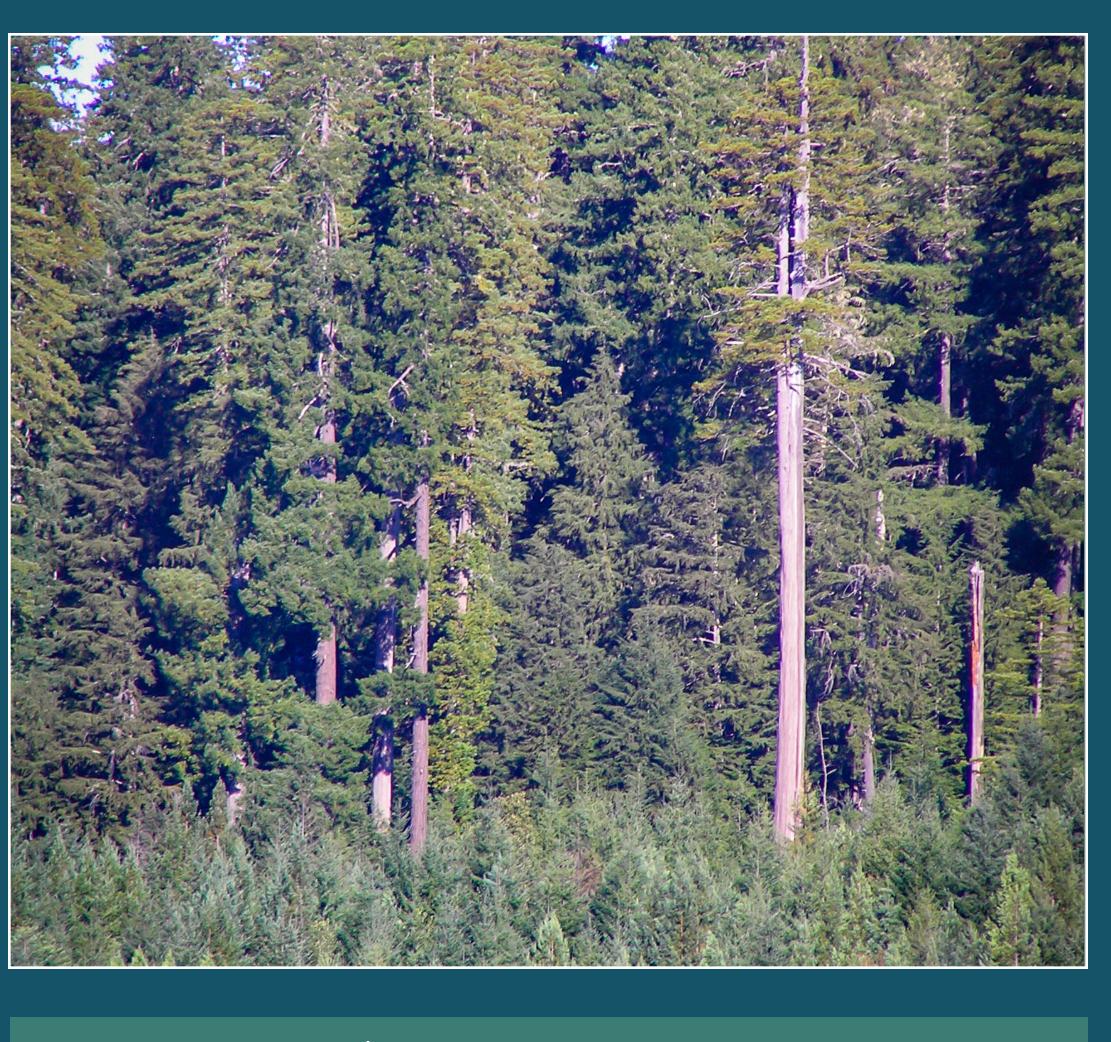
GREATER MILL CREEK ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECT Introduction and Overview

Under the umbrella of Redwoods Rising, the National Park Service (NPS) and California Department of Parks and Recreation (CDPR) are continuing the planning process for restoration efforts in the Greater Mill Creek (GMC) area through vegetation management, aquatic restoration, and road removal activities. CDPR and NPS have prepared a joint Initial Study/Negative Declaration and Environmental Assessment (ISND/EA) to fulfill the requirements of the California **Environmental Quality Act and National** Environmental Policy Act, respectively. As part of this planning effort, CDPR and NPS have also assessed the effects of restoration activities on cultural resources under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and California Public Resources Code Section 5024, respectively.

The GMC Ecosystem Restoration Project (Proposed Action) is located within Redwood National and State Parks (RNSP), primarily in Del Norte Coast Redwoods State Park (DNCRSP), with a portion in Redwood National Park. Over 27,000 acres of forest within DNCRSP were commercially logged through 2000. These forests are now unnaturally dense and progression towards lateseral habitat is hindered, species diversity is reduced, and the spread of invasive exotic plants threatens to alter vegetation communities. Unmaintained logging roads, skid trails, and stream crossings are eroding, leading to fill material entering nearby stream channels. Past commercial logging has degraded aquatic habitat and resulted in a lack of large wood in the project area, which is important for habitat function.

The flowchart to the right shows the general order of ecosystem restoration activities that would occur within a given area that uses heavy equipment. Road removal and aquatic restoration activities would not be restricted to the phased areas.



Site Access and Preparation

Forest and Aquatic Restoration

Road **Removal or** Maintenance Activities

ISND/EA Milestones

JULY 2018

Public and Agency Scoping Repair/maintain roads leading to the unit

Repair stream crossings to ensure roads leading to the unit are stable

XX

Complete forest thinning treatment

Place large wood in tributaries

Maintain and winterize access roads as needed between field seasons



Complete road removal activities

Repair roads to be retained

APRIL 2019

Release of Draft ISND/EA

SUMMER 2019

Issuance of Decision Documents

