



State of California – Natural Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
Marine Region  
1933 Cliff Drive, Suite 9  
Santa Barbara, CA 93109  
[www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov)

EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor  
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



April 9, 2018

**NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT AND PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING NOTICE FOR THE RED ABALONE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN AND REGULATORY AMENDMENTS PROJECT**

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is preparing a fishery management plan (FMP) for red abalone (*Haliotis rufescens*). The California Fish and Game Commission (Commission), with assistance from CDFW, is providing this formal notice as the project lead agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). CDFW, assisting the Commission under its certified regulatory program, has prepared the attached Initial Study (IS), detailed project description, and a preliminary analysis of the impacts identified in the IS. (See Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 781.5.) The public comment period for this Notice of Preparation (NOP) is from April 9, 2018 through May 9, 2018. Comments may be provided by email to Ian Taniguchi at [Ian.Taniguchi@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Ian.Taniguchi@wildlife.ca.gov) or by letter to the following address:

Attn: Ian Taniguchi  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
4665 Lampson Avenue, Suite C  
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

Red abalone is a resource managed by CDFW currently under the Abalone Recovery and Management Plan (ARMP). The Red Abalone FMP, if adopted by the Commission, would further refine and implement the long-term management objectives outlined in the ARMP, as well as meet requirements for fisheries management in the Marine Life Management Act. The FMP, if adopted, will serve as the framework to manage the recreational fishery for red abalone in accordance with Fish and Game Code (FGC) §§ 5520, 7078. Amendments to existing regulations, if adopted, will implement the FMP pursuant to Fish and Game Code sections 7072, 7075, and 7080-7088.

The project area covered by the proposed Red Abalone FMP is located within state waters in Northern California extending from north of San Francisco Bay to the California-Oregon state line, encompassing the following counties: Marin, Sonoma, Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte. The project area does not include marine protected areas (MPAs) that specifically prohibit abalone fishing.

A public hearing as part of the scoping effort will be held during the April 2018 Commission meeting to solicit comments regarding what the document should address. This meeting is scheduled for April 18-19, 2018 at 1050 Schooner Drive, Ventura, CA 93001. Please visit the Commission's website at <http://www.fgc.ca.gov/meetings/2018/index.aspx> for additional information.

**CEQA APPENDIX G:  
ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST FORM**

1. **Project Title:** Red Abalone Fishery Management Plan and Proposed Regulatory Amendments

2. **Lead Agency:**

California Fish and Game Commission  
P.O. Box 944209  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

3. **Lead Agency Contact Person(s):**

Valerie Termini  
California Fish and Game Commission  
P.O. Box 944209  
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

Ian Taniguchi  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
4665 Lampson Avenue, Suite C  
Los Alamitos, CA 907204

4. **Project Location:**

The project is located within state waters in northern California extending from north of San Francisco Bay to the California-Oregon state line, encompassing the following counties: Marin, Sonoma, Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte (Figure 1). The project area does not include marine protected areas that specifically prohibit abalone fishing.

5. **General Plan Designation:** NA

6. **Zoning:** NA

7. **Description of project:**

Red abalone (*Haliotis rufescens*) is a resource currently managed by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) under the Abalone Recovery and Management Plan (ARMP). The recreational red abalone fishery is one of California's most successful and popular fisheries, and is economically important, particularly to Sonoma and Mendocino counties where approximately 95 percent of the multi-million dollar fishery takes place. Over 25,000 fishers participate in the fishery each year. Red abalone may be taken with a sport fishing license subject to regulations (Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Sections 1.74, 29.15, and 29.16) prescribed by the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission).

The proposed project is the development of a fishery management plan (FMP) for the northern California recreational red abalone fishery and regulatory amendments to implement the plan. The FMP would further refine and implement the long-term management objectives outlined in the ARMP (CDFW 2005), as well as meet requirements for fisheries management



in the Marine Life Management Act (MLMA). The FMP would serve as the framework for managing the recreational fishery for red abalone upon the adoption by the Commission in accordance with Fish and Game Code (FGC) Sections 5520 and 7078. The regulatory amendments would implement the FMP under statute pursuant to FGC Sections 7072, 7075, and 7080-7088.

