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Patti DuMont
Cal. Dept. of Parks and Recreation
Northern Service Center
One Capitol Mall Suite 500
Sacramento, CA 95814

December 18, 2002

Re: Proposed Coastal Trails Rehabilitation Project at Mt. Tamalpais State Park. Neg. Dec.

Dear Ms. DuMont:

This office has been retained by the Tamalpais Conservation Club to review and comment on the above entitled Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact. For the reason listed below, my clients request that your department extend the time for comments on that document to allow time for full and meaningful review and comment on this important issue.

First, it has not been provided to the Tamalpais Conservation Club in a timely manner. The postmark on the envelope reads December 9th. Your comment period ends before thirty days from that time. Nor has the document been provided to any of the other environmental organizations who will likely want to comment on what appears to be a policy change regarding use of single track trails on Mt. Tamalpais.

Second, there are conflicting dates for comment. The first in a letter from you gives a December 24, cut-off date. The second is a January 1st cutoff date in a letter from Marin District Ecologist Dave Boyd, 30 days following the December 2 filing date for the Negative Declaration.

Third, the document was not on file with the Marin County Library as stated in your letter, but at the Marin City Library, clearly an error, which confused members of the public and does not allow for timely review.

Since circulation of the document was faulty, notice inadequate and confusing, and the matters discussed of serious public and environmental import, it is essential that the requirements of due process be met, so that interested public members and trail users have an opportunity for meaningful input.

Because of the seriousness of this issue, we suggest that the cut-off date for comment be no earlier than January 31.

Thank you for your consideration and prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Dotty E. LeMieux

cc: Cal. Dept. Parks and Rec. Planning and Local Services Section
Dave Boyd, State Parks Ecologist, Marin District
Assemblymember Joe Nation
Clients