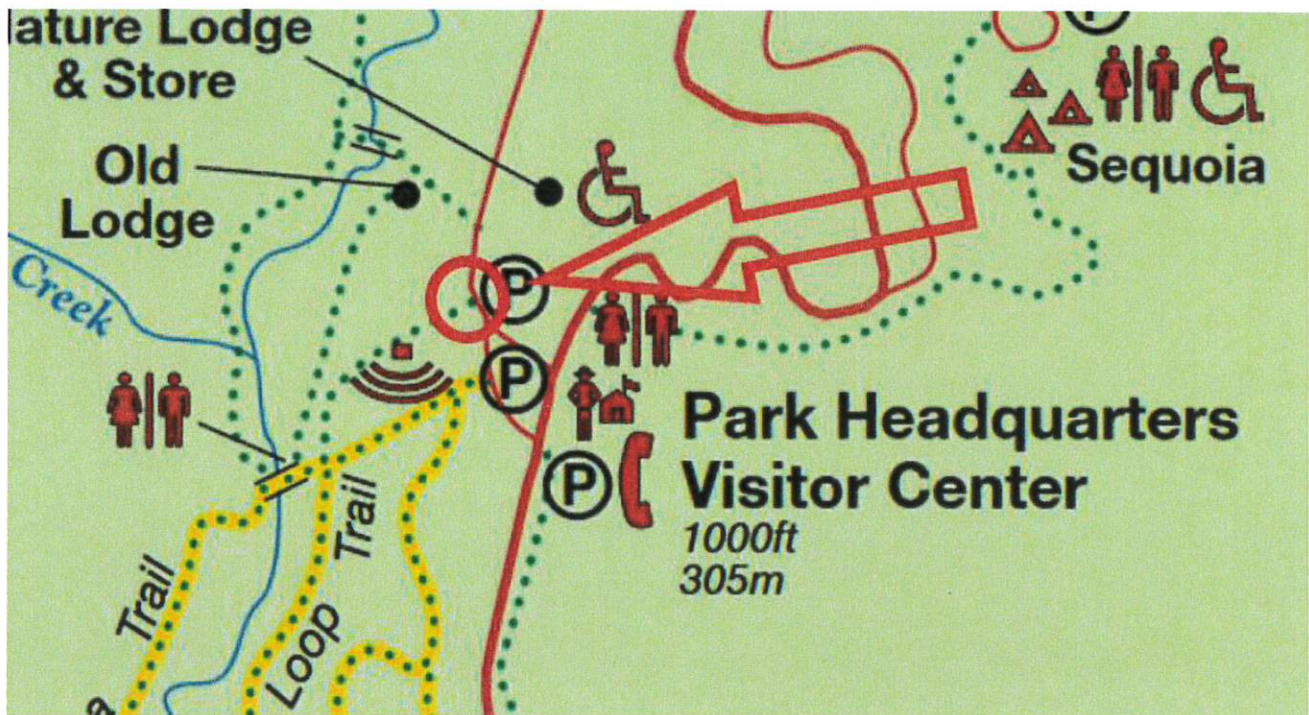
Proposed location of the sign board.



