

File Code: 1950/2350

Date: July 15, 2019

Subject: Maintenance at Trail of 100 Giants

To: Rachel Smith, Acting Forest Supervisor

From: Eric G. LaPrice, Western Divide District Ranger



The purpose of this project is to reopen a loop on the Trail of 100 Giants that is currently closed. Over the last winter, a large (8-9' diameter) giant sequoia fell across a section of a boardwalk and came to rest on two previously fallen giant sequoias, at Trail of 100 Giants.

The fallen tree is blocking the trail and has damaged a section of the boardwalk. This section of the trail has been closed to the public. There is a need to remove a section of the fallen tree, stabilize the remaining sections, and repair the boardwalk to safely reopen this part of the trail.

I have decided to authorize the following activities:

- Disassemble the boardwalk and remove it from the area to prevent further damage.
- The section of tree obstructing the path of the boardwalk will be removed using a chainsaw and other hand tools.
 - Some heavier equipment (Ex. medium size excavator, bobcat) is authorized to be used to stabilize the tree and move cut pieces.
 - The trail and access routes used for past projects will be used to transport equipment.
- Usable giant sequoia wood that is removed from the trail will be taken to a Forest Service work center for use on the monument and in the Forest Service offices.
- The section of damaged boardwalk will be rebuilt.
- Several tree rounds will be cut out of the fallen giant sequoia and used for educational/interpretive purposes in our offices.

I have determined this action is in compliance with land management plan direction.

Land Management Plan Conformance	
Name of Plan	<i>Giant Sequoia National Monument Management Plan</i>
Date Published	<i>2012</i>
Applicable and Specific Language	<i>Develop and manage opportunities for public enjoyment (pg. 56.)</i>

Resource specialists have evaluated the potential impacts of this proposed action. No outstanding resource concerns have been identified.



I have determined this project falls within two categories of actions listed in 36 CFR 220.6 that may be excluded from documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement or Environmental Assessment. These particular categories are found at:

- 36 CFR § 220.6(d) (4) *Repair/maintain roads, trails, and landline boundaries and*
- 36 CFR § 220.6(d) (5) *Repair and maintenance of recreation sites and facilities*

This is not a project or activity implementing a land and resource management plan that is documented in a decision memo, decision notice, or record of decision. There are no extraordinary circumstances that would necessitate an environmental impact statement or an environmental assessment.

This project may be implemented immediately.