**8. Surrounding land uses and setting: Briefly describe the project's surroundings:**

The project occurs in the marine environment within state waters that are open for fishing activities and take of fish and marine invertebrate resources. The project area includes the coastline of the Pacific Ocean and the waters of the state from north of San Francisco Bay to the California-Oregon state line (Figure 1). This area is characterized by open ocean and scattered rocky ocean outcrops. Surrounding lands adjacent to the coastline include sandy beaches, bluffs, coastal terraces, and areas of coastline development. The setting also includes the underwater marine environment for divers within the project area.

State Route (SR) 1 and U.S. Highway 101, which are Eligible State Scenic Highways, follow the coastline adjacent to the project area for much of the distance between Marin County and the California-Oregon state line (Caltrans 2017). A 12-mile segment of U.S. Highway 101 from the south boundary to the north boundary of the Del Norte Redwoods State Park in Del Norte County is an officially designated State Scenic Highway (Caltrans 2017). There are several scenic vistas along the coastline and these scenic highways offer expansive views of the Pacific Ocean the project area.

Over the past several years, the Commission has taken several actions to reduce take and shorten the season to protect abalone from unprecedented environmental conditions. On December 7, 2017, the Commission voted to close the recreational abalone fishery from north of the mouth of San Francisco Bay to the California-Oregon state line due to ongoing environmental conditions that have significantly impacted the abalone resource. The Commission's decision upheld the policies of the ARMP, which was adopted by the Commission in December 2005.

The fishery closure affects only the 2018 recreational abalone season. The Commission could allow the fishery to reopen on April 1, 2019, if an FMP for red abalone has not been adopted before that time and the condition of red abalone populations has greatly improved. If an FMP for red abalone has been adopted in time for the 2019 season, the Commission would use provisions in the FMP to determine whether or not the fishery would be reopened.

**9. Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement): NA**

**10. Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21080.3.1? If so, has consultation begun? See "Discussion of Checklist," section XVII.**

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

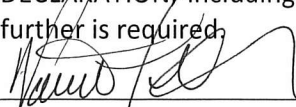
The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and Forestry Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources    | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Geology /Soils            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions           | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials      | <input type="checkbox"/> Hydrology / Water Quality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use / Planning                | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Noise                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Population / Housing               | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic             | <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources          | <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service Systems |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |   |  |

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- ☐ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☒ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect or potentially significant effect on the environment, and a functional equivalent environmental analysis should be prepared under the Fish and Game Commission's certified regulatory program. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 781.5.)
- ☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- ☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

  
Valerie Termini, Executive Director  
California Fish and Game Commission

4/9/2018  
Date



## EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

- 1) A brief explanation is required for all answers except "No Impact" answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A "No Impact" answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A "No Impact" answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
- 2) All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
- 3) Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. "Potentially Significant Impact" is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
- 4) "Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated" applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from "Potentially Significant Impact" to a "Less Than Significant Impact." The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from "Earlier Analyses," as described in (5) below, may be cross-referenced).
- 5) Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
  - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
  - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
  - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are "Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated," describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
- 6) Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
- 7) Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
- 8) This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project's environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
- 9) The explanation of each issue should identify:
  - a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
  - b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance



ISSUES:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<u>I. AESTHETICS.</u> Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES.

In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the [California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model \(1997\)](#) prepared by the California Dept. of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the [Forest and Range Assessment Project](#) and the [Forest Legacy Assessment project](#); and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in [Forest Protocols](#) adopted by the California Air Resources Board. Would the project:

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on <a href="#">the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program</a> of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a <a href="#">Williamson Act</a> contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in <a href="#">Public Resources Code section 12220(g)</a> ), timberland (as defined by <a href="#">Public Resources Code section 4526</a> ), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by <a href="#">Government Code section 51104(g)</a> )?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>III. AIR QUALITY.</b> Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable <a href="#">air quality management or air pollution control district</a> may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<u>IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES:</u>				
Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the <a href="#">California Department of Fish and Game</a> or <a href="#">U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service</a> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the <a href="#">California Department of Fish and Game</a> or <a href="#">US Fish and Wildlife Service</a> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by <a href="#">Section 404 of the Clean Water Act</a> (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted <a href="#">Habitat Conservation Plan</a> , <a href="#">Natural Community Conservation Plan</a> , or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(g) Impact a native fish or wildlife species through authorized take in a commercial or recreational fishing or hunting program?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<u>V. CULTURAL RESOURCES.</u> Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a <u>historical resource</u> as defined in <u>§ 15064.5</u> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to <u>§ 15064.5</u> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>VI. GEOLOGY AND SOILS.</u> Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to <u>Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42</u> .	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Be located on <a href="#">expansive soil</a> , as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.</b> Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or <a href="#">regulation</a> adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS.</b> Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section <a href="#">65962.5</a> and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY.</b> Would the project:				
a) Violate any <a href="#">water quality standards or waste discharge requirements</a> ?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially deplete <a href="#">groundwater</a> supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a <a href="#">federal Flood Hazard Boundary</a> or <a href="#">Flood Insurance Rate Map</a> or other flood hazard delineation map?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>X. LAND USE AND PLANNING.</u> Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>XI. MINERAL RESOURCES.</u> Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known <u>mineral resource</u> that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<u>XII. NOISE</u> -- Would the project result in:				
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
<u>XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING.</u> Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES.

a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

XV. RECREATION.

a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

#### XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC.

Would the project:

a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
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## XVII. TRIBAL CULTURAL RESOURCES

a ) Would the project cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or

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ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.

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## XVIII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS.

Would the project:

a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable [Regional Water Quality Control Board](#)?

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b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

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c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

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d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?

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e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the

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	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Comply with <a href="#">federal</a> , <a href="#">state</a> , and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
XIX. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Note: Authority cited: Sections [21083](#) and [21083.05](#), [21083.09](#) Public Resources Code. Reference: [Section 65088.4](#), Gov. Code; Sections [21073](#), [21074](#) [21080\(c\)](#), [21080.1](#), [21080.3](#), [21083](#), [21083.05](#), [21083.3](#), [21080.3.1](#), [21080.3.2](#), [21082.3](#), [21084.2](#), [21084.3](#), [21093](#), [21094](#), [21095](#), and [21151](#), Public Resources Code; [Sundstrom v. County of Mendocino](#), (1988) 202 Cal.App.3d 296; [Leonoff v. Monterey Board of Supervisors](#), (1990) 222 Cal.App.3d 1337; [Eureka Citizens for Responsible Govt. v. City of Eureka](#) (2007) 147 Cal.App.4th 357; [Protect the Historic Amador Waterways v. Amador Water Agency](#) (2004) 116 Cal.App.4th at 1109; [San Franciscans Upholding the Downtown Plan v. City and County of San Francisco](#) (2002) 102 Cal.App.4th 656.



## DISCUSSION OF CHECKLIST

### I. Aesthetics. Would the project:

- a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?

**Less Than Significant.** The project area is visible from SR 1 and U.S. Highway 101, which are designated as either official or eligible as California scenic highways, and a number of scenic vistas along the coast. During the open season for the recreational red abalone fishery, fishing activities may concentrate on the rocky shoreline and occur underwater. All of these activities are seasonal and do not leave behind permanent structures. In addition, implementation of the FMP and regulatory amendments would not substantially increase or decrease the level of fishing activity within the project area such that views from a scenic vista would be degraded. Therefore, the FMP and regulatory amendments would not have a substantial adverse effect on scenic vista. This impact would be less than significant.

- b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a scenic highway?

**No Impact.** Because the project area is within a marine environment, there are no trees or historic buildings within a scenic highway located within the project area. There are some rocky ocean outcrops within the project area; however, recreational fishing has traditionally occurred within the project area and no new structures are proposed as part of the FMP and regulatory amendments. The FMP and regulatory amendments would not substantially change the type or level of fishing activities such that views within the project area would change substantially. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?

**No Impact.** The recreational fishery for red abalone is not currently known to substantially degrade the existing scenery of the coastline, and the FMP and regulatory amendments would not result in substantial changes in the type or level of fishing activities that would degrade the existing visual character or quality of the project site and its surroundings. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?

**No Impact.** Recreational abalone fishing is prohibited at night. Abalone may be taken only from 8:00 a.m. to one-half hour after sunset during the open season (14 CCR § 29.15). Therefore, there would be no impact on light and glare.

### II. Agriculture. Would the project:

- a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?
- b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?