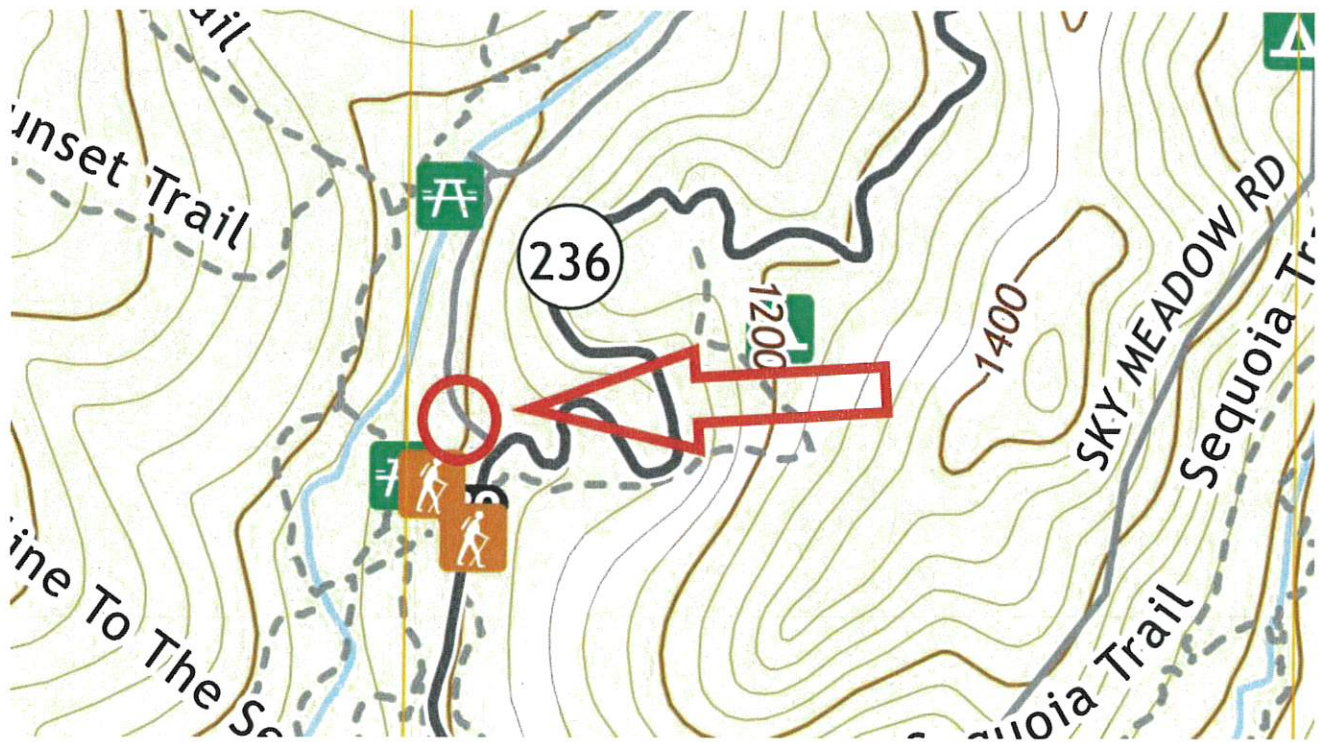
Proposed location of the sign board.



