



NEWS RELEASE

10-073

Today's Date: Thursday, May 20, 2010
District: 1 - Eureka
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RICHARDSON GROVE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT AVAILABLE

Eureka – The Richardson Grove Improvement Project, by making minor adjustments to Route 101 in Southern Humboldt County, will allow access of industry-standard sized trucks through Richardson Grove. This project has been designed without the need to remove old growth redwoods.

Special measures will be taken in construction areas to help protect the natural resources in and near the grove:

- Certified arborists and other technical specialists have developed avoidance and minimization measures that will be implemented to reduce effects on this important section of highway.
- During construction, a certified arborist and a biologist will be involved to assist with resource protection.
- In response to public comments since the release of the draft environmental document, Caltrans has worked to reduce the number of trees that need to be removed by more than a third, from 89 to 54. The largest redwood tree that needs to be removed within Richardson Grove State Park measures seven inches in diameter. No old growth trees will be removed for this project.

Approvals for the project have been obtained from the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Park Service, the California Department of Parks and Recreation, and the California Office of Historic Preservation.





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The final environmental document for the Richardson Grove Improvement Project on Route 101 in Humboldt County is now available at these locations:

- At the Humboldt County Library Branches in Eureka, Arcata, and Garberville and on the Bookmobile
- At the Humboldt State University Library, Arcata
- On the internet at www.dot.ca.gov/dist1/d1projects/richardson_grove/
- At the Caltrans District 1 Office, 1656 Union Street, Eureka, between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM (A free copy is available on computer disk and a reference copy is available to read at the office. Printed copies may be purchased for \$75.00 for Volume 1 and \$80 for Volume 2 and may be picked up with two business days advance notice to allow for printing. Call 707-441-5739 or e-mail Kim_Floyd@dot.ca.gov to order. Copies can be mailed for an additional fee.)

Visual renderings have been produced showing before and after views of the three areas where the most work will take place. These renderings and a project fact sheet are also available at www.dot.ca.gov/dist1/d1projects/richardson_grove. This project is anticipated to go to construction in Winter or Spring 2011.

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