

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

NORTH COAST DISTRICT OFFICE
1385 EIGHTH STREET, SUITE 130
ARCATA, CALIFORNIA 95521-5967
(707) 826-8950 FAX (707) 826-8960
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North Coast District Deputy Director's Report for March 2021

Prepared March 4, 2021 (for the March 12, 2021 Hearing)

To: Commissioners and Interested Parties
From: Kate Hucklebridge, North Coast District Deputy Director

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 March 12, 2021. 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 March 12th.

With respect to the March 12th 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 March 12, 2021 (see attached)

Waivers

- 1-20-0649-W, City of Trinidad - Decommissioning and Removal of the Trinidad Stormwater Outfall. (Launcher Beach, Trinidad Harbor, 1 Bay Street, Trinidad, Humboldt County)
- 1-21-0137-W, Charleston – Replacement of Failing Septic System, (3633 Old Samoa Road, west of Arcata, Humboldt County)

Immaterial Amendments

- 1-09-024-A1, City of Ferndale - Modifications to the Wastewater Treatment Facility (Ferndale Wastewater Retention Pond, Humboldt County)

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March 5, 2021

NOTICE OF PROPOSED PERMIT WAIVER

Date: March 4, 2021

To: All Interested Parties

From: Bob Merrill, North Coast District Manager
Tamara Gedik, Coastal Program Analyst

Subject: **Coastal Development Permit (CDP) Waiver 1-20-0649-W**
Applicant: City of Trinidad

Location: Launcher Beach, Trinidad Harbor, 1 Bay Street, Trinidad, Humboldt County (APN: 042-071-13)

Proposed Development: Decommission and remove the Trinidad stormwater outfall. The project entails removing the concrete outfall, capping the storm drain, and filling remaining pipe with slurry and abandoning in place.

Executive Director's Waiver Determination

Pursuant to Title 14, Section 13238 of the California Code of Regulations, and based on project plans and information submitted by the Applicant regarding the proposed development, the Executive Director of the California Coastal Commission hereby waives the requirement for a CDP for the following reasons:

The development is part of a larger citywide stormwater improvement project that will enhance water quality by infiltrating all the City's stormwater and eliminating its discharge into Trinidad Bay, a designated Area of Special Biological Significance. Best Management Practices and conditions have been added to ensure there will be no impacts to the adjacent coastal waters during construction. No heavy equipment will be used on the beach. An excavator or similar equipment used to decommission the concrete outfall will be staged on existing rock slope protection (RSP) and/or the adjacent paved boat launch ramp. Any RSP temporarily removed to access the outfall will be replaced following decommissioning activities.

Coastal Development Permit De Minimis Waiver 1-20-0649-W

Project activities will not interfere with the public's ability to access the sea, and access to the adjacent free parking lot and nearby public trails will remain open during project construction. Cultural resource monitors will be present during ground-disturbing activities, and if any cultural resources are identified during project activities, all work in the vicinity of the discovery will cease immediately and the cultural monitor will immediately report the discovery to the resident engineer who will notify the Yurok Tribal Heritage Preservation Officer (THPO), Trinidad Rancheria THPO and the Tsurai Ancestral Society.

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.

Coastal Commission Review Procedure

This waiver is not valid until it has been reported to the Coastal Commission and the site of the proposed development has been appropriately noticed, pursuant to sec. 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. **This waiver is proposed to be reported to the Commission on Friday, March 12, 2021.** If four or more Commissioners object to this waiver at that time, then the application shall be processed as a regular CDP application.

IMPORTANT! PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS WILL BE A VIRTUAL MEETING.

As a result of the COVID-19 emergency and the Governor's Executive Orders N-29-20 and N-33-20, this Coastal Commission meeting will occur virtually through video and teleconference. Please see the Coastal Commission's Virtual Hearing Procedures posted on the Coastal Commission's webpage at www.coastal.ca.gov for details on the procedures of this hearing. If you would like to receive a paper copy of the Coastal Commission's Virtual Hearing Procedures, please call 415-904-5202.

If you have any questions about the proposal, please contact Tamara Gedik in the North Coast District office at tamara.gedik@coastal.ca.gov.

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED PERMIT WAIVER

Date: March 4, 2021

To: All Interested Parties

From: Bob Merrill, North Coast District Manager
Catherine Holloway, Coastal Program Analyst

Subject: **Coastal Development Permit (CDP) Waiver 1-21-0137-W**
Applicant: Graham Charleston

Location: 3633 Old Samoa Road, approximately two miles west of Arcata, Humboldt County (APN: 506-031-006)

Proposed Development

Replace a failing onsite residential wastewater disposal system with a new system involving (1) installation of (a) a 1,500-gallon replacement septic tank; (b) a 750-gallon pump tank; and (c) an approximately 2,000-square-foot sewage treatment mound and (2) removal of the failed septic tank.