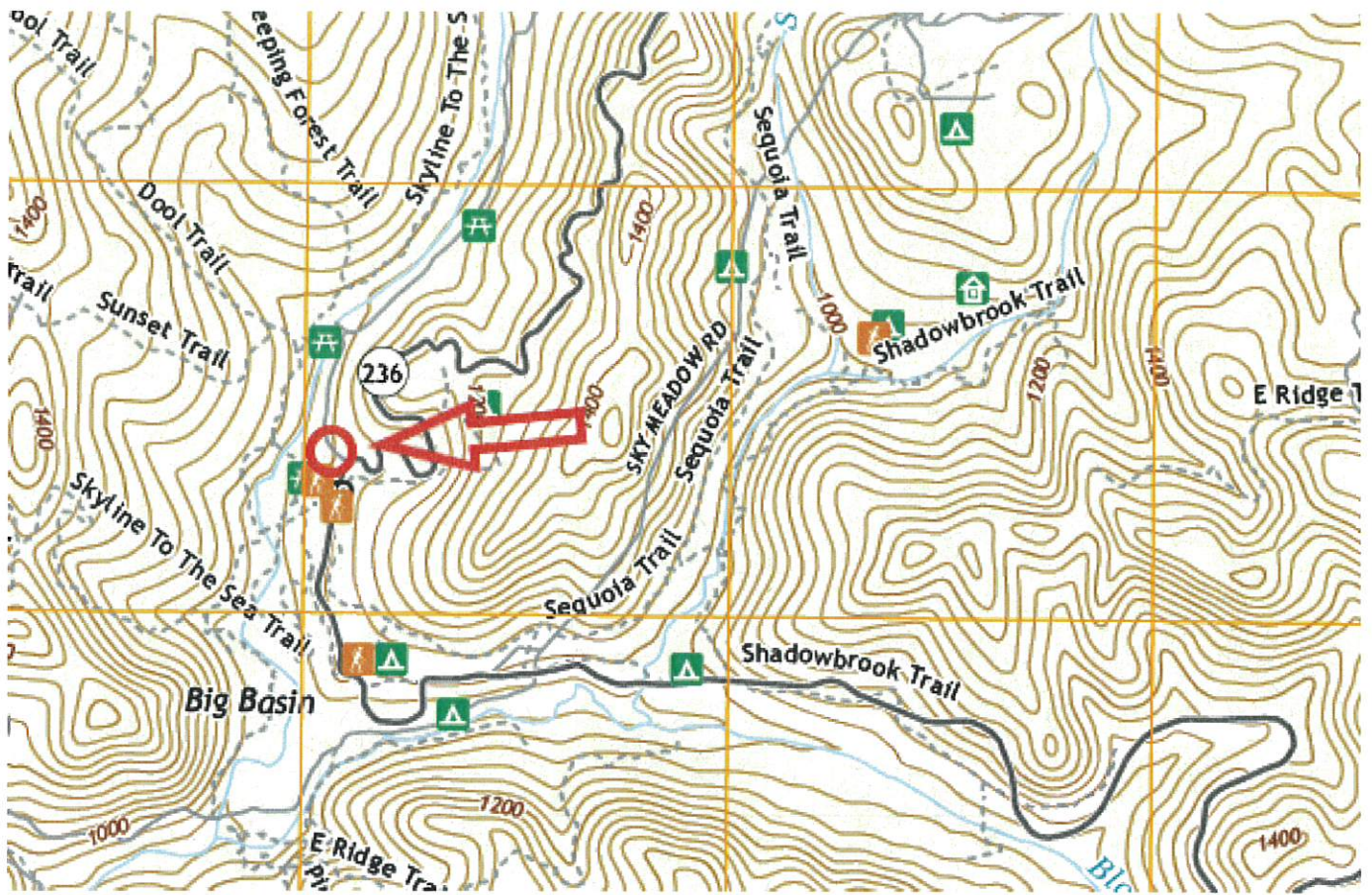
Proposed location of the sign board with rendering.



Location of the proposed sign board. CDPR map.



Location of the proposed sign board. USGS topo map.



Location of the proposed sign board. USGS topo map.

Photos/Maps (Portola Redwoods State Park)



