

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

ENERGY, OCEAN RESOURCES AND FEDERAL CONSISTENCY DIVISION
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**W7**

Prepared February 02, 2018 (for the February 07, 2018 Hearing)

To: Commissioners and Interested Parties
From: Alison Dettmer, Deputy Director
Subject: **Energy, Ocean Resources and Federal Consistency Division Deputy Director's Report for February 2018**

The following coastal development permit (CDP) waivers, immaterial CDP amendments, CDP extensions, emergency CDPs, and negative determinations for the Energy, Ocean Resources and Federal Consistency Division are being reported to the Commission on February 07, 2018. Pursuant to the Commission's procedures, each item has been appropriately noticed as required, and each item is also available for review at the Commission's office in San Francisco. Staff is asking for the Commission's concurrence on the items in the Energy, Ocean Resources and Federal Consistency Division Deputy Director's report, and will report any objections received and any other relevant information on these items to the Commission when it considers the report on February 7th.

With respect to the February 7th hearing, interested persons may sign up to address the Commission on items contained in this report prior to the Commission's consideration of this report. The Commission can overturn staff's noticed determinations for some categories of items subject to certain criteria in each case (see individual notices for specific requirements).

Items being reported on February 07, 2018 (see attached)

Negative Determinations and No Effect Letters

Administrative Items for Federal Consistency Matters

- **ND-0028-17, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Action: Concur, 1/2/2018**
Five-year annual maintenance dredging program for the Tijuana River inlet, consisting of dredging up to 10,000 cu.yds. of clean sands and placement on adjacent coastal dunes in order to maintain tidal exchange in the Tijuana Estuary.
- **ND-0029-17, National Park Service, Action: Concur, 1/2/2018**
Implementation of a plan to survey, monitor, and manage invasive plants in Redwood National Park (Del Norte and Humboldt Counties) and Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area (Ventura and Los Angeles Counties).

- **ND-0030-17, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Action: Concur, 12/13/2017**
Continued implementation of the Bolsa Chica Lowlands Sediment Management Program, Orange County
- **ND-0031-17, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Action: Concur, 12/8/17**
Exemption for the U.S. Coast Guard from certain NMS discharge prohibitions within expansion areas of the Greater Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries, offshore San Francisco thru Mendocino Counties.
- **ND-0032-17, Bureau of Land Management, Action: Concur, 12/15/2017**
Bureau of Land Management, Waluplh-Lighthouse Ranch, Ca. Coastal National Monument, maintenance activities involving vegetation management (tree trimming, mowing, weed whacking), western edge of Table Bluff, south side of Humboldt Bay, Humboldt Co.
- **ND-0034-17, U.S. Marine Corps, Action: Concur, 1/2/2018**
Installation of high frequency radar antenna at Assault Craft Unit-5, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, San Diego County
- **NE-0011-17, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, Action: Concur, 11/14/2017**
ExxonMobil Corp. Oil and Gas OCS Lease Suspension for one additional year, due to Shutdown of Pipeline Lines 901 and 913, Point Arguello Unit, Santa Barbara Co.

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January 2, 2018

Andrew Yuen
Project Leader
San Diego NWR Complex
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 2358
Chula Vista, CA 91912

Subject: ND-0028-17 (Tijuana Slough National Wildlife Refuge Inlet Maintenance, San Diego County)

Dear Mr. Yuen:

The Coastal Commission staff has reviewed the above-referenced negative determination. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposes to implement a five-year program of inlet maintenance at the mouth of the Tijuana River at the Tijuana Slough National Wildlife Refuge. The program includes excavation of up to 10,000 cubic yards per year of clean sand from the mouth and lower channel of the Tijuana River to facilitate adequate tidal exchange between the Pacific Ocean and the Tijuana Estuary. The excavated sand would be beneficially reused to enhance the existing barrier dune system that protects the estuary's salt marsh habitat from wave attack.

