

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

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# F17a

## ADDENDUM

June 6, 2022

TO: Coastal Commissioners and Interested Parties

FROM: South Central Coast District Staff

SUBJECT: **ADDENDUM TO ITEM F17A, APPLICATION NO. 4-21-0204 (CITY OF SANTA BARBARA, WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT) FOR THE COMMISSION MEETING OF FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 2022**

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### I. CHANGES TO STAFF REPORT

Commission staff recommends changes to the staff report to make changes to Special Condition Two (2) Biological Survey Program. Special Condition Two (2) is being modified in consultation with City of Santa Barbara staff to require the applicant to submit, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, a biological survey report of 13 mooring sites that span the mooring site footprint and are randomly identified, instead of prior to installation of any mooring ground-tackle or equipment at any of the 48 mooring sites. The changes would allow for more frequent and consistent biological surveys instead of only when new mooring ground-tackle or equipment is installed. Additionally, the City requests the revisions to enable the City's Waterfront Department to budget for the cost of biological surveys and to carry them out systematically every three years, rather than on a case-by-case basis when new equipment is proposed. Language related to this special condition throughout the staff report is also updated to reflect the modifications. Language to be added to the staff report is shown in underlined text, and language to be deleted is identified by ~~strikeout~~.

- a) On page 7 of the staff report, Special Condition 2 shall be modified as follows:

#### 2. Biological Survey Program

Within one (1) year from date of Commission action, and every three years after, the applicant shall submit for the review and approval of the Executive Director, a biological survey of 13 mooring sites not surveyed within the last three years, that span the mooring site footprint and are randomly identified, prepared in compliance with all requirements of this condition. ~~Prior to installation of any mooring ground-tackle or equipment at any of the 48 mooring sites, a biological survey shall be conducted unless~~

~~the mooring site has been surveyed within three years of the date of installation and no environmentally sensitive resources were found to be present at or within the ground-tackle radius within the subject mooring site. The biological surveys shall be consistent with the following requirements:~~

A. ~~A biological survey shall be conducted no earlier than 180 days nor later than 15 days prior to installation of any mooring equipment at any of the 48 mooring sites. Divers, under the supervision of a qualified biologist or resource specialist, shall survey the location proposed for ground-tackle installation, as well as a 25-foot radius from the ground-tackle installation location, for sensitive resources including, but not limited to rocky substrate, sand dollar (*Dendraster excentricus*) beds, eel grass (*Zostera marina*), and giant kelp (*Macrosystis pyrifera*). In addition, the survey shall include an inspection of non-native and invasive plant species including, *Caulerpa sp.*, *Sargassum horneri*, and Japanese kelp (*Undria pinnatifida*). All surveys shall include a visual examination of the mooring site substrate and if sensitive resources are identified divers shall estimate the number or percent cover of the respective sensitive resource(s) observed in the surveyed location. The biological report shall assess the potential impacts to any identified sensitive resources that would result from the development or continued use of the mooring site.~~

b) The third paragraph on page 19 of the staff report shall be modified as follows:

According to the applicant's biological consultants, due to the singular occurrences of eelgrass and giant kelp and the disturbed nature of the sandy substrate, these species are unlikely to persist in great quantity and therefore are unlikely to be adversely affected by mooring operations. However, since biological conditions within the mooring area can change during the approved ten-year period of the Mooring/Anchoring Program, the proposed project still has the potential to directly impact sensitive resources, including eelgrass, kelp, and rocky substrate that may be present in the project area. Therefore, to ensure that potential impacts to sensitive marine resources are avoided, **Special Condition Two (2)** requires that within one (1) year from the date of Commission action, and every three years after, the applicant shall submit, for the review and approval of the Executive Director, a biological survey report of 13 mooring sites not surveyed within the last three years, that span the mooring site footprint and are randomly identified, prepared in compliance with all requirements of this condition. Specifically, Special Condition Two (2) requires that the applicant perform dive surveys prior to the installation of mooring ground tackle, anchoring weight, or equipment at any of the 48 13 mooring sites, ~~a biological surveys shall be performed to ensure that there are no sensitive resources within a 25-foot radius from the ground-tackle installation location.~~