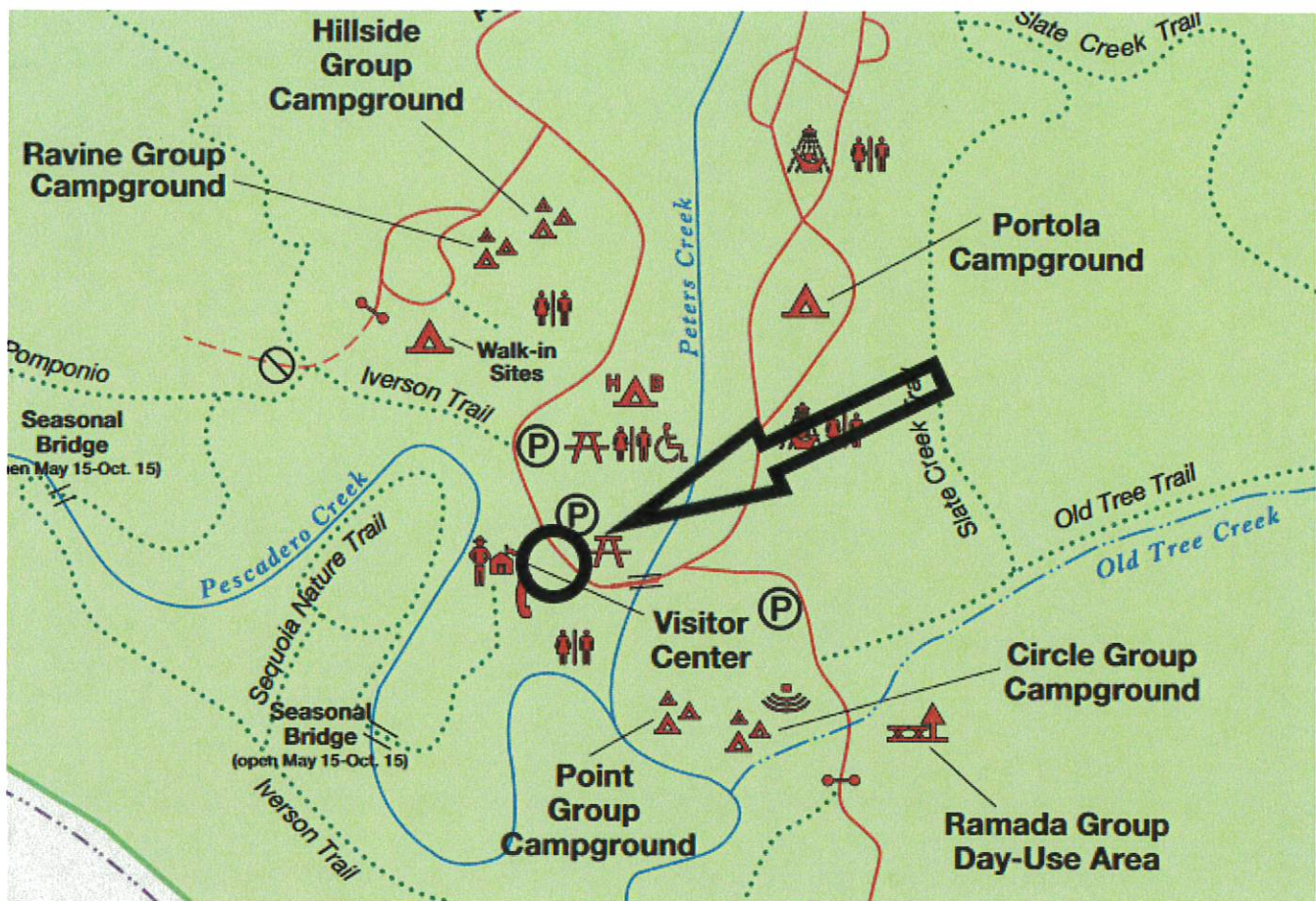
Proposed location of the sign board.



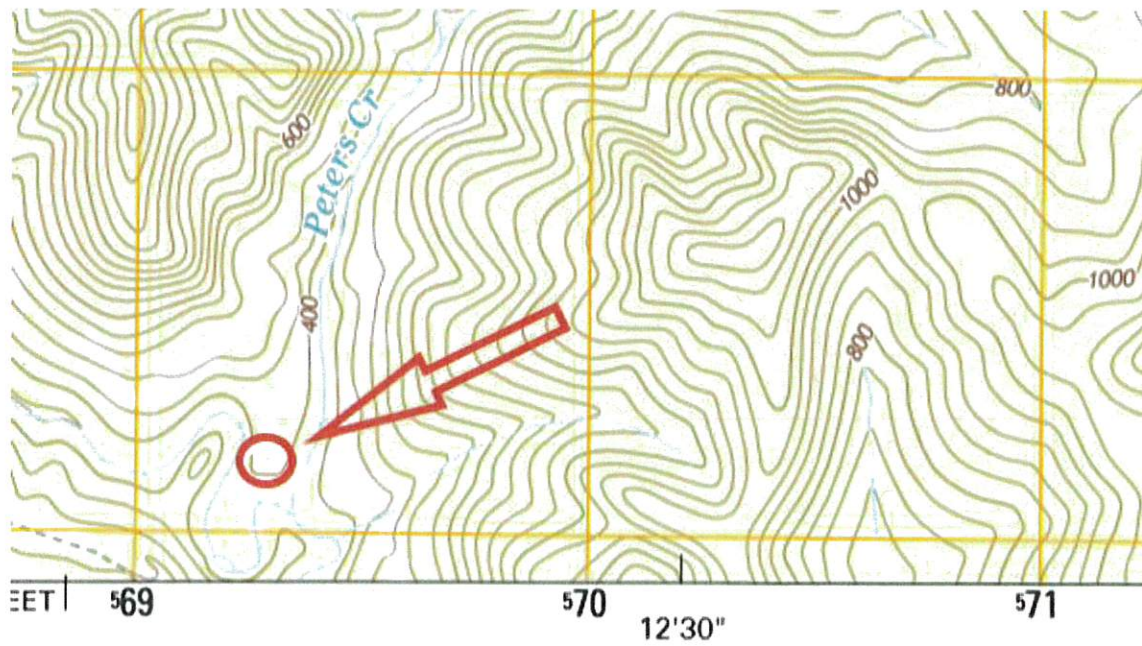
Proposed location of the sign board.



