

EXHIBIT A

SCOPE OF SERVICES

The purpose of this Work is to perform a limited visual tree risk assessment of the northern group of mature Eucalyptus trees situated in a row along Highway 101 between Eureka and Arcata, north of the entrance to the California Redwood Company former mill site. The Work will be conducted in general accordance with ANSI A300 (Part 9)-2017 Tree Risk Assessment a. Tree Failure (the “ANSI Tree Risk Assessment standard”). The Work is a Level 1 Basic, ground-level, visual, stand-level assessment that includes evaluation of representative trees but does not include analysis and evaluation of each individual tree in the stand. The trees will be assessed for the overall level of tree risk to human safety associated with construction of the future Humboldt Bay Trail South project (“Project”) adjacent to the trees.

The northern group of trees contains approximately 219 stems larger than eight inches in diameter over a linear distance of approximately 2,500 feet. The trees are rooted in the embankment on the west side of Highway 101 within Caltrans right-of-way, and are maintained by Caltrans for potential hazards to Highway 101. The Project proposes to construct a paved, multi-use trail (also known as shared-use path) between Highway 101 and the railroad, approximately 10 to 15 feet west of the northern group of trees. The southern group of trees (south of the mill entrance) would not be affected by the Project as currently designed. The earliest possible year of construction is 2021.

The completed Humboldt Bay Trail will serve as a transportation corridor between Eureka and Arcata and as a regional destination for recreation and outdoor activities. Trail users will range in ages, experience levels, and abilities. Trip purposes will include commuting (to work, school, social events, commerce) and recreation (exercise, enjoyment, nature study). Modes of mobility will include travel by foot and use of bicycles (upright, recumbent, three-wheeled), skates, scooters, strollers, wheelchairs, and other mobility devices.

Humboldt County Public Works evaluated the safety hazards to future trail users and concluded that removal of the northern group of Eucalyptus trees is necessary to protect public safety (see Comment Evaluation Memo, July 16, 2018). On August 31, 2018, the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors approved the Project as currently designed and directed Public Works to continue with the next phases of the Project, which include detailed design, permitting, right-of-way acquisition, and application for construction funding. In addition, the Board directed Public Works to retain two arborists to provide independent professional opinions on the tree safety risks associated with locating a trail adjacent to the Eucalyptus trees.

CONSULTANT will provide a Level 1 Basic, ground-level, visual, stand-level evaluation of the condition, risk, and mitigation potential for the northern group of Eucalyptus trees situated along Segment 7 of the proposed Humboldt Bay Trail. This Work does not include identification, evaluation, or opinions on each tree individually. Work will include, but is not limited to, the following activities:

1. Review provided documents.
2. Field inspection of site and trees.
3. Identification (genus-species).
4. Evaluate and provide an opinion on the overall condition of the stand, including health, stability (structure), risk, and species suitability.
5. Evaluate and provide an opinion on environmental and climatic conditions (e.g., soils, landscape setting, and wind exposure, based on visual observation); effects from previous pruning and maintenance activities (based on visual observation of existing conditions and historical photographs provided by COUNTY); potential effects of climate change/sea level rise; and the potential for damage to the trees during construction of the Project (assuming the trees are not removed).

6. Describe any visually discernible recurring patterns of tree failure associated with the identified tree species.
7. Provide an opinion on potential mitigation options for the health and/or risk factors observed. Address the likelihood of effectiveness, residual risk, order-of-magnitude costs, and the approximate frequency of mitigation actions.
8. Develop exhibits of stand-typical trees, their condition and specific issues relative to stability and risk.
9. Deliverables: Formal letter report including collected data, observations, evaluations, illustrating images, opinions. Provide a draft report for review and issue a final report with revisions as appropriate. Report will be provided electronically in PDF format (no hard copies required).
10. Presentation/meeting: attend one Board of Supervisors meeting and present a summary of the observations and opinions developed and reported and be available for subsequent questions.