



736 F Street
Arcata CA 95521

<i>City Manager</i> 707-822-5953	<i>Environmental Services</i> 707-822-8184	<i>Police</i> 707-822-2428	<i>Recreation</i> 707-822-7091
<i>Community Development</i> 707-822-5955	<i>Finance</i> 707-822-5951	<i>Public Works</i> 707-822-5957	<i>Transportation</i> 707-822-3775

Blue Lake Rancheria
PO Box 428
Blue Lake, CA 95525-0428
Attn: Janet Eidsness & Jacob Pounds

May 8-2019

RE: Tribal Cultural Resources under CEQA, AB 52, Requesting Formal Consultation, Pursuant to PRC § 21080.3.1 for the Arcata Community Forest-Sunnybrae Tract Trail Improvements

Dear Blue Lake THPOs:

The City of Arcata is currently in the process of preparing a CEQA Initial Study regarding 1.) trailhead improvements to an existing trailhead on Margaret Lane and a new trailhead at Beverly Drive; 2.) hiking trail improvements to an existing trail (Beith Creek Loop Trail); and extensions of the existing Sunnybrae hiking trail system to include two new trail segments in the Grotzman Creek drainage. The site(s) are within the Arcata City limits on timberland owned managed as part of the Community Forest for public access; timber management; open space; habitat and water quality. The land is zoned Natural Resource (NR).

The improvements include four elements:

1. Installation of 2-4 switchbacks on an existing trail to eliminate a non- standard steep stretch of trail. The existing trail would be rehabilitated (naturalized) by placing forest duff, logs and limbs on the surface for erosion control.
2. Installation of a 175' trail segment next to Margaret Lane that allows for equestrian and mountain bike access to an existing trail by bypassing a concrete stairway.
3. Extending the existing trail system from Grotzman Creek Bridge to Fickle Hill Road to include 1600 length of new trail that generally follows logging skid trails used in 2012.
4. Extending the existing trail system from Panorama Ct area to Beverly Dr. (approx. 2,000 feet) using existing skid trails and logging roads as much as possible for the alignment.

The proposed improvements include areas where timber harvest has occurred within recent decades and most trails generally follow existing logging skid trails and areas adjacent to City streets that have been previously altered by grading activities. The work is primarily to be done by hand clearing and grubbing hiking trails and surfacing with crushed rock for a stable year-round surface. City Natural Resources Crews and community volunteer groups would perform the improvements. The trails are unpaved and some of them are used periodically as logging skid trails during timber harvest activities. The trail work can be categorized as a minor alterations of the land and improvements of existing structures. Excavation and extensive grading will not occur on these trails that have a width of 2-4 feet.

The legal description is Section 34, T6N, R 1 E, H.B. &M., Arcata North Quadrangle. The site(s) are accessed by Margaret Lane, Panorama Court and Beverly Drive in Arcata, CA.

Pursuant to PRC § 21080.3.1(b), please respond within 30 days from the receipt of this letter to request consultation, in writing, with the City of Arcata.

Very Respectfully,



Mark Andre, Director Environmental Services
City of Arcata
707-822-8184
mandre@cityofarcata.org

Attachments:

1. USGS Map



Arcata Community Forest Trail Improvements - Sunny Brae Tract

USGS 7.5 Minute Quadrangle: Arcata South
Section 34, T.6.N., R.1.E. of H.B. & M