Proposed location of the sign board with rendering.



Location of the proposed sign board. CDPR map.



Location of the proposed sign board. USGS topo map.

Photos/Maps (Castle Rock State Park - Kirkwood)



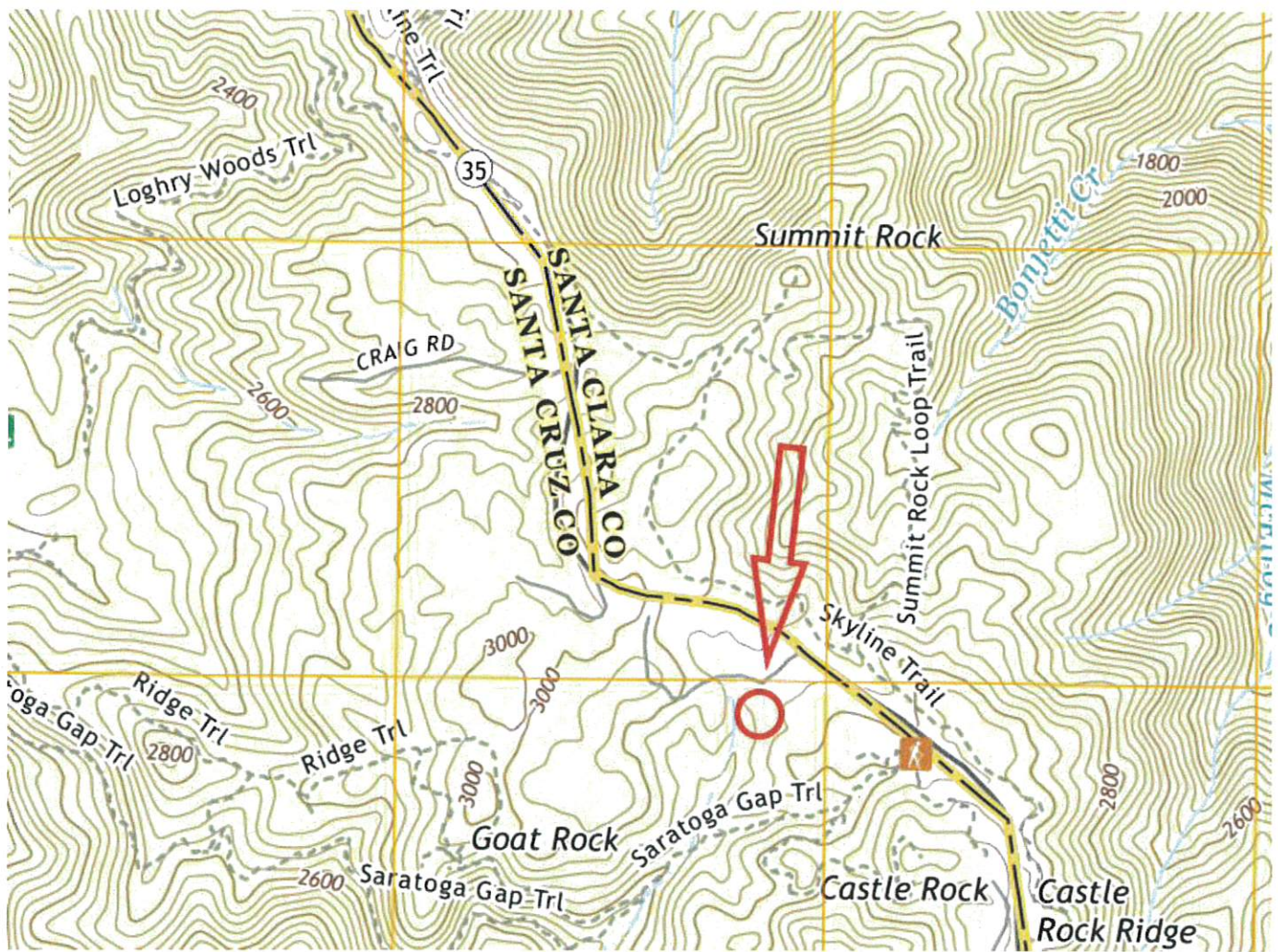
Proposed location of the sign board.