The Service reports that the mouth of the Tijuana River is highly susceptible to closure due to the present degraded condition of the estuarine tidal prism (in part due to decades of excessive sedimentation within the estuary watershed) and the movement of imported and native sand on the beach and in the nearshore littoral transport cell. These factors exacerbate the tendency for the river mouth to become clogged by wave-transported sand. The most recent closures of the river inlet occurred in March, April, May, and September 2016, and April 2017. The Service stated that the March 2016 closure of the inlet lead to:

. . . severely degraded water quality as nutrient rich influxes of freshwater and raw sewage lead to hypoxic conditions in the estuary causing a fish and benthic invertebrate die-off. The blockage also resulted in street flooding of sewage contaminated water within the City of Imperial Beach.

While not an element of this negative determination, the Service is also working with partners to develop plans for restoration and expansion of the estuary's tidal prism which would reduce the potential for closures of the Tijuana River mouth.

Proposed inlet maintenance would typically occur over an area 300 to 500 feet long and five to 20 feet in width at the river mouth. Land-based tracked excavators would excavate sand from the

inlet channel; front-end loaders would transport the sand to adjacent upper reaches of the dry sandy beach (above the mean higher high water mark) near the coastal dune crest. Excavated sand would not be placed in any areas supporting dune vegetation. Given the urgent nature of sand excavation at times, and the significant adverse impacts to the Tijuana Estuary that occur when tidal circulation is blocked, it may not be always possible for inlet maintenance to avoid the nesting season of the California least tern and western snowy plover, or the spawning season of the California grunion. However, the Service states that to the extent that excavation of beach sand is conducted in order to make the Tijuana River mouth more resilient to future mouth closures, excavation work would be scheduled to avoid nesting and spawning seasons for a variety of fish and wildlife trust resources, including the California grunion. In addition, disposal of sand would occur in upland areas that are well above the spawning elevations for the grunion. The Service also states that during inlet maintenance, both within and outside of nesting and spawning seasons, a Refuge biologist would oversee all project activities in order to avoid direct impacts and to minimize indirect impacts to grunion and listed species. In addition, no dredging or filling of mudflats, salt marsh habitat, or eelgrass beds would occur during inlet maintenance.

Inlet maintenance work could result in short-term temporary closures of a small portion of the beach to ensure public safety. Following completion of the work, access to the area in and around the Tijuana River inlet would be restored consistent with current access policies in the National Wildlife Refuge, which include restrictions during the nesting seasons for listed species.

Regarding cultural resource protection, the Service states that:

Tribal notification was conducted in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) in May 2017 and one response, from the Campo Kumeyaay Nation, was received. Refuge staff and two members of the Campo Kumeyaay Nation Tribal Council met at the project site to discuss the proposal in greater detail. Based on the current conditions within the project area and the proposal to dredge sand washed into the inlet from ocean wave action, there is little, if any, potential for impacts to cultural resources as a result of proposed inlet maintenance activities. Nevertheless, the Service has agreed to have a Kumeyaay Cultural Monitor present during inlet dredging activities.

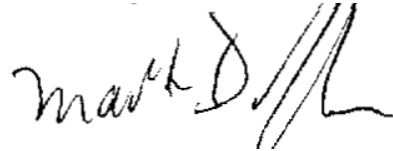
In addition, the Service states that should cultural resources be discovered during any disturbance to subsurface material, ground disturbance will be halted, the Service's Regional Archaeologist will be notified, and additional consultation will be initiated to ensure compliance with the NHPA.

