

**CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

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# W6a

August 5, 2022

**TO:** California Coastal Commission and Interested Parties

**FROM:** John Ainsworth, Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** Executive Director's Report, August 2022

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## **Non-Competitive LCP Local Assistance Grants**

City of Marina, \$100,000: The City of Marina is proposing to build off of previous grant-funded work to assess SLR vulnerabilities and update their LCP. Specifically, the City will update its 2019 vulnerability assessment, including by updating the technical report, adding a social vulnerability assessment, and updating hazard mapping to include in the City's GIS database. The City also seeks funding to complete its update to the coastal hazards policies of its LCP (both IP and LUP).

## **Environmental Justice Round Table**

In July and August, members of our Environmental Justice Unit participated in an EJ Roundtable hosted by the UC Irvine Law School and another two-day EJ Roundtable in Monterey organized by the Natural Resources Agency for member agencies. Both events provided robust opportunities for our EJ Unit to learn more about environmental justice in practice and share what we've learned over the years since the passage of AB2616, which gave the Commission the authority to consider environmental justice in our decisions.

## **Addendum to Housing and Equity Report**

The *Housing Equity Report* that NOAA Fellow Hanna Payne presented to the Commission in June is now posted on the Commission's website. It has been updated with some additional text and citations to include the scholarship of Dr. Rose Jefferson who has written extensively about the African American experience in Southern California in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, including her recent book [Living the California Dream](#). We very much appreciate Dr. Jefferson's input on the report.

## **California Coastal Sediment Management Workgroup**

The California Coastal Sediment Management Workgroup (CSMW) is a collaborative taskforce of state, federal and local/regional entities, concerned about erosion and excess sedimentation impacts on coastal habitats. CSMW is working towards implementation of Regional Sediment Management (RSM) in order to augment or restore natural processes. At the July meeting Commission staff heard from a NOAA Effects of Sea Level Rise Grant Project on *Exploring Ecosystem and Community Vulnerability to Surface and Subsurface Flooding with Sea Level Rise and Adaptation Strategies in California* as well as participated in sharing updates on major projects with the partner agencies.

## **Amendments to Commission's Conflict of Interest Code**

On August 26, legal staff will open a public comment period for amendments to the Commission's conflict of interest code, which sets out which positions file Form 700 reports each year and what financial interests must be reported. The Fair Political Practices Commission requires periodic updates to the code, and the update is necessary as the Commission's existing code dates from 2003. Legal staff has been working with FPPC staff on the substantive changes ahead of the formal public comment period. The proposed changes will be posted on the Commission's rulemaking page and additionally emailed to staff by August 26th. The Commission will consider comments and adoption of the code during its October meeting. The code changes do not affect Commissioner or Executive Director reporting.

## **Hollister Ranch Coastal Access Program – Planning Update**

Please see Appendix A (Attached)

## **Public Education Program**

### **23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Coastal and Ocean Amateur Photography Contest**

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Coastal and Ocean Amateur Photography Contest is open for submissions. Entries will be accepted through September 19th in the following categories: the scenic coast and Pacific Ocean off California, people and the California coast, and California coastal and ocean wildlife. The public is also encouraged to view the entries and vote for their favorites through October 3rd. The contest is sponsored by the Coastal Commission and Thank You Ocean. See [www.mycoastalphoto.com](http://www.mycoastalphoto.com) for all the contest details including past winners, rules, and prizes.

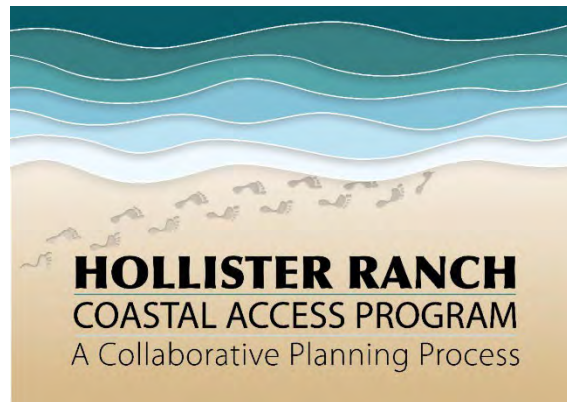
### **Expired Marine Flare Collection Events**

Expired Marine Flare Collection Events in Orange and LA Counties. Boating Clean and Green Program staff is organizing two expired marine flare collection events in partnership with Orange County (August 27<sup>th</sup> at Dana Point Harbor, and the Port of LA (September 10<sup>th</sup> at Newmark Yacht Centre in Wilmington). These free events will be offered to the counties' boaters and residents who keep their boats in other counties.

