

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION  
NORTH COAST AREA  
FREMONT, SUITE 2000  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-2219  
(415) 904-5260

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Date: November 22, 1996

Permit Application No. 1-96-37

ADMINISTRATIVE PERMIT

APPLICANT: **HUMBOLDT COUNTY DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS**

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Install an on-site sewage disposal system to serve an existing public existing restroom at Samoa Boat Ramp County Park.

PROJECT LOCATION: Samoa Boat Ramp County Park, adjacent to Humboldt Bay, off of New Navy Base Road, in the Samoa area of Humboldt County.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DETERMINATION: The findings for this determination, and for any special conditions, appear on subsequent pages.

NOTE: P.R.C. Section 30624 provides that this permit shall not become effective until it is reported to the Commission at its next meeting. If one-third or more of the appointed membership of the Commission so request, the application will be removed from the administrative calendar and set for public hearing at a subsequent Commission meeting. Our office will notify you if such removal occurs.

This permit will be reported to the Commission at the following time and place:


Date: Friday, December 13, 1996 Tel. No. (415) 398-8900  
Time: Meeting begins at 9:00 a.m., Item 4a  
Place: Holiday Inn/Union Square  
480 Sutter Street, San Francisco

IMPORTANT - Before you may proceed with development, the following must occur:

Pursuant to 14 Cal. Admin. Code Sections 13150(b) and 13158, you must sign the enclosed duplicate copy acknowledging the permit's receipt and accepting its contents, including all conditions, and return it to our office. Following the Commission's meeting, and once we have received the signed acknowledgment and evidence of compliance with all special conditions, we will send you a Notice of Administrative Permit Effectiveness.

BEFORE YOU CAN OBTAIN ANY LOCAL PERMITS AND PROCEED WITH DEVELOPMENT, YOU MUST HAVE RECEIVED BOTH YOUR ADMINISTRATIVE PERMIT AND THE NOTICE OF PERMIT EFFECTIVENESS FROM THIS OFFICE.

PETER DOUGLAS  
Executive Director

By:   
Robert Merrill  
Title: Coastal Planner

STANDARD CONDITIONS:

1. Notice of Receipt and Acknowledgment. The permit is not valid and development shall not commence until a copy of the permit, signed by the permittee or authorized agent, acknowledging receipt of the permit and acceptance of the terms and conditions, is returned to the Commission office.
2. Expiration. If development has not commenced, the permit will expire two years from the date this permit is reported to the Commission. Development shall be pursued in a diligent manner and completed in a reasonable period of time. Application for extension of the permit must be made prior to the expiration date.
3. Compliance. All development must occur in strict compliance with the proposal as set forth in the application for permit, subject to any special conditions set forth below. Any deviation from the approved plans must be reviewed and approved by the staff and may require Commission approval.
4. Interpretation. Any questions of intent or interpretation of any condition will be resolved by the Executive Director or the Commission.
5. Inspections. The Commission staff shall be allowed to inspect the site and the project during its development, subject to 24-hour advance notice.
6. Assignment. The permit may be assigned to any qualified person, provided assignee files with the Commission an affidavit accepting all terms and conditions of the permit.
7. Terms and Conditions Run with the Land. These terms and conditions shall be perpetual, and it is the intention of the Commission and the permittee to bind all future owners and possessors of the subject property to the terms and conditions.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DETERMINATION (continued):

The Executive Director hereby determines that the proposed development is a category of development which, pursuant to PRC Section 30624, qualifies for approval by the Executive Director through the issuance of an administrative permit. Subject to Standard and Special Conditions as attached, said development is in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act of 1976, is in conformity with the provisions of the Humboldt County Local Coastal Program and will not have any significant impacts on the environment within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act. If located between the nearest public road and the sea, this development is in conformity with the public access and public recreation policies of Chapter 3.

FINDINGS FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DETERMINATION:1. Project/Site Description

The County proposes to install a septic tank and leach field system to serve the existing restroom building at Samoa Boat Ramp County Park, along the Samoa Peninsula on Humboldt Bay. Sewage from the restroom has been disposed of in the past by use of vaulting and pumping the sewage to an off-site sewage treatment facility. Because the costs associated with disposing of the sewage in this manner are very significant, the County has explored other methods of sewage disposal.

The proposed project involves installing an on-site sewage disposal system that utilizes a septic tank, an intermittent sand filter, and a very shallow, gravity-fed subsurface disposal field. The various elements of the system will be installed just to the south of the existing restroom, in a sandy area that does not contain environmentally sensitive habitat area.

The proposed sewage disposal system has been approved by the Humboldt County Division of Environmental Health.

2. Environmentally Sensitive Habitat

Section 30240 of the Coastal Act states the following:

(a) Environmentally sensitive habitat areas shall be protected against any significant disruption of habitat values, and only uses dependent on those resources shall be allowed within those areas.

(b) Development in areas adjacent to environmentally sensitive habitat areas and parks and recreation areas shall be sited and designed to prevent impacts which would significantly degrade those areas, and shall be compatible with the continuance of those habitat and recreation areas.

The Samoa Peninsula contains a variety of sensitive habitat types including sensitive dune habitat, freshwater wetlands, riparian areas, salt marshes, and others. However, no evidence of environmentally sensitive habitat within the project area has been presented to the Commission. Biologists with the County Division of Natural Resources have surveyed the project site and have indicated to Commission staff that they found no environmentally sensitive habitat. Thus, construction of the system will not adversely affect sensitive habitat. In addition, given that the County Department of Environmental Health has reviewed and approved the design of the proposed system, the project will not contaminate groundwater resources and contribute to the degradation of any nearby habitat areas.

Therefore, the Executive Director finds that the proposed project is consistent with Section 30240 of the Coastal Act as there is no ESHA area on the site that would be affected by the proposed project.

### 3. Public Access.

Coastal Act Sections 30210, 30211, and 30212 require the provision of maximum public access opportunities, except where adequate access exists nearby, or where the provision of public access would be inconsistent with public safety. Coastal Act Section 30211 specifically states that development shall not interfere with the public's right of access to the sea where acquired through use. In applying these policies, however, the Commission is limited by the need to show that any required public access is necessary to offset a project's adverse impact on existing or potential public access.

The proposed project will benefit public access in that it will provide for the continued use of the restroom facilities at an existing shoreline park that provides recreational access to the Humboldt Bay waterfront. The proposed septic system will not displace any area used for picnicking, public access parking, hiking, or other coastal access purposes and the proposed project will not adversely affect public access in any other way. Therefore, the Executive Director finds that the proposed project is in conformance with the public access policies of the Coastal Act.

### 4. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Section 13096 of the Commission's administrative regulations requires Commission approval of Coastal Development Permit applications to be supported by a finding showing the application, as modified by any conditions of approval, to be consistent with any applicable requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Section 21080.5(d)(2)(i) of CEQA prohibits a proposed development from being approved if there are feasible alternatives or feasible mitigation measures available which would substantially lessen any significant adverse impact which the activity may have on the environment.

No potentially significant, adverse environmental impacts from the project have been identified. Therefore, as conditioned and discussed above, the project will not result in a significant adverse effect on the environment within the meaning of CEQA.

#### SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

NONE.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF PERMIT RECEIPT/ACCEPTANCE OF CONTENTS:

I/We acknowledge that I/we have received a copy of this permit and have accepted its contents including all conditions.

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Applicant's Signature

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Date of Signing