Under the federal consistency regulations, a negative determination can be submitted for an activity "which is the same as or similar to activities for which consistency determinations have been prepared in the past." The proposed inlet maintenance at the mouth of the Tijuana River is similar to inlet opening projects undertaken by the Service and concurred with by the Commission and Executive Director in CD-041-84, ND-008-98, and ND-006-10. In addition, the federal consistency regulations provide that should a federal agency activity "[have] an effect on any coastal use or resource substantially different than originally described," the state agency

may request that the federal agency take appropriate remedial action. Should inlet maintenance activities implemented during the proposed five-year program time period create unanticipated adverse effects on coastal resources, the Commission staff will work with the Service to determine the appropriate remedial actions or program modifications. In addition, the Service has agreed to provide the Commission staff with annual reports of inlet maintenance activities (e.g, dates of maintenance work, sand volume excavated, sand placement location, and measures taken to protect listed species and California grunion should inlet maintenance occur during nesting or spawning seasons).

In conclusion, the Commission staff **agrees** that implementation of the proposed Tijuana Slough National Wildlife Refuge inlet maintenance program would not adversely affect coastal resources. We therefore **concur** with your negative determination made pursuant to 15 CFR Section 930.35 of the NOAA implementing regulations. Please contact Larry Simon at (415) 904-5288 should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Ainsworth", with a stylized flourish at the end.

(for) JOHN AINSWORTH
Executive Director

cc: CCC – San Diego Coast District
Brian Collins, USFWS
Victoria Touchstone, USFWS

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January 2, 2018

David Szymanski
Superintendent
Santa Monica Mountains NRA
401 West Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360

David Roemer
Acting Superintendent
Redwood National Park
1111 Second Street
Crescent City, CA 95531

Subject: Negative Determination ND-0029-17 (Invasive Plant Management Plan, Santa Monica Mountains NRA (Los Angeles and Ventura Counties) and Redwood National Park (Del Norte and Humboldt Counties)).

Dear Mr. Szymanski and Mr. Roemer:

The Coastal Commission staff has reviewed the above-referenced negative determination. The National Park Service (NPS) proposes to implement a joint programmatic Invasive Plant Management Plan (IPMP) at Redwood National Park and Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area (NRA). While both NPS parks include non-federal lands within the congressionally designated boundaries, the proposed IPMP applies solely to federal actions on federal lands within the park boundaries. The Commission has previously concurred with NPS federal consistency submittals for both parks that addressed invasive plant management. In Redwood National Park this included CD-017-79 (1979 General Management Plan), CD-011-00 (2000 General Management Plan), and ND-092-04 (relocation and restoration of the Requa maintenance facility). In Santa Monica Mountains NRA this included CD-025-02 (2002 General Management Plan) and ND-054-12 (non-native tree removal at Trancas Creek).

The NPS states that the programmatic IPMP describes a comprehensive approach of action to protect natural and cultural resources from the impacts of non-native invasive plants in both parks by:

- Controlling established populations of invasive plants
- Providing a strategy for early detection and treatment to minimize establishment of new populations of invasive plants already in the parks

- Preventing establishment of species not yet in the parks
- Identifying invasive plant control techniques, best management practices to minimize impacts from control of invasive plants, and an adaptive management strategy to account for new information and incorporate new treatment tools as they become available, as new invasive plant species and infestations appear, and as the climate changes over time.

Treatments to be used for managing and controlling invasive plants in both parks are consistent with NPS Integrated Pest Management guidelines and include: (1) mechanical/manual methods with soil erosion control measures; (2) herbicides allowed under the NPS Pesticide Use Proposal System and implemented with established best management practices; (3) biological treatments in compliance with established NPS policies and guidelines; and (4) cultural techniques to improve growing conditions for native species, including fire, grazing, treatment timing, mulching, and revegetation.

