

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

NORTH COAST DISTRICT OFFICE
710 E STREET • SUITE 200
EUREKA, CA 95501-1865
VOICE (707) 445-7833
FACSIMILE (707) 445-7877



DATE: September 12, 2012

TO: Coastal Commissioners and Interested Parties

FROM: Charles Lester, Executive Director
Robert Merrill, North Coast District Manager
Tamara L. Gedik, Coastal Program Analyst

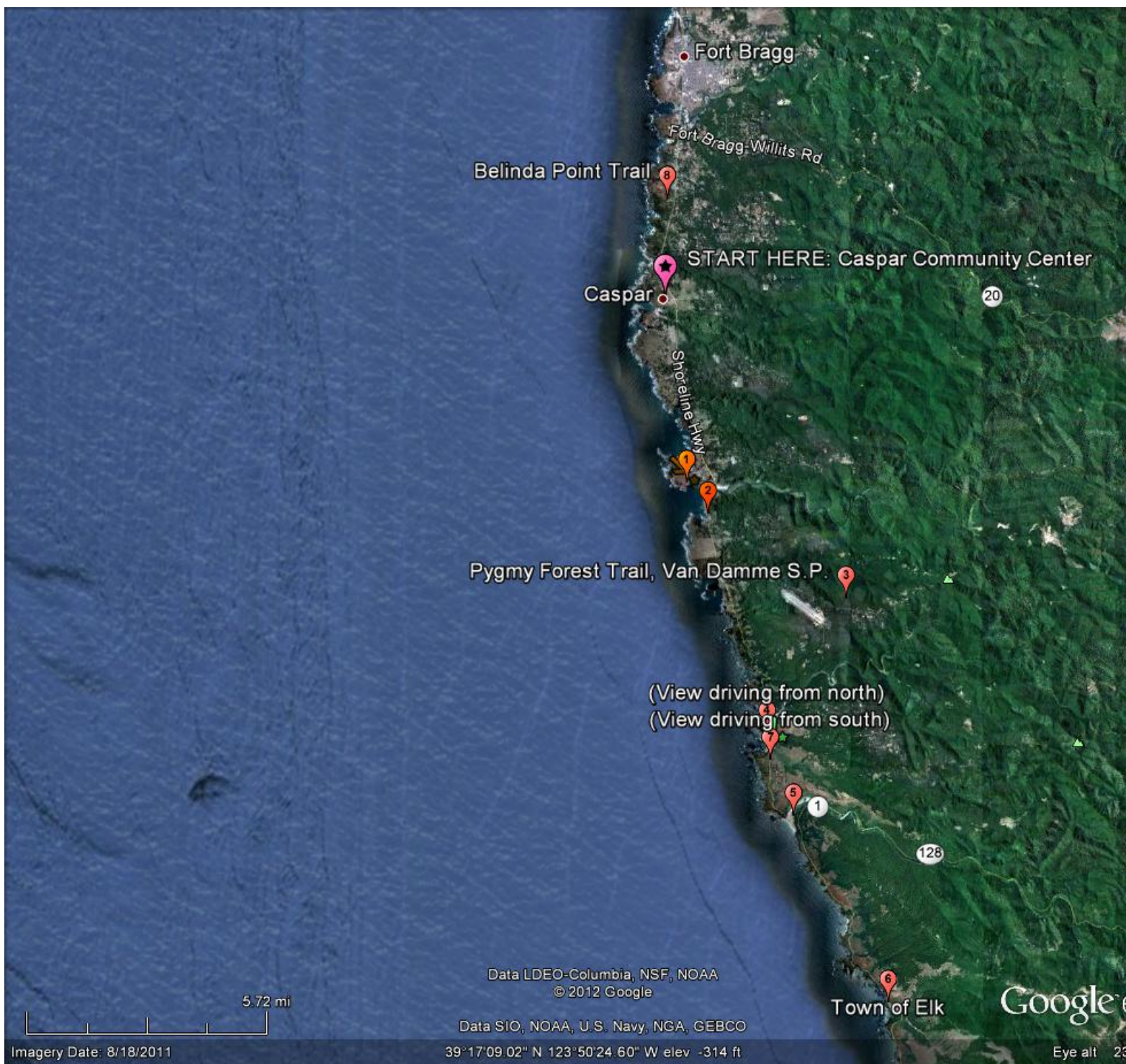
SUBJECT: COMMISSION FIELD TRIP (**WEDNESDAY**)
(For the Commission meeting of September 12, 2012)

The Commission field trip will view **some or all** of the following sites, as time allows. Field trip departs from the parking lot of the Caspar Community Center at the conclusion of the hearing. The following list of tentative sites is subject to change to accommodate timing and other constraints. A more detailed description of the route and sites with maps and photos follows the listing of sites.