**No Impact.** Since the project area is in a marine environment, it does not contain any Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance, as mapped by the FMMP. The recreational abalone fishery has no effect on terrestrial agriculture, and the project would not cause changes that would result in direct or indirect conversion of these types of farmland. In addition, there is no potential for conflict with zoning for agricultural

use or a Williamson Act contract due to the project's location in the marine environment. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code [PRC] section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by PRC section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?
- d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

**No Impact.** The project area is in a marine environment and does not contain any forestland as defined by PRC, nor does it contain timberland, or zoned Timberland Production as defined by the Government Code. The abalone recreational fishery has no effect on forestland or other related resources, and the project would not cause changes that would result in direct or indirect conversion of or conflict with zoning related to forestland types of land uses. Therefore, there is no impact.

- e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?

**No Impact.** The FMP and regulatory amendments would only involve changes to the existing management of the recreational red abalone fishery, which is located in the marine environment. No change to the land uses in the surrounding terrestrial areas is anticipated; therefore, the FMP and regulatory amendments would not result in any changes or conversion to either Important Farmland or forest land uses to other land uses.

According to the list of aquaculture registrants (CDFW 2018), there are registered aquaculture companies/organizations within the range of the project area, including Marin County and Mendocino County. These companies produce organisms varying from freshwater to marine species of fish, shellfish, and crustaceans. Facilities for freshwater species are typically inland and those that cultivate marine species are near or within the marine environment on both public and private lands. While there is potential for aquaculture facilities to occur within the project area, the management measures and regulatory amendments associated with the proposed project would not alter existing fishing practices or intensities in such a way as to effect existing aquaculture facilities. Therefore, no impact would occur.

### **III. Air Quality.** Would the project:

- a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?

**No Impact.** The proposed project occurs along a stretch of coastline that encompasses Marin, Sonoma, Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte Counties, which are under the North Coast and San Francisco Bay Area air basins. The North Coast Air Basin is comprised of three air districts, the North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District (AQMD), the Mendocino County AQMD, and the Northern Sonoma County Air Pollution Control District (APCD). The North Coast AQMD includes Del Norte and Humboldt Counties; the Mendocino County AQMD consists of Mendocino County; and the Northern Sonoma County APCD comprises the northern portion of Sonoma County. The San Francisco Bay Area Air Basin is comprised of the Bay Area AQMD, which includes the southern portion of Sonoma County and Marin County.

The purpose of any air quality plan is to reduce criteria and toxic air pollutants in a particular region. These plans can be established by jurisdictional agencies such as air districts or through a general plan document. Typical air quality plans in given air districts address the feasibility and actions that air districts should take to meet or maintain state and federal clean air standards. As shown in Table 1, all air districts within the project area are at some level of non-attainment with respect to state and national standards, except for the PM<sub>10</sub>.



**Table 1. National and State Air Quality Attainment Statuses at Affected Counties**

County	Ozone <sup>a</sup>	PM <sub>10</sub>	PM <sub>2.5</sub> <sup>b</sup>
<b>National Standard</b>			
Del Norte	Unclassified/Attainment	Unclassified	Unclassified/Attainment
Humboldt	Unclassified/Attainment	Unclassified	Unclassified/Attainment
Marin	Nonattainment (Marginal)	Unclassified	Nonattainment (Moderate)
Mendocino	Unclassified/Attainment	Unclassified	Unclassified/Attainment
Northern Sonoma	Unclassified/Attainment	Unclassified	Unclassified/Attainment
Southern Sonoma	Nonattainment (Marginal)	Unclassified	Nonattainment (Moderate)
<b>State Standard</b>			
Del Norte	Attainment	Attainment	Attainment
Humboldt	Attainment	Nonattainment	Attainment
Marin	Nonattainment	Nonattainment	Nonattainment
Mendocino	Attainment	Nonattainment	Attainment
Northern Sonoma	Attainment	Attainment	Attainment
Southern Sonoma	Nonattainment	Nonattainment	Nonattainment

a. Reflects the national 8-hour standard. The 1-hour standard was revoked on June 15, 2005.

b. Reflects the latest 2012 PM<sub>2.5</sub> standard.

Source: CARB 2017; USEPA 2018

Air quality plans within general plan document are usually written as goals, actions, and policies that prohibit or limit land use development actions that would worsen air quality. Any project or plan that would result in short-term or long-term increases in air pollutants would be at risk of conflicting with or obstructing applicable air quality plans. Whether or not an actual conflict would occur depends on the specific limitations presented in the air quality plans and would vary by region.