The NPS analyzed the proposed IPMP for consistency with the Chapter 3 policies of the Coastal Act and determined that:

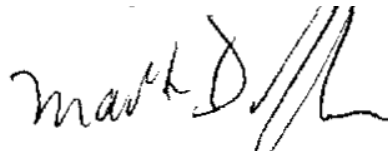
- Actions would not change long-term public access to any area of either park, removal of some invasive plant species would improve public access, and information on invasive plant management activities would be provided to park visitors and stakeholders in a variety of formats and locations.
- The NPS will continue to work with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and Regional Water Quality Control Boards to ensure state waters are protected to the greatest extent practicable while implementing invasive plant management actions. To protect water quality, environmentally sensitive habitat, fish and wildlife species, and human health, all herbicide use under the IPMP will meet label use requirements and regulations required by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and National Park Service Pesticide Use Proposal System.
- Management of invasive plants is directed at protecting and restoring native habitats, and control of invasive plants in the parks will not adversely affect populations of wildlife species.
- Cultural resources would be protected through identification of resources in any area proposed for treatment, consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office or Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, and monitoring of ground-disturbing activities and mitigation when required.

Under the federal consistency regulations, a negative determination can be submitted for an activity “which is the same as or similar to activities for which consistency determinations have been prepared in the past.” The proposed programmatic Invasive Plant Management Plan (IPMP) is similar to invasive plant management actions included in General Management Plans for Redwood National Park and Santa Monica Mountains NRA, and concurred with by the

Commission in CD-011-00 and CD-025-02, respectively. In addition, the federal consistency regulations provide that should a federal agency activity “[have] an effect on any coastal use or resource substantially different than originally described,” the state agency may request that the federal agency take appropriate remedial action. Should actions implemented under the programmatic IPMP create unanticipated adverse effects on coastal resources, the Commission staff will work with the NPS to determine the appropriate remedial actions or plan modifications. Furthermore, the NPS states that the programmatic IPMP includes a mixture of general and specific actions and proposals and that some actions and proposals will need additional federal consistency review in the future when site-specific information is available. It further states that if adaptive management results in actions or proposals that affect the coastal zone which were not analyzed in the subject negative determination, additional federal consistency submittals for future actions may be required. The NPS has committed to coordinating with the Commission staff to identify future projects requiring federal consistency review prior to specific project implementation.

In conclusion, the Commission staff **agrees** that implementation of the proposed programmatic Invasive Plant Management Plan at Redwood National Park and Santa Monica Mountains NRA would not adversely affect coastal resources. We therefore **concur** with your negative determination made pursuant to 15 CFR Section 930.35 of the NOAA implementing regulations. Please contact Larry Simon at (415) 904-5288 should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Ainsworth", with a stylized flourish at the end.

(for) JOHN AINSWORTH
Executive Director

cc: CCC – North Coast District
CCC – South Central Coast District
Aida Parkinson – Redwood National Park

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December 13, 2017

G. Mendel Stewart
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Carlsbad Field Office
2177 Salk Avenue, Suite 250
Carlsbad, CA 92008

Subject: Negative Determination ND-0030-17 (Bolsa Chica Lowlands Restoration Project
Adaptive Management and Sediment Management Program)

Dear Mr. Stewart:

The Coastal Commission staff has reviewed the above-referenced negative determination. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service proposes to continue to implement its Adaptive Management and Sediment Management Program at the Bolsa Chica Lowlands for a ten-year period through December 2027. The program includes sediment dredging and disposal, completion of soil remediation, and water and drainage management, described as follows:

- Sand would continue to be dredged from the tidal basin entrance channel and flood shoal areas on a recurrent cycle of every one to three years, with the next cycle anticipated to begin in the winter of 2017-2018. Each cycle would remove between 65,000 and 460,000 cubic yards (cu.yds.) of sand, tested and determined to be physically suitable for beach nourishment. Clean dredged sands would be placed on the downcoast Bolsa Chica State Beach or within the adjacent nearshore zone in a 5,000-foot-long reach between the southern inlet channel jetty and Huntington Bluffs.
- Completion in 2018 of contaminant removal and soil remediation at Cell/Pond 0, including the excavation and removal to an off-site disposal facility of between 1,000 and 10,000 cu.yds. of soil under an approved Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) work plan.
- Continue maintenance of and adjustments to drainage systems and culverts, including reworking water management connections, within the wetland restoration area in order to promote vegetation development, manage threatened and endangered species, promote conditions for wildlife habitat, and control mosquitos and flood risks in the restoration area and in adjacent residential and oil field production areas.

