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✓ TREES

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Diseased trees to be cut down

Crews with the State Department of Transportation will begin cutting 62 dead trees at the interchange of highways 1 and 17 July 6.

The trees have been killed by the pitch canker fungus that has afflicted thousands of pines in a five-county area, said Jim Claypool, a Caltrans senior maintenance engineer.

Pitch canker has afflicted thousands of pines in Santa Cruz, Monterey, Santa Clara, San Mateo and Alameda counties. The fungus causes pitch to run down the tree trunks. Eventually the tips of the tree die back.