The proposed FMP and regulatory amendments would result in establishing a management framework for the recreational red abalone fishery and would not directly conflict with or obstruct with the implementation of any applicable air quality plans.

b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?

**Less Than Significant.** The proposed project would not result in increased emissions of air pollutants or contaminants over existing conditions. However, indirect impacts relating to the project could result in spatial and temporal redistribution of fishing activities and associated fuel exhaust emissions. The indirect effects that the FMP has on movement, concentration, and location of fishing activities would be similar to baseline conditions. Therefore, it is not anticipated to exceed the air quality district thresholds of significance, listed in Table 2, for air districts within the project area. Therefore, the proposed project would not violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation. This impact would be less than significant.



**Table 2. Threshold of Significance for Each Affected Air District for Operational Impacts Only**

<b>Air District</b>	<b>NOx</b>	<b>ROG</b>	<b>PM<sub>10</sub></b>	<b>PM<sub>2.5</sub></b>
North Coast Unified AQMD <sup>a</sup>	50 lb/day	50 lb/day <sup>b</sup>	80 lb/day	50 lb/day
Mendocino County AQMD	42 lb/day	180 lb/day	82 lb/day	54 lb/day
Northern Sonoma County APCD <sup>c</sup>	NA	NA	NA	NA
Bay Area AQMD	54 lb/day	54 lb/day	82 lb/day (exhaust)	54 lb/day (exhaust)

- a. North Coast Unified AQMD has not adopted CEQA thresholds of significance. These thresholds reflect published screening level thresholds for air quality impact analyses for new sources.
- b. Threshold for reactive organic compounds.
- c. Northern Sonoma County APCD has not adopted CEQA thresholds of significance.

Notes: NA = Not Available

APCD = Air Pollution Control District

AQMD = Air Quality Management District

Source: North Coast Unified AQMD 2015, Mendocino County AQMD 2010, Bay Area AQMD 2017

- c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?

**Less Than Significant.** The implementation of the FMP and proposed regulatory amendments would not result in an overall increase of emissions of air pollutants or contaminants over existing conditions. Thus, the project would not result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the plan region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard. This impact would be less than significant.

- d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?

**No Impact.** Sensitive receptors are typically defined as schools, hospitals, residential care facilities, daycare facilities, or other facilities that may house individuals with health conditions that would be adversely impacted by changes in air quality. The proposed project is the preparation and implementation of the Red Abalone FMP and proposed regulatory amendments. The project does not propose uses or activities that would result in exposure of these identified sensitive receptors to significant pollutants. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?

**No Impact.** The proposed project involves the preparation of a red abalone FMP and regulatory amendments to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. The project does not proposed any construction or operational impacts that would significantly create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number. Therefore, no impact would occur.

**IV. Biological Resources.** Would the project:

- a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?
- b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

**Less Than Significant.** There are a number of special status or otherwise protected species that are known to occur or may occur in the project area (CDFW 2012a). However, selective fishing practices ensures a low risk of impact to non-target organisms and surrounding habitats. There are currently no known indirect effects, such as bycatch associated with the recreational red abalone fishery since the method of take for abalone is restricted to hand or by abalone iron. In addition, red abalone is a resource managed by CDFW currently under the ARMP. The FMP focuses on the northern California red abalone recreational fishery, and would further refine and implement the long-term management objectives outlined in the ARMP. The ARMP identifies that managing the northern California red abalone resource in a sustainable fashion is critical for the survival of California's last remaining abalone fishery.

The development of the Red Abalone FMP is also based on the principles adopted as part of the MLMA. To this end, the project minimizes potential effects to sensitive natural communities and habitats identified through state regulations, most of which are administered by CDFW. Although fishing practices may have some minor effects on the marine environment, the FMP and regulatory amendments would prevent negative effects to the marine environment and ecosystem through its management toolbox and proposed regulatory changes. Therefore, this impact would be less than significant.

- c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?

**No Impact.** The proposed project involves the preparation of a red abalone FMP and regulatory amendments to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. The project would not result in removal, fill, hydrologic interruption, or other activities that would result in a direct substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?