In November 2001 the Commission concurred with consistency determination CD-061-01 for restoration of the Bolsa Chica lowlands, to be accomplished in part by the construction of an

ocean inlet to return tidal flows to the historic wetland complex at Bolsa Chica and grading to create diverse wetland and tidal habitats across portions of the 880-acre project area. In August 2006 construction was completed and approximately 560 acres of the project site were opened to full or muted tidal flows. Maintenance dredging of sections of the ocean inlet and full tidal basin to remove shoaled sands, and placement of dredged sands on the downcoast beach to minimize erosion due to sand capture by the tidal inlet, were essential design elements of the restoration project concurred with by the Commission and occur on average every two years. In October 2016 the Commission's Executive Director concurred with negative determination ND-0035-16 for maintenance dredging of the inlet channel, placement of 128,000 cu.yds. of clean sand on Bolsa Chica State Beach, and continued soil remediation under the RWQCB work plan.

The periodic removal of shoaled sediments is necessary in order to prevent closure of the tidal inlet, which would lead to significant adverse impacts to habitat values, listed species, fisheries, and water quality within the restored lowlands area. Closure of the inlet would also increase groundwater and surface water levels in the lowlands, potentially leading to flooding of adjacent residential areas and active oil production fields. Flooding of those fields could lead to contaminant dispersal into the tidal basin and adjoining wetlands. In addition, without replenishment from beach disposal of dredged sediments from the inlet and tidal basin, winter storms could erode the beach south of the ocean inlet and damage the shoreline Multi-Use Trail and Pacific Coast Highway.

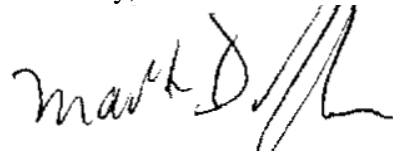
The proposed 10-year maintenance dredging and beach nourishment program is similar to previous dredging and nourishment projects undertaken in the project area. No permanent adverse effects on marine resources, water quality, and public access and recreation are expected, and the project will result in protection of those resources consistent with the provisions and commitments contained in CD-061-01. Program development was coordinated with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, National Marine Fisheries Service, California State Lands Commission, California Department of Parks and Recreation, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife to ensure consistency with agency mandates for protection of natural resources at the Bolsa Chica Lowlands.

Under the federal consistency regulations, a negative determination can be submitted for an activity "which is the same as or similar to activities for which consistency determinations have been prepared in the past." The proposed project is similar to the maintenance dredging and beach nourishment activities previously undertaken at the Bolsa Chica Lowlands under the provisions of CD-061-01 and ND-0035-16. In addition, the federal consistency regulations provide that should a federal agency activity "[have] an effect on any coastal use or resource substantially different than originally described," the state agency may request that the federal agency take appropriate remedial action. Should dredging and disposal operations, or maintenance and adjustments to the wetland drainage systems and culverts, create unanticipated adverse effects on coastal resources during the 10-year life of the program, the Commission staff will work with the Service to determine the appropriate remedial actions or program modifications.

ND-0030-17 (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)
Bolsa Chica Lowlands Restoration Project

In conclusion, the Commission staff **agrees** that the proposed Bolsa Chica Lowlands Restoration Project Adaptive Management and Sediment Management Program will not adversely affect coastal resources. We therefore **concur** with your negative determination made pursuant to 15 CFR Section 930.35 of the NOAA implementing regulations. Please contact Larry Simon at (415) 904-5288 should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Ainsworth", with a stylized flourish at the end.

