

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

NORTH COAST DISTRICT OFFICE  
1385 8TH STREET, SUITE 130  
ARCATA, CALIFORNIA 95521-5967  
(707) 826-8950 FAX (707) 826-8960  
www.coastal.ca.gov



# W9

**Prepared May 29, 2018 (for the June 06, 2018 Hearing)**

**To:** Commissioners and Interested Parties  
**From:** Alison Dettmer, North Coast District Deputy Director  
**Subject:** **North Coast District Deputy Director's Report for June 2018**

The following coastal development permit (CDP) waivers, immaterial CDP amendments, CDP extensions, and emergency CDPs for the North Coast District Office are being reported to the Commission on June 06, 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 North Coast District Office in Arcata. Staff is asking for the Commission's concurrence on the items in the North Coast District 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 June 6th.

With respect to the June 6th 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 June 06, 2018 (see attached)**

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**Waivers**

- 1-18-0450-W, Humboldt County Department of Public Works - Bay Trail South Geotechnical Investigation (Humboldt County)

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May 25, 2018

## Coastal Development Permit De Minimis Waiver Coastal Act Section 30624.7

Based on the project plans and information provided in your permit application for the development described below, the Executive Director of the Coastal Commission hereby waives the requirement for a Coastal Development Permit pursuant to Section 13238.1, Title 14, California Code of Regulations. If, at a later date, this information is found to be incorrect or the plans revised, this decision will become invalid; and, any development occurring must cease until a coastal development permit is obtained or any discrepancy is resolved in writing.

**Waiver:** 1-18-0450-W

**Applicant:** Humboldt County Department of Public Works; Attn: Hank Seeman

**Location:** Highway 101 and the North Coast Railroad Authority railroad corridor between Bracut and Eureka, and the levee around the California Redwood Company's Brainard property (Humboldt County) (APNs: 014-031-02, 014-041-02, 014-051-03, 014-101-02, 014-111-03, 014-121-02, 017-081-01, 017-102-08, 404-141-02, 404-141-04, 501-241-05)

**Proposed Development:** Conduct subsurface geotechnical investigations for a future 4.2-mile segment of the California Coastal Trail at twenty-three locations along the eastern shore of Humboldt Bay from Eureka Slough north to Bracut, including locations just off of the Highway 101 shoulder, between the highway and the adjacent railroad right-of-way, within the railroad prism, and along the top of the levee around California Redwood Company's Brainard property. The exploratory work will be accomplished with a rubber track-mounted drill rig using hollow-stem auger and rotary wash drilling techniques, and will take seven to ten days to complete. Vegetation clearing will be required to create an eight-foot-wide path along approximately 1,400 linear feet of levee in order to access two of the boring locations.

**Rationale:** None of the proposed boring locations or access routes are situated within coastal waters or wetlands. Based on a biological survey performed in 2017, the project also avoids occurrences of special-status plant species. A biologist will visit the boring locations prior to the initiation of work, and if special-status species are present, the boring locations will be adjusted in the field to avoid potential impacts. An excavator or Bobcat equipped with a rotary blade will be required to clear vegetation on top of approximately 1,400 feet of levee in order to provide access for drilling equipment. Vegetation on the top portion of the levee is primarily Himalayan blackberry and non-native grasses. Minimal vegetation clearing may also be necessary in other boring locations and will be performed using hand tools only.

**Coastal Development Permit De Minimis Waiver**

1-18-0450-W

Ground disturbance at the drilling locations will be minimal and temporary. Tarps and troughs will be used to contain cuttings and mud created during drilling. All soil cuttings and drill mud will be containerized in 50-gallon steel drums and removed for off-site disposal. All borings will be backfilled in accordance with Humboldt County Environmental Health requirements. Work will be performed during the dry season. In order to avoid water quality impacts from the use of heavy equipment, equipment will be cleaned prior to use and inspected daily during use, the drill contractor will prepare and implement a spill prevention and response plan, and spill response materials will remain on site through the completion of the project.

The proposed development will not adversely impact coastal resources, public access, or public recreation opportunities, and is consistent with past Commission actions in the area and Chapter Three policies of the Coastal Act.

This waiver will not become effective until reported to the Commission at its June 2018 meeting and the site of the proposed development has been appropriately noticed, pursuant to 13054(b) of the California Code of Regulations. The Notice of Pending Permit shall remain posted at the site until the waiver has been validated and no less than seven days prior to the Commission hearing. If four (4) Commissioners object to this waiver of permit requirements, a coastal development permit will be required.

Sincerely,

John Ainsworth  
Executive Director



Cristin Kenyon  
Coastal Program Analyst