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Contract Awarded for Conzelman Road Construction in Marin Headlands *Project Headlands will improve access for drivers, bicyclists, pedestrians, transit*

San Francisco, Calif. (December 16, 2009) – The Federal Highway Administration’s award of a \$8.7 million construction contract to Ghilotti Bros., Inc. of San Rafael, Calif. for construction of Conzelman, McCullough, Field, East, and Danes roads means the most significant highway and transit project in the history of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area will soon be underway. The Conzelman Road Project is part of the comprehensive “Project Headlands,” which will improve access and safety for motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians and transit on 11 miles of old roads and trails with new, sustainable features.

“The award of this contract to Ghilotti Brothers is a significant milestone towards completing the planned improvements to the Marin Headlands area,” said Ricardo Suarez, Division Engineer for the Federal Highway Administration. “The project will provide tremendous benefits for visitors to the area for decades to come, and we are anxious to get started.”

“Not only will this project improve the existing infrastructure and pedestrian and bicyclist accessibility, it is estimated that it will create more than 200 jobs,” said Ghilotti Bros., Inc. Project Manager Mike McSweeney. “We look forward to working with the Federal Highway Administration and the National Park Service in this historic and beautiful location of the Bay Area.”

One of the goals of Project Headlands is to make the improvements “green” by following sustainable practices during construction, as well as creating sustainable features to enhance the park’s environmental quality for the long term. Some of the sustainable construction practices include reuse of existing materials such as excavated material, asphalt grindings and guardrails.

“The National Park Service is pleased that construction is starting this winter,” said Frank Dean, acting general superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area. “Although there will be short-term inconveniences to park visitors, upon completion of this project, the Marin Headlands will be safer and more accessible to park visitors while retaining its historic character.”

Construction is expected to begin in January 2010. The work will involve temporary road closures and delays over an anticipated two-year period, with most work occurring in the summer. All efforts will be made to minimize disruption to the public; however, traffic detours and delays should be expected during certain phases of the project. Notifications and detour signage will be provided in advance of activities.

Information on the construction schedule and regular project updates will be posted on the project Website at www.projectheadlands.gov.

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