



NEWS RELEASE

City of Chico

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UPPER PARK ROAD CLOSED AT PARKING LOT "E" ON WEEKDAYS DUE TO CONSTRUCTION IN PREPARATION FOR THE IRON CANYON FISH PASSAGE PROJECT

CHICO, CA — Beginning Monday, September 8, 2025, Upper Park Road at Horseshoe Lake/Lot E will be closed to all users as roadway modifications are made between Horseshoe Lake/Lot E and Parking Lot P to prepare for the Iron Canyon Fish Passage Project. Modifications will be made using compacted aggregate base and do not include paving the roadway. Bicyclists and pedestrians are asked to please be aware and to avoid construction zones by using alternate trails.

CalTrout, in partnership with the City of Chico, the Mechoopda Indian Tribe, and the Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve, is leading the Iron Canyon Fish Passage Project on Big Chico Creek in Upper Bidwell Park. The project will restore 8.5 miles of critical cold-water habitat on Big Chico Creek for threatened spring-run Chinook salmon and steelhead.

"When I heard CalTrout was taking on a fish passage project in Chico, I knew I had to be part of it," said Holly Swan, Regional Manager for CalTrout's Mt. Lassen region. I am thrilled to be partnering with the Mechoopda Tribe, the City of Chico, and the Chico State Ecological Reserve. But most of all, I am excited to see the cascading ecological effects these migratory fish will bring to the entire ecosystem in Bidwell Park, and in turn to all the park's users."

The Iron Canyon Fish Passage Project is funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Restoration Center's Community Based Restoration Program and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Fish Passage Project.

Located in Butte County, California, Chico is the cultural and economic center of the northern Sacramento Valley and the largest city north of Sacramento. Known as a college town, the home of California State University, Chico and for Bidwell Park, one of the largest urban parks in the United

States. For more information, visit www.chicoca.gov.
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