Proposed location of the sign board.



Proposed location of the sign board with rendering



Location of the proposed sign board. USGS topo map.

Photos/Maps (Castle Rock State Park – Overflow lot)



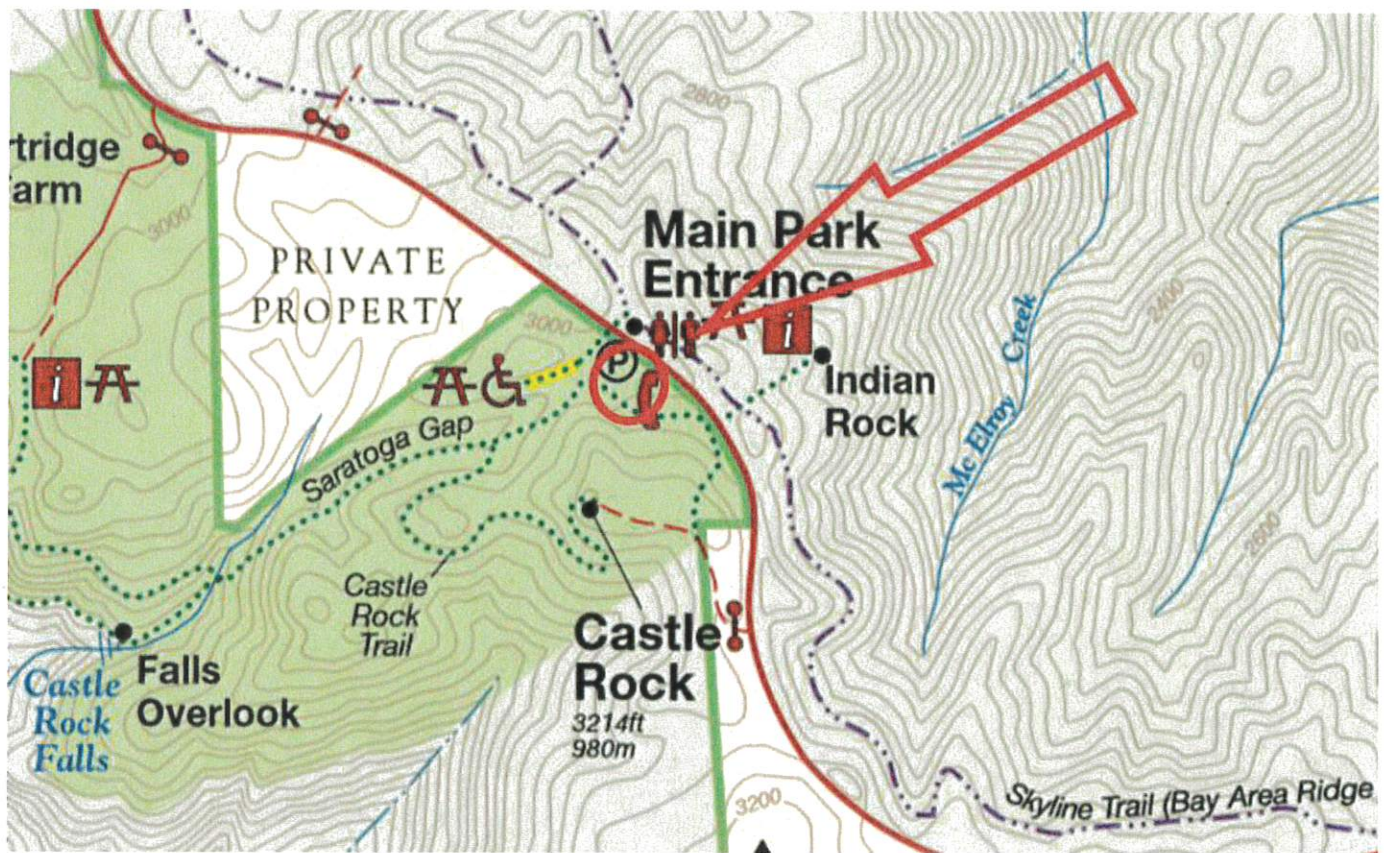