## **Emergency Permits –**

### Energy & Ocean Resources Unit

G-9-22-0027 - Southern California Gas Company - Emergency repair of a corroded 2-inch steel distribution pipeline at one location that is causing natural gas to leak at Carpinteria Salt Marsh Reserve, Santa Barbara County

**EXHIBIT A**

## **Hollister Ranch Coastal Access Program: Project Update**

### **August 4, 2022**

This memo updates the March 3, 2022, update sent out to all interested parties regarding the planning process that is underway for the HRCAP. Over the last five months, staff of the four State agencies (the SAT) has been busy with a variety of tasks. These are summarized below.

### **March 9, 2022, briefing to the Coastal Commission**

Coastal Commission staff briefed the Coastal Commissioner's on the status of the HRCAP, including a summary of the November Workshop as well as identifying the next planning steps. Briefing memo link below:

<https://documents.coastal.ca.gov/reports/2022/3/W6d/W6d-03-2022.pdf>

### **April 1, 2022 - Legislative Deadline to open public access to Hollister Ranch beaches**

As discussed in the Coastal Commission briefing held on March 9, 2022, the Coastal Commission has not yet approved the HRCAP. Approval of the HRCAP and acquisition of additional property rights are necessary before any implementation of overland public access to the Hollister Ranch beaches can occur as required by AB 1680.

As discussed below, the four State agencies have determined that completing an EIR and bringing that environmental document forward to the Coastal Commission, at the same time as they review the revised HRCAP for approval, is the next appropriate step.

### **Workshop Follow Up**

After hearing comments from the public, the Coastal Commissioner's requested changes to the HRCAP. The State's consultant is currently working on incorporating these changes into a revised HRCAP; this work is being done pursuant to a December 2021 augmentation of a Coastal Conservancy grant award of \$ 60,000. The SAT expects that this revised Draft HRCAP will be posted on the Coastal Commission's website in the next few months. Public comment on this revised Draft will be considered during the EIR review process.

**EIR – Preparation of Environmental Impact Report underway**

Based upon feedback from stakeholders and HROA members, the State agencies have agreed to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) to identify and address potential impacts associated with the HRCAP. The Coastal Commission will act as the lead agency for CEQA and will certify the PEIR as part of any final action on the HRCAP. Funding for this work is being provided by a Coastal Conservancy grant which was authorized on May 5, 2022. The \$ 2.3 million authorization (part of the \$10 million General Fund appropriation to the Coastal Conservancy authorized for public access at Hollister Ranch) will not only support preparation of the PEIR, but also a Tribal and Cultural Resource study, and property appraisals to provide overland public access to the Ranch coastline. At this time, the SAT is finalizing the PEIR scope of work in order to circulate a Request for Proposals (RFP) for consultant services. Once a consultant is chosen, the SAT anticipates that completion of the PEIR will take about two years.

**Voluntary Public Access/ Tribal Cultural and Resource Study**

While the SAT has continued to meet with Hollister Ranch representatives over the last year, a voluntary public access program has not yet been identified. A major concern from all stakeholders is ensuring that any interim/voluntary public access program does not impact existing Tribal or cultural resources. The Coastal Conservancy's funding in support of the PEIR includes funding for a Tribal and cultural resource study. Phase One of that study is the creation of a Tribal Working Group to guide the scope of the upcoming study. The SAT anticipates that the Tribal Working Group will be formed in the next few months. Once the study is completed, the SAT will re-engage with the Hollister Ranch representatives to determine if common ground can be found, to provide interim voluntary public access while protecting Tribal and cultural resources.

Updates to the HRCAP planning process will continue to be posted at:

**<https://www.coastal.ca.gov/hollister-ranch/>**

Thank You,  
HRCAP Planning Team



# Programa de Acceso Costero de Hollister Ranch - Actualización del Proyecto

Gracias por su continua participación en el proceso de planificación del Programa de Acceso Costero de Hollister Ranch. Nos gustaría compartir una actualización informativa sobre el proceso de planificación.