**No Impact.** The proposed project involves the preparation of a red abalone FMP and regulatory amendments to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. As discussed under questions IV (a-c), substantial impacts to habitats and substrates would not occur as a result of the FMP and regulatory amendments. As such, no substantial interference with movement or effect to native wildlife nursery sites would occur. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?
- f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?

**No Impact.** There are no Habitat Conservation Plans or Natural Community Conservation Plans within the project area. The guiding regulation regarding conservation in the project area is the MLMA. The Red Abalone FMP and proposed regulatory changes have been developed in conjunction with the goals of the MLMA and do not conflict with its provisions. Specifically, the MLMA calls for "conservation, sustainable use, and restoration of California's marine living resources." This includes the conservation of healthy and diverse marine ecosystems and marine living resource," including the development of FMPs. The Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) also establishes MPAs and the FMP and regulatory amendments have been developed to complement the MPAs and their protection of the marine ecosystem. Because the FMP and regulatory amendments have been developed as a result of and in accordance with the MLMA and MLPA, there would be no conflict with these or other local policies; thus, there is no impact.



- (g) Impact a native fish or wildlife species through authorized take in a commercial or recreational fishing or hunting program?

**Potentially Significant Impact.** The Commission recognizes that any FMP anticipates a management plan that, under appropriate circumstances, would allow for take of a fish species (in this case red abalone). Any take through fishing effort increases individual mortality rates beyond what would naturally occur. In particular, given the current depressed state of the North Coast red abalone population, out of an abundance of caution the Commission will further evaluate whether the proposed FMP may have any significant effects on the red abalone population. However, because the FMP is designed to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery in accordance with the MLMA, the Commission also anticipates potentially significant beneficial impacts to the abalone population.

**V. Cultural Resources.** Would the project:

- a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in Section 15064.5?

**Less Than Significant.** Portions of the project area have been evaluated for historical resources in the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the California Marine Life Protection Act Initiate North Coast Marine Protected Areas Project (CDFW 2012b). In addition, the California State Lands Commission (SLC) has compiled a database of shipwrecks off the coast of California, several of which are located off the coast of Marin County to Del Norte County. Shipwreck information can be viewed at <http://shipwrecks.slc.ca.gov>, and is incorporated by reference. The proposed project would not directly or indirectly disturb any historical resources or alter activity around any known historical resources beyond baseline conditions. Therefore, the impact would be less than significant.

- b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to Section 15064.5?

**Less Than Significant.** Portions of the project area have been evaluated for archaeological resources in the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the California Marine Life Protection Act Initiate North Coast Marine Protected Areas Project, which found no documented archeological sites (CDFW 2012b). In addition, current state law (PRC §§ 6313, 6314) prohibits all unauthorized salvage and removal of artifacts from submerged archaeological sites in state waters, which are under the jurisdiction of SLC. The proposed project would not modify this existing state law. Furthermore, the proposed project would not result in construction or disturbance of the seafloor or bottoms of bays or estuaries, would not directly disturb any archaeological resources, and would have limited potential for indirect disturbance. Therefore, the proposed project would have a less than significant impact submerged archaeological resources.

- c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?

**No Impact.** The proposed project would not result in an increase in activities that would directly or indirectly destroy paleontological or geologic features. The proposed project will have minimal effect on the sea floor, which is where paleontological and geological features have the potential to occur. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?

**No Impact.** The proposed project would not result in excavation or other activities onshore or offshore that have the potential to directly or indirectly disturb any known cemeteries or burial grounds. Therefore, no impact would occur.



**VI. Geology and Soils.** Would the project:

- a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:
  - i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to California Geological Survey Special Publication 42.

**No Impact.** Portions of the project area are within the Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones and several faults are located within the area. However, the project area is within a marine environment, and implementation of the FMP and regulatory amendments would not include construction of any structures that would directly expose people or structures to rupture of an earthquake fault. It is not anticipated that there would be a direct effect to recreational fishers regarding substantial adverse effects from rupture of a known earthquake fault from any changes to management of the red abalone fishery from the project. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?

**No Impact.** The FMP and regulatory amendments pertain to the marine environment and would not directly expose or increase existing exposure of people or structures to seismic ground shaking that could occur on land. Therefore, no impact would occur. The potential for the FMP and regulatory amendments to expose people to tsunamis is discussed in below in section IX, "Hydrology and Water Quality."

- iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?