Proposed location of the sign board



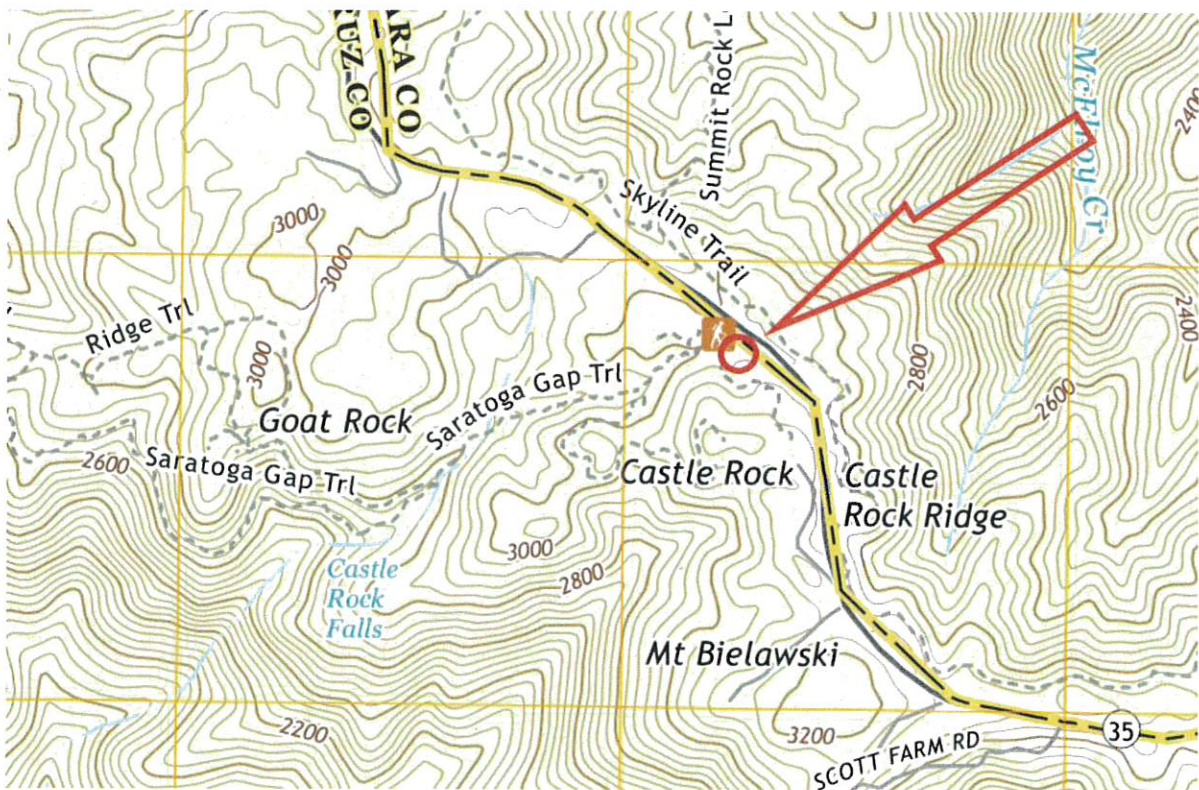
Proposed location of the sign board.



Proposed location of the sign board with rendering



Location of the proposed sign board. CDPR map.



Location of the proposed sign board. USGS topo map.