## 1 de agosto de 2022

Este memorando actualiza la actualización del 3 de marzo de 2022 enviada a todas las partes interesadas con respecto al proceso de planificación que está en marcha para el HRCAP. En los últimos cinco meses, el personal de las cuatro agencias estatales (el SAT) ha estado ocupado con una variedad de tareas. Estos se resumen a continuación.

## 9 de marzo de 2022, sesión informativa a la Comisión de Costas

El personal de la Comisión Costera informó al Comisionado Costero sobre el estado del HRCAP, incluido un resumen del Taller de noviembre, así como la identificación de los próximos pasos de planificación. Enlace a la nota informativa a continuación:

<https://documents.coastal.ca.gov/reports/2022/3/W6d/W6d-03-2022.pdf>

## 1 de abril de 2022 - Fecha límite legislativa para abrir el acceso público a las playas de Hollister Ranch

Como se discutió en la sesión informativa de la Comisión Costera celebrada el 9 de marzo de 2022, la Comisión Costera aún no ha aprobado el HRCAP. La aprobación del HRCAP y la adquisición de derechos de propiedad adicionales son necesarios antes de que pueda ocurrir cualquier implementación de acceso público por tierra a las playas de Hollister Ranch como lo requiere AB 1680.

Como se discute a continuación, las cuatro agencias estatales han determinado que completar una EIR y presentar ese documento ambiental a la Comisión Costera, al mismo tiempo que revisan la revisión de la HRCAP para su aprobación, es el siguiente paso apropiado.

## Seguimiento del Taller

Después de escuchar los comentarios del público, el Comisionado Costero solicitó cambios al HRCAP. El consultor del Estado está actualmente trabajando en incorporar estos cambios en un HRCAP revisado; este trabajo se está realizando en cumplimiento de un aumento de \$60,000 dólares en diciembre de 2021 de una subvención de conservación costera. La SAT espera que este proyecto revisado de HRCAP se publique en el sitio web de la Comisión Costera en los próximos meses. Los comentarios del público sobre este borrador revisado serán considerados durante el proceso de revisión de la EIR.

## EIR - Preparación del Informe de Impacto Ambiental en curso

Con base en los comentarios de los interesados y los miembros de la HROA, las agencias estatales han acordado preparar un Informe Programático de Impacto Ambiental (PEIR) para identificar y tratar los impactos potenciales asociados con la HRCAP. La Comisión Costera actuará como la agencia principal de CEQA y certificará el PEIR como parte de cualquier acción final sobre el HRCAP. El financiamiento para este trabajo está siendo proporcionado por una subvención de la Conservación

Costera que fue autorizada el 5 de mayo de 2022. La autorización de \$ 2.3 millones (parte de la asignación del Fondo General de \$10 millones a la Conservación Costera autorizada para el acceso público en Hollister Ranch) no solo apoyará la preparación del PEIR, sino también un estudio de Recursos Tribales y Culturales, y tasaciones de propiedades para proporcionar acceso público por tierra a la costa del Rancho. En este momento, el SAT está finalizando el alcance del trabajo de PEIR para distribuir una Solicitud de Propuestas (RFP) para servicios de consultoría. Una vez que se elige un consultor, el SAT anticipa que la finalización del PEIR tomará alrededor de dos años.

### **Acceso Público Voluntario / Estudio Cultural y de Recursos Tribales**

Mientras que el SAT ha continuado reuniéndose con los representantes de Hollister Ranch durante el último año, todavía no se ha identificado un programa voluntario de acceso público. Una preocupación importante de todos los interesados es asegurar que cualquier programa de acceso público provisional/voluntario no afecte los recursos tribales o culturales existentes. El financiamiento de Conservancia Costera en apoyo del PEIR incluye financiamiento para un estudio de recursos tribales y culturales. La primera fase de ese estudio es la creación de un Grupo de Trabajo Tribal para guiar el alcance del próximo estudio. El SAT anticipa que el Grupo de Trabajo Tribal se formará en los próximos meses. Una vez que se complete el estudio, el SAT volverá a comprometerse con los representantes de Hollister Ranch para determinar si se puede encontrar un terreno común, para proporcionar acceso público voluntario provisional al tiempo que protege los recursos tribales y culturales.

Las actualizaciones del proceso de planificación de HRCAP continuarán publicándose en:

<https://www.coastal.ca.gov/hollister-ranch/>

Gracias,  
Equipo de Planificación de HRCAP

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