Members of the public may follow in their private vehicles to each site.

1. **Mendocino Headlands State Park (Full stop), at the intersection of Heeser St. and Main St.,** within the Town of Mendocino. Meet with Abbey Stockwell, Coastal Planner with Mendocino County Planning and Building Services to introduce Mendocino Town Plan Update process. Also view the site of after-the-fact-request for material modifications to coastal development permit to alter approved building footprint and increase total development from 4,229 sq. ft. to 4,563 sq. ft., and add additional windows, among other requests (A-1-MEN-10-015).
2. **Brewery Gulch Road (drive by):** close-up view of developments proposed by A-1-MEN-10-015 (Bethel & Hupp).
3. **Van Damme State Park Pygmy Trail (Full stop),** 2.8 miles inland of Highway One off of north side of Little River Airport Road. Observe Pygmy habitat on this 10-20-minute boardwalk loop.
4. **Albion (drive by):** view of development proposed by A-1-MEN-09-034 (Marr and Malin). The view of the site is from the north. The applicants propose to develop a 2,719-square-foot residence with an attached garage and; (2) a detached 2,040-square-foot accessory structure containing a garage/workshop and a guest cottage.
5. **Navarro Beach (Full Stop).** Introduce Commissioners to designated Highly Scenic Area ridgeline policies, and view the site of upcoming road improvements proposed under CDP 1-12-017 (CalTrans).

6. **Town of Elk (drive by).** Introduce Commissioners to this portion of the coastline not often seen by travelers driving to Mendocino from Highway 128 or Highway 20.
7. **Albion (drive by):** View of development proposed by A-1-MEN-09-034 (Marr and Malin) from the south while crossing Salmon Creek Bridge (see description above for Number 4).
8. **Belinda Point Trail Dedication (Full stop).** Walk the public access trail to the beach for a public access trail dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony hosted by Mendocino Land Trust to celebrate the completion of access improvements to the beach.





We begin by entering the Town of Mendocino from the coast side to catch a glimpse of the residences that are part of the town character.

From Caspar Community Center, head south on Highway One. Turn **Right** at **Lansing St.**, **Right** onto **Heeser Drive**, and follow Heeser Drive around the bend. Turn **Left** onto **Little Lake Rd**, **Right** onto **Heeser St.**, then turn **Left** and **Park** along **Main St.**

After walking to the headlands, return to vehicles and drive through town. Turn **Left** onto **Kasten**, then **Right** onto **Little Lake Rd**. Turn right onto Hwy. 1, then head south and turn **Right** onto **Brewery Gulch Rd**. Look upslope at Bethel development. Then return to Highway 1, turning right and continuing south.



Our next stop provides an example of pygmy forest. From Stop #2, continue south on Highway One past Comptche-Ukiah Rd. and turn **Left** onto **Little River Airport Rd.** Travel approximately 2.8 miles, and turn **Left** immediately after the junction with Albion-Little River Rd. (You'll see a sign after the junction, on the left side, for Van Damme State Park).

