

**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**

P.O. Box 944246
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460
(916) 653-7772
Website: www.fire.ca.gov



**NOTICE OF INTENT
TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
Project Name: Redwoods to the Sea Corridor Forest Resilience Project
SCH# XXXXXXXXXX**

Notice Date: February 18, 2020

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code § 21000 *et seq.*) notification is hereby given to responsible agencies, trustee agencies and the public that the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection proposes to adopt a mitigated negative declaration for the Redwoods to the Sea Corridor Forest Resilience Project.

Project Description: The Save the Redwoods League is working with the Mattole Restoration Council, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), landowner Robert Stansberry, and local contractors to implement fuels reduction treatments, including tree thinning, pruning, and shrub removal in order to reduce the fuel load, enhance the quality of trees and their ability to sequester and store greenhouse gases, and establish a 15.7-mile fuel break along the Pringle Ridge and Gilham Butte ridge tops. An approximately 4.2-mile, 200-foot wide shaded fuel break will be created across 102 acres of Stansberry Ranch and a 6.1-mile, 200-foot wide shaded fuel break will be created across 148 acres of BLM land. These two new shaded fuel breaks will connect to an existing 5.4-mile fuel break on Stansberry Ranch, thus creating a 15.7-mile long break along the ridge tops. A fuel break along the road on the west side of Stansberry Ranch was a major factor in containing a large wildfire that spread throughout this region in 1952, and smaller fires in the 1960s stopped along Pringle Ridge that bisects the ranch. The goal of establishing the 15.7-mile fuel break is to protect the community of Honeydew, surrounding BLM land, and the extended protected forestlands from uncharacteristically large wildfire as well as the Mattole River from fire-related sediment yield. Additionally, as part of this project, 230-400 small-to-moderate sized Douglas-fir trees will be removed from dense overly-stocked stands and flown by helicopter to Fourmile Creek and Sholes Creek (Mattole River tributaries) to be utilized for fish habitat structures. The total project area is 484 acres. This project will not involve new road construction or significant ground-disturbing activities. The only roads to be for the project used are existing roads. The helicopter landings will involve existing vehicle turn around areas or flat pasture along previously-used roads with no grading or excavation. No commercial timber products will be removed under this project. Project activities will likely commence June 2020 and be complete by November 2022.

Project Location: Humboldt County, CA, Sections 8, 9, 13, 14, 16, 17, 20, 21, 23, 24 Township 3 South; Range 1 East, Humboldt Baseline and Meridian.

Public Review Dates: The draft mitigated negative declaration will undergo a 30-day public review period during which comments may be submitted. The review period begins on February 18, 2020 and ends on March 18, 2020. Written comments regarding the contents of the mitigated negative declaration should be sent to: Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, P.O. Box 944246, Sacramento, CA 94244-2460 or sacramentopubliccomment@fire.ca.gov

Location of Documents: The mitigated negative declaration and related documents are available for review at 2180 Harvard St., Suite 200, Sacramento, CA 9586. Contact person is Chris Browder, (916) 263-3370.

The Notice of Intent will be posting at the following locations:

1. Honeydew, CA Post Office
44670 Mattole Rd.
Honeydew, CA 95545
2. Stanberry Ranch Gate
3501 Wilder Ridge Rd.
Approximately three miles southeast of Honeydew, CA.

The Notice of Intent will also be mailed directly to owners and occupants contiguous to the property as shown on the latest equalized assessment roll.