(for) JOHN AINSWORTH
Executive Director

cc: Teresa Henry, CCC – South Coast District
Lucinda Calvo, California State Lands Commission
Wendy Hall, California State Lands Commission
Clark Winchell, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Robert Smith, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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December 8, 2017

William Douros, Regional Director
West Coast Region
National Marine Sanctuary Program
U.S. Dept. of Commerce/NOAA
99 Pacific St., Bldg. 100, Suite F
Monterey, CA 93940

Attn: Maria Brown, Superintendent

Re: **ND-0031-17**, NOAA Negative Determination, Exempting the U.S. Coast Guard from National Marine Sanctuary Discharge Prohibitions within expansion areas of the Greater Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries (NMSs), offshore San Francisco thru Mendocino Counties

Dear Mr. Douros and Ms. Brown:

The Coastal Commission staff has reviewed the above-referenced negative determination submitted by NOAA an exemption for the U.S. Coast Guard from certain NMS discharge prohibitions. The exemptions would allow the Coast Guard to discharge untreated sewage and non-clean graywater from Coast Guard vessels, as well as discharge of ammunition and pyrotechnic materials used during Coast Guard training exercises for use of force (live fire or gunnery) and search and rescue (SAR) of vessels or persons in distress. As your determination notes, the discharges would occur in federal waters and would constitute “a continuation of the status quo.” As your determination also notes, this issue with respect to Coast Guard activities was placed “on hold,” when the two NMSs were expanded¹, pending further deliberations between NOAA and the Coast Guard.

The Coastal Commission staff **agrees** with your conclusion that the exemptions to the discharge prohibitions for necessary Coast Guard activities in federal waters, as described in your negative determination, would not constitute a change in existing conditions and would not adversely affect coastal zone resources. We therefore **concur** with your negative determination made pursuant for 15 CFR Section 930.35 of the NOAA implementing regulations. Please contact Mark Delaplaine at (415) 904-5289, if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Delaplaine', with a stylized flourish at the end.

(for) JOHN AINSWORTH
Executive Director

cc: North Central and North Coast Districts

¹ The Commission concurred with NOAA's consistency determination for these NMS expansions on December 12, 2014 (CD-0002-14).

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December 15, 2017

Molly Brown
Bureau of Land Management
Arcata Field Office
1695 Heindon Rd.
Arcata, CA 95521

Attn: Jennifer Wheeler

Re: **ND-0032-17**, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Negative Determination, Waluplh – Lighthouse Ranch Facility Maintenance, Loleta, Humboldt Co.

Dear Ms. Brown:

The Coastal Commission staff has reviewed the above-referenced negative determination submitted by BLM for invasive weed removal within graveled surfaces at the parking area and picnic site at the Waluplh – Lighthouse Ranch Facility, on the south side of Humboldt Bay in the Loleta area of Humboldt County. Vegetation management activities would include treating a 0.16 acre area, primarily using hand tools, and potentially involving applying herbicide containing glyphosate isopropylamine salt up to two times annually and during the active growing season (and avoiding any application during anticipated rainfall periods). Use of herbicides would not occur without notification and temporary closure to the public of any area being treated, and any such treatment would also include redirection of the public to non-affected areas. BLM indicates its past “weed-whacking” to control the weeds has not been effective, and that weeds have recently been rendering more difficult access for mobility-impaired visitors to the site, and that thorns in weeds (in particular, bull thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*) have further resulted in obstacles to recreation.

BLM will implement Best Management Practices for any use of herbicides in accordance with its 2007 guidelines covering use of herbicides in 17 western states. These include measures to limit herbicide use to situations only when other measures have not been effective, to minimize impacts to listed and special status species, and for consultation with Native American Tribes.

With inclusion of these measures, the Coastal Commission staff **agrees** with your conclusion that the proposed activity would not adversely affect coastal zone resources. We therefore **concur** with your negative determination made pursuant for 15 CFR Section 930.35 of the NOAA implementing regulations. Please contact Mark Delaplaine at (415) 904-5289, if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark D. Delaplaine".