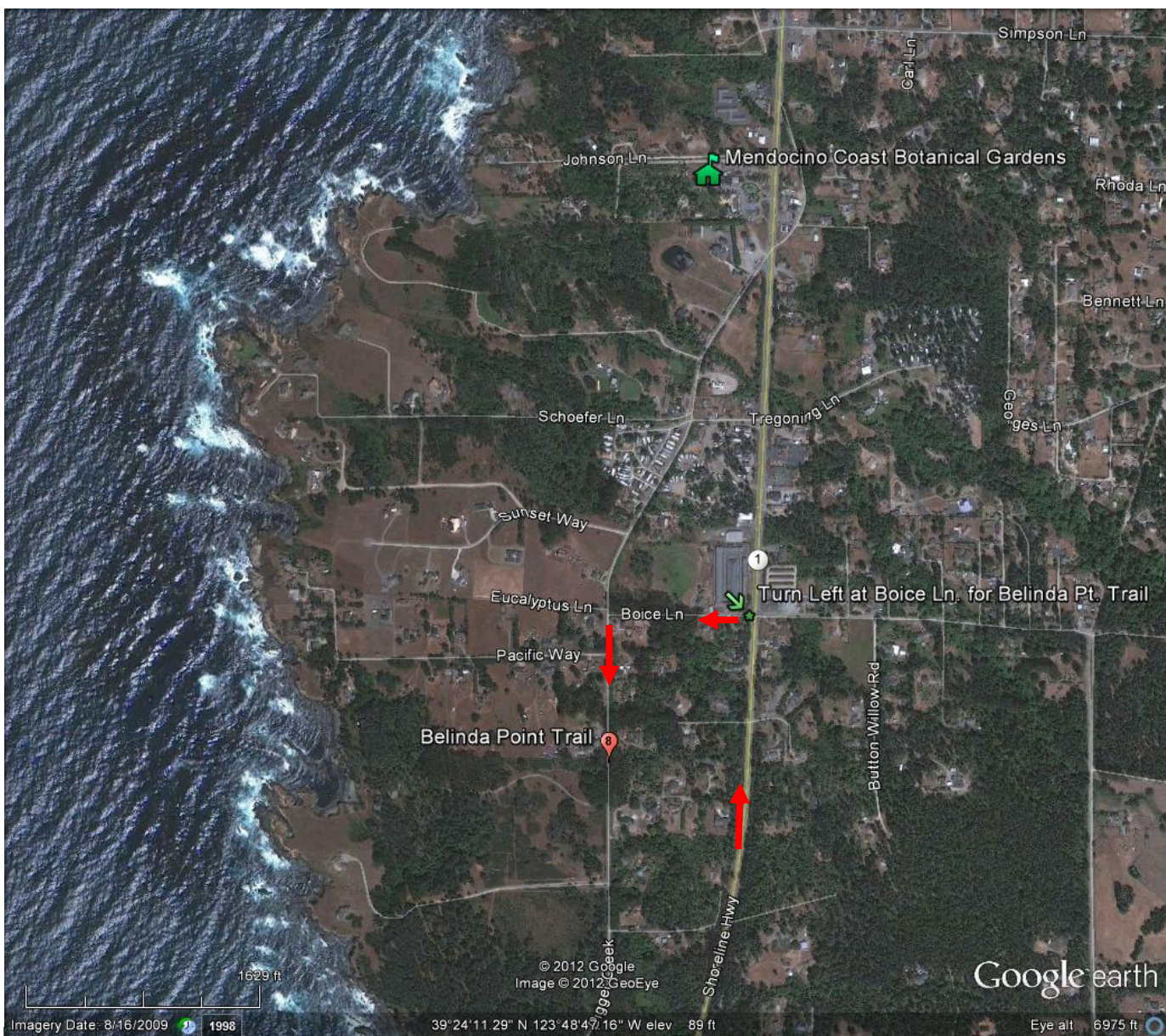
After the brief pygmy boardwalk tour, return to Highway One by turning **Right** and taking **Little River Airport Rd.** again, and turn **left** onto **Highway One.**



After Stop #3 (pygmy forest), continue to head southbound along Highway 1, crossing the Albion River. After crossing the Albion River, and across the highway from the Ledford Inn, look to the left where the encroachment driveway for proposed project A-1-MEN-09-034 (Marr- Malin) will occur, and observe the view for the proposed project site that will be located atop the terrace overlooking Salmon Creek. The story poles are still standing at this site. Due to safety/logistics we will only drive past and not stop at this site.

Turn right to cross the Navarro River at its junction with Highway 128. Note this is the first glimpse of the coast for travelers driving along Highway 128. After crossing the bridge, (almost) immediately turn right onto Navarro Beach Rd. You'll notice on the left that work is ongoing to stabilize the historic "Captain Fletcher's Inn" or "Navarro by the Sea" structure. Pull in to Navarro Beach and park. There are bathrooms here.

After this stop (#5), turn **Right** onto **Highway 1** (if time permits) and continue approx. 6.3 miles (12 minutes) south to the sleepy town of Elk (see cover map). As you pass the Cuffey's Cove Cemetery on the right, **Be sure to slow down for the breathtaking view of Cuffey's Cove on the right.**



Drive slowly through Elk to capture the quiet sense of this little town. We will not stop, but will turn left into the Post Office driveway to turn around, then head North again onto Highway One.

Driving back north, be sure to **Look to your right as you cross Salmon Creek Bridge** to observe the proposed development in Albion from this vantage point.

Continue north for 23 miles (approx. 35 minutes), back to Fort Bragg. After passing Ocean Drive and Kirtland Way in Fort Bragg, turn **Left** onto **Boice Ln.** (if you reach Tregoning Lane you've gone too far, but you can turn left onto Tregoning Lane and then Left onto Ocean Drive to catch up; it just means you'll backtrack more).

From **Boice Ln.**, turn **Left** onto **Ocean Drive** and park along the roadside. Belinda Trailhead is on your right side. After the hike, return to your vehicle and drive to the **end of the road to turn around**. Then turn **Right** onto Boice Lane (look for the stand of Eucalyptus trees), then **Right** onto Highway One to return to the Caspar Community Center (5 min. drive) to pick up cars before heading to the reception.