**No Impact.** The FMP and regulatory amendments pertain to the marine environment and would not directly expose people or structures to seismic-related ground failure or liquefaction that could occur on land nor increase existing exposure. This impact would be less than significant.

- iv) Landslides?

**No Impact.** The FMP and regulatory amendments pertain to the marine environment and would not directly expose people or structures to landslides that could occur on land or increase existing exposure. This impact would be less than significant.

- b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?

**No Impact.** The project area is within a marine environment, and soil erosion and loss of topsoil are land-based occurrences. Therefore, the FMP and regulatory amendments would have no impact on soil erosion or loss of topsoil.

- c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or offsite landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?

**No Impact.** The project area is within a marine environment, and unstable soils is a land-based occurrence. Therefore, the FMP and regulatory amendments would have no impact on unstable soils.

- d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?

**No Impact.** The project does not involve the construction of buildings or structures that would create substantial risks to life or property. Therefore, the FMP and regulatory amendments would have no impact on expansive soils.

- e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?

**No Impact.** The project does not involve the construction of buildings or structures, nor propose the use of septic tanks as part of the FMP or regulatory amendments. Therefore, the FMP and regulatory amendments would have no impact on soils incapable of supporting septic tanks.

**VII. Greenhouse Gas Emissions.** Would the project:

- a) Generate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?

**Less Than Significant.** The implementation of the FMP and proposed regulatory amendments would not result in an overall increase of GHG emissions over existing conditions. Recreational fishing activity for red abalone is seasonal and spatially distributed along the northern coast of California. Thus, it would not substantially affect associated fuel combustion above existing conditions. Therefore, this impact would be less than significant.

- b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?

**No Impact.** The proposed project involves the preparation of a red abalone FMP and regulatory amendments to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. The FMP would not conflict with any adopted plans, policies, or regulations for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions. Therefore, no impact would occur.

**VIII. Hazards and Hazardous Materials.** Would the project:

- a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?

**No Impact.** The proposed project involves the preparation of a red abalone FMP and regulatory amendments to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. Recreational fishing for red abalone does not generate any hazardous wastes that would create a significant hazard to the public or the environment. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and/or accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?

**No Impact.** The proposed project involves the preparation of a red abalone FMP and regulatory amendments to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. Recreational fishing for red abalone does not involve the use of hazardous materials. As such, no impact is anticipated for accidents related to the release hazardous materials into the environment.

- c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?



**No Impact.** The proposed project involves the preparation of a red abalone FMP and regulatory amendments to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. Recreational fishing for red abalone does not involve the use of hazardous materials. Therefore, no impact is anticipated relating to the emission or handling of hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of any existing or proposed schools within the project area.

- d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?

**No Impact.** Based on a regulatory database search, listed sites currently undergoing cleanup within the project study area are shown below in Table 3.

**Table 3. Hazardous Waste and Substances Site in the Study Area**

EnviroStor ID	Site/Facility Name	Address Description	City	Zip	County
80001831	Pacific Gas & Electric/ Humboldt Bay Power Plant	1000 King Salmon Avenue	Eureka	95503	Humboldt
80001451	California Western Railroad	Foot of Laurel Street	Fort Bragg	95437	Mendocino
60001933	City Of Fort Bragg Environmental Oversight Agreement	416 N. Franklin Street	Fort Bragg	95437	Mendocino
60002118	City of Fort Bragg Coastal Trail	State Highway 1	Fort Bragg	95437	Mendocino
23240008	Georgia-Pacific Corporation	90 West Redwood Avenue	Fort Bragg	95437	Mendocino
60002144	Albion River Bridge	State Route 1, Post Mile 43.3 to 44.2	Albion	95456	Mendocino
60002243	Salmon Creek Bridge	State Route 1, Post Mile 42.4 to 43.3	Albion	94923	Mendocino
80001096	Bodega Head Gunnery Range - J09CA7290		Bolinas		Sonoma

Source: California Department of Toxic Substances 2018

None of the sites listed in Table 3 occur within the project area. The proposed project would not interfere with cleanup efforts, nor would it exacerbate hazardous conditions at the sites. Therefore, no impact is anticipated.

- e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

**No Impact.** There are several airports within the vicinity of the project area. However, recreational abalone fishing does not currently interfere with airport operations or air traffic that would result in the exposure of people to a safety hazard. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?

