



## Paradise Recreation and Park District

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### Media Release

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Hazard Tree Work to Close Bille Park

Paradise, CA, 3/26/2021 – Work to remove remaining hazardous trees at Bille Park will begin next week and the Paradise Recreation and Park District (District) anticipates that the park will be closed until mid-April, weather permitting.

The project is part of the government tree removal program administered by the California Office of Emergency Services and Cal Recycle. Butte County, Town of Paradise, and numerous other organizations also provide support for the effort.

Following the 2018 Camp Fire, the District quickly acted to repair facilities and remove the most immediate hazard trees in the developed area of the 56-acre park and reopened in early 2019. However, additional trees have further declined, and the District was unable to mitigate hazards on the hiking area of the park.

Over the past few months, the District has been working with the various agencies on an assessment and plan to remove hazard trees at Bille Park and other properties.

District Manager Dan Efseaff noted, “We have been working well with agency staff to minimize the impact to the public during the warmer months. To ensure that the impacts to the park are limited during the upcoming season, the District and tree removal team will concentrate resources and efforts toward the effort over a couple week period, while we have a good early-season weather window.”

The park will remain closed to the public for all public uses until April 15, 2021 with the possibility of an earlier opening if the work is completed.

Efseaff added, “We ask the public’s help in steering clear of the park until the work is completed, so that it can continue in an efficient manner and the public can remain safe. We will be back and better than ever toward the end of April.”

The District is developing plans to rebuild the overlook and grotto trails and is working on a conceptual plan to add more features to the beloved park.

The District reminds the public to be extremely careful in all parks with damaged trees and to avoid tree removal operations and equipment. The start of the closure will begin on Monday and depending on weather conditions, the removal may take 2-3 weeks to complete.

During the closure, residents are urged to use other facilities such as Aquatic Park and the Terry Ashe Recreation Center or school sites.

More information about the tree removal program may be found on the Butte Recovers website: <https://buttecountyrecovers.org/agencies/tree-removal/> .

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Since 1948, the Paradise Recreation and Park District provides recreation facilities and programs to the residents of Paradise, the Butte Creek Canyon area, and the unincorporated communities of Magalia/Paradise Pines and Concow/Yankee Hill. The District serves 50,000 people living in a 170-square mile area and manages over 1,000 acres of park land and facilities.

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