(for) JOHN AINSWORTH
Executive Director

cc: North Coast District

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January 2, 2018

B. Battista
Head, Environmental Planning
U.S. Marine Corps
ATTN: Matthew Lorne
Box 555008
Camp Pendleton, CA 92055

Subject: ND-0034-17 (Installation of High Frequency Radar Antenna Trailer at Assault Craft Unit-5, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, San Diego County)

Dear Mr. Battista:

The Coastal Commission staff has reviewed the above-referenced negative determination. The Marine Corps proposes to install a mobile, trailer-mounted high frequency radar antenna overlooking the Pacific Ocean at Assault Craft Unit-5 on Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton. The antenna will serve as an element of the U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS). Data gathered by the system are made available to state and federal agencies in support of search and rescue, spill tracking, improved warning capabilities for coastal and health hazards, and marine operations safety. The radar antenna trailer will be powered by existing electrical utilities at the site, and no ground disturbance is required for installation or operation. Public access and recreation would not be affected as the project site is on a military reservation closed to the general public. The project will have no effects on environmentally sensitive habitat or listed species due to its location adjacent to the Assault Craft Unit-5 facility. The radar antenna trailer will be removed if and when it is no longer needed by the IOOS.

In conclusion, the Commission staff **agrees** that the proposed radar antenna trailer at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton would not adversely affect coastal resources. We therefore **concur** with your negative determination made pursuant to 15 CFR Section 930.35 of the NOAA implementing regulations. Please contact Larry Simon at (415) 904-5288 should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark D. Ainsworth".

(for) JOHN AINSWORTH
Executive Director

cc: CCC – San Diego Coast District

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November 14, 2017

Drew Mayerson
Regional Supervisor
Office of Production and Development
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement
Pacific OCS Region
760 Paseo Camarillo, Suite 102
Camarillo, CA 93010-6064

Attn: Nathan Sinkula

Re: **NE-0011-17**, No Effects Determination, ExxonMobil, One year addition to previously approved Lease Suspension, Santa Ynez Unit, Santa Barbara Channel

Dear Mr. Mayerson:

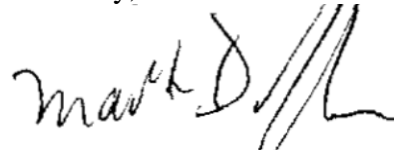
The Coastal Commission staff has received the above-referenced "no effects" determination for the request by ExxonMobil Corp. to be granted permission for additional time to resume oil and gas operations at the Santa Ynez Unit. On November 15, 2016 and December 10, 2015, we authorized similar requests for the previous one-year periods (NE-0014-16, NE-0010-15, respectively), the most recent of which terminates on December 14, 2016.

The need for the time extension remains the same - the operations ceased after the U.S. Dept. of Transportation's Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS) ordered corrections to onshore pipelines Line 901 and 903 on May 21, 2015, following the Plains All American pipeline spill on Line 901. While Plains All American Pipeline is in discussions with Santa Barbara County¹ concerning replacement pipeline applications, no pipelines are currently available, and completion of remedial action plans or constructions of new pipelines may delay pipeline availability for at least an additional year. If pipelines become available in the interim, this suspension would expire and ExxonMobil would be required to submit all necessary applications for resumption of production from these leases.

¹ On August 15, 2017, Plains All American Pipeline, L.P., (Plains) submitted three discretionary applications (Case Nos. 17DVP-00000-00010, 17CUP-00000-00027 and 17CDP-00000-00060) to Santa Barbara County Planning and Development Energy and Minerals Division for the replacement of their existing, and currently shut down, Lines 901 and 903.

As we indicated in the previously-cited concurrences, we agree with your assessment that this suspension of active oil and gas operations would have no effect on any coastal zone resources, and we therefore concur with your "no effects" determination. Please contact Mark Delaplaine at (415) 904-5289 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark D. Delaplaine". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "D" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

(for) JOHN AINSWORTH
Executive Director

cc: Ventura District Office
ExxonMobil Corp. (Cole Ramsey)
Santa Barbara County Energy Division (Peter Cattle)