

Great Redwood Trail Master Plan Project Summary



PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Great Redwood Trail is envisioned as a 307-mile multi-use trail connecting San Francisco Bay to Humboldt Bay, along the rail corridor formerly managed by the North Coast Railroad Authority (NCRA). The Great Redwood Trail Master Plan will be a road map for planning, constructing, and managing the future Great Redwood Trail in Mendocino, Trinity and Humboldt counties.

PROJECT TEAM

The project is being led by the State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) in partnership with the Great Redwood Trail Agency (GRTA) with support from non-profit organizations Redwood Community Action Agency (based in Eureka), and North Coast Opportunities (based in Ukiah).

PLANNING PROCESS & TRIBAL COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES

The Great Redwood Trail will pass through the ancestral lands of many California Native American tribes and tribal communities. The GRTA and SCC acknowledge the harmful legacy created by colonization and the railroad industry in this region. As partnering agencies, we aim to support California Native American tribes with uplifting tribal connections and relationship to the land through meaningful consultations with tribal governments and engagement with tribal communities. Project staff are committed to seeking and incorporating input, addressing concerns, sharing how feedback has been used, and developing a plan that reflects the unique needs, hopes, and ideas that California Native American tribes and tribal communities have for the Great Redwood Trail. Building ongoing collaboration is paramount to this Master Plan and future projects within the trail corridor.

Engagement opportunities could include:

- ▶ Government-to-government consultation with the SCC or GRTA;
- ▶ One-on-one meetings with tribal leaders, and/or staff;
- ▶ Project updates or presentations at tribal council or governance meetings;
- ▶ Facilitated small roundtable discussions with tribal leaders, staff, and/or community members;
- ▶ Walking tours with tribal leaders, staff, and/or community members; and
- ▶ Facilitated community meetings for tribal members to collect community ideas and concerns.

IDEAS WE'VE HEARD FROM TRIBES SO FAR AND INCORPORATED AS MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Respectfully consult early and often with tribes to build long-term relationships and collaboration.
2. Early in project implementation planning, work with appropriate tribes to identify culturally sensitive sites and plant species for protection or tribal access. All cultural resources investigations required by AB 52 and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act will be conducted and paid for by the Great Redwood Trail Agency (GRTA) or local trail development partners and involve tribal participation.
3. Where feasible, the GRTA should consider alternate routes to avoid sensitive cultural sites and sacred spaces.
4. Early in project implementation planning, identify opportunities for and invite tribal participation in ecological restoration activities and construction monitoring.
5. Invite interested tribes to co-manage portions of the trail that cross ancestral tribal lands.
6. Find ways to hire tribal members to engage in paid stewardship activities such as construction monitoring, leading tours or performing trail patrols, or maintenance
7. Explore creating jobs for tribal members or having a tribal preference in the hiring process.
8. Install interpretative signage and tribal artwork along the trail that is developed by local tribal people.
9. Name portions of the trail using native languages.
10. Consider building an interpretive center and/or culturally important buildings. If built, ensure it is located in collaboration with local tribes to avoid trespassing, or identification of and possible damage to sensitive cultural resource areas.
11. Take steps to ensure the trail is as safe as possible for all.
12. Consider creating a memorial to Murdered and Missing Indigenous People (MMIP).
13. Consider forming a tribal advisory committee to provide input as the GRT is developed.

CONTACTS

To discuss the project, please call or email at your convenience:

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LEGEND

Great Redwood Trail Corridor

- Existing
- Planned
- Proposed

SMART Segment of the Great Redwood Trail —

