



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Pacific West Region

333 Bush Street

San Francisco, CA 94104



June 18, 2015

Julie East
California Department of Transportation
North Region, District 1

Re: Richardson Grove Operational Improvement Project

Dear Ms East:

The National Park Service has received and reviewed the project description provided regarding the Richardson Grove Operational Improvement Project near the South Fork of the Eel in Humboldt County.

Section 7 of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act prohibits federal agencies from “assist[ing] by loan grant, license, or otherwise in the construction of any water resources project that would have a direct and adverse effect on the values for which such river was established.” The National Park Service considers water resources projects to include projects involving construction in the bed or on the banks of the river; therefore this project requires a Section 7 determination.

The proposed improvements to make changes to the existing alignment of Route 101 to lift the restriction on Surface Transportation Assistance Act (STAA) trucks, will not have a direct and adverse effect on the values for which the river was designated as no work will be done within the bed and banks of the river. However, if at any point the project scope should change you are required to notify the National Park Service.

If you have any further questions, please contact me at (415) 623-2321.

Sincerely,

Hydropower Assistance Program
National Park Service
1111 Jackson Street, Suite 700
Oakland, CA 94607
Office: 510-817-1451
Fax: 510-817-1505