Executive Director's Waiver Determination

Pursuant to Title 14, Section 13238 of the California Code of Regulations, and based on project plans and information submitted by the Applicant regarding the proposed development, the Executive Director of the California Coastal Commission hereby waives the requirement for a CDP for the following reasons:

The existing septic system serves a house on the property that was constructed prior to 1970. The aging septic system was not built to modern standards, according to the County Department of Environmental Health (DEH) and recently failed, resulting in a sewage back-up and contamination of an onsite well. The septic system replacement will prevent continued degradation of water quality. County DEH reviewed and approved the system repairs as adequate and determined that the location of the new sewage treatment mound is the most suitable site on the subject property. The new tanks will be installed underground in a disturbed grassy yard area immediately adjacent to (within five feet of) the existing residence that necessitates no major vegetation removal or grading. The subject development will be located behind the existing residence and will not be visible from Old Samoa Road. Therefore, 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 3 policies of the Coastal Act.

Coastal Commission Review Procedure

This waiver is not valid until it has been reported to the Coastal Commission and the site of the proposed development has been appropriately noticed, pursuant to sec. 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. **This waiver is proposed to be reported to the Commission on Friday, March 12, 2021.** If four or more Commissioners object to this waiver at that time, then the application shall be processed as a regular CDP application.

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If you have any questions about the proposal, please contact Catherine Holloway in the North Coast District office at catherine.holloway@coastal.ca.gov.

cc: Humboldt County Planning & Building Dept.

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED PERMIT AMENDMENT

Date: February 26, 2021
To: All Interested Parties
From: Bob Merrill, North Coast District Manager
Catherine Holloway, Coastal Planner
Subject: Amendment to Coastal Development Permit (CDP) 1-09-024
Applicant: City of Ferndale

Original CDP Approval

CDP 1-09-024 was approved by the Coastal Commission on December 10, 2009 and authorized upgrades to the City's existing wastewater treatment facility to meet water quality and waste discharge standards by (1) demolishing and removing existing structures and development, including an existing concrete walk and headworks building, wooden storage building, well house, shed, and existing discharge piping; (2) placing approximately 5,000 cubic yards of imported fill on the headworks parcel to raise the existing grade by approximately 4 feet; (3) constructing a new aeration basin, filter building and associated paved stoops and concrete pads, garage, vault pad, fuel/generator pad, and chain-link and barbed-wire perimeter fencing around the parcel to replace the existing deteriorated fencing; (4) replacing the existing influent pump station; (5) replacing two existing effluent outfall pipes at Francis Creek with one new effluent outfall pipe with associated rock slope protection; (6) converting the existing aeration pond in part to (a) a stormwater basin/sewage holding pond for overflow during peak storm events and in part to (b) a portion of a wetland mitigation area; (7) converting the existing chlorine contact basin to a temporary holding tank for treated effluent; (8) installing an underground, water main pipe extension from an existing line located along California Street to the new office building on the headworks parcel; and (9) installing utility lines in trenches along the existing road surface of Port Kenyon Road.

Proposed CDP Amendment

(1) Within the existing stormwater basin/sewage holding pond, (a) install an approximately 3-foot-wide by 30-foot-long floating platform and access walkway anchored to the berm, and (b) install a flexible intake pipe in the existing stormwater basin/sewage holding pond retention pond; (2) within the former chlorine contact basin area yard, (a) replace and extend the roof of the existing storage building and install a GORE™ Cover system to facilitate a biosolids composting facility, (b) modify an existing building by removing walls to allow backhoe access and increase circulation, and (c) expand the concrete pad between the two buildings. The Commission's reference number for this proposed amendment is **1-09-024-A1**.

Executive Director's Immateriality Determination

Pursuant to Title 14, Section 13166(b) of the California Code of Regulations, the Executive Director of the California Coastal Commission has determined that the proposed CDP amendment is immaterial for the following reasons:

All proposed improvements will occur within the existing wastewater treatment plant and will not result in increased treatment plant capacity. The modifications to the existing intake system will increase efficiency and increase the available influent storage during wet weather storm events or during emergencies to help avoid sewage discharges during peak inflow periods. The floating platform will allow worker access to the intake system for water quality testing and maintenance purposes. The stormwater basin/sewage holding pond, while it provides incidental habitat benefits for waterfowl and other wildlife, is existing (pre-coastal) development that has been continuously used in wastewater treatment plant operations. The bottom of the stormwater basin/sewage holding pond is lined with a 4-inch-thick bentonite clay liner, and the project will not modify the lining. The proposed composting facility improvements will be constructed in compliance with construction responsibilities outlined in Special Condition 2 of the original permit and will not impact adjacent wetland areas.

As the amended development does not have a potential for adverse impacts, either individually or cumulatively on coastal resources or public access, the Executive Director has determined that the proposed amendment is immaterial.

Coastal Commission Review Procedure

The CDP may be amended as proposed if no written objections are received in the North Coast District office within ten working days of the date of this notice. In addition to the regular means required by the regulations or statute, please make sure that you also send a copy of all correspondence or other documents electronically to NorthCoast@coastal.ca.gov. If such an objection is received, the objection and the Executive Director's response to it will be reported to the Commission on Friday, March 12, 2021. If three or more Commissioners object to the Executive Director's determination of immateriality at that time, then the application shall be processed as a material CDP amendment.

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If you have any questions about the proposal or wish to register an objection, please contact Catherine Holloway in the North Coast District office.