**No Impact.** The proposed project involves the preparation of a red abalone FMP and regulatory amendments to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. The proposed project would not interfere with airport operations or result in any changes to the air traffic patterns that would expose people to a safety hazard. Therefore, no impact would occur.



- g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?

**No Impact.** The proposed project involves the preparation of a red abalone FMP and regulatory amendments to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. The FMP and regulatory amendments would not substantially change the fishing that is currently occurring within the project area. As such, the proposed project would not modify or interfere with any existing emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Therefore, this impact would no impact.

- h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?

**No Impact.** The project area is within the marine environment and is not subject to wildfires. Therefore, no impact would occur.

**IX. Hydrology and Water Quality.** Would the project:

- a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?

**No Impact.** The proposed project involves the preparation of a red abalone FMP and regulatory amendments to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. There is no known contribution to the degradation of water quality nor is there known discharge of pollutants to the environment associated with current recreational fishing practices for red abalone. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level that would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?

**No Impact.** The proposed project involves the preparation of a red abalone FMP and regulatory amendments to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. The project occurs within the marine environment and would not affect groundwater supplies or recharge. Furthermore, no facilities constructed with impervious surfaces that could affect groundwater are proposed as part of this project. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial on- or offsite erosion or siltation?

**No Impact.** The proposed project involves the preparation of a red abalone FMP and regulatory amendments to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. The project occurs within the marine environment. No changes to land use are proposed as part of this project that would modify, either directly or indirectly, existing drainage patterns of any built structures, facilities, or hydrologic features that may exist in the project area in a manner which would result in substantial on- or offsite erosion or siltation. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in on- or offsite flooding?

**No Impact.** As discussed under question IX (c), the project occurs within the marine environment and no changes to land use are proposed as part of this project that would affect structures, alter existing drainage patterns or other hydrologic features that could affect existing patterns of surface runoff or result in on- or off-site flooding from surface runoff. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?

**No Impact.** As discussed under questions IX (c) and (d), the project is within the marine environment and no land use changes are proposed; as such, there would be no contribution to runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems. In addition, the project would not result in changes to facilities, impervious surfaces, or other structures or stormwater drainage systems such that runoff volumes, flows, or quality of polluted runoff into stormwater drainage systems would be affected. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?

**No Impact.** As discussed under questions IX (a) and (c-d), the project does not propose land use changes nor would it create or contribute to discharge of pollutants into the environment that substantially degrade water quality. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?

**No Impact.** No housing is proposed as part of the project. Therefore, would be no impact to housing within a Flood Hazard Boundary or other flood hazard delineation map.

- h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?

**No Impact.** No structures are proposed as part of the project. Therefore, there would be no impact to the 100-year flood hazard area or flood flows.

- i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?

**No Impact.** The proposed project is located within the marine environment. There would be no effect related to or from flooding as a result of a levee or dam, as those are issues that would not occur in the project area. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?

**No Impact.** Seiche and mudflow are hazards generated primarily in terrestrial environments that could affect structures and people on land nearby to inland bodies of water and other inland hydrologic features. Although rare, the potential exists for tsunamis to occur in the project area. However, the proposed project would not increase the risk or vulnerability to hazards from inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow beyond baseline conditions. Therefore, no impact would occur.

**X. Land Use and Planning.** Would the project:

- a) Physically divide an established community?



**No Impact.** The proposed project involves the preparation of a red abalone FMP and regulatory amendments to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. There are coastal communities adjacent to the project area; however, no communities would be divided, either directly or indirectly, from implementation of the FMP and regulatory amendments. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to a general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?

**No Impact.** There are currently 40 MPAs within the project area (Figure 1) established under the MLPA (14 CCR § 632). The project area does not include MPAs that specifically prohibits abalone fishing. As such, the FMP and regulatory amendments would not conflict with the MLPA or regulations governing MPAs. In addition, the FMP and regulatory amendments would not conflict with any existing local coastal plan because these regulatory changes would not affect development activities subject to a local coastal plan. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?

**No Impact.** The project area is not subject to a habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan. The proposed project involves the preparation of a red abalone FMP and regulatory amendments to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. Therefore, no impact would occur.

**XI. Mineral Resources.** Would the project:

- a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?

**No Impact.** Since no oil and gas extraction sites are located within the project area, implementation of the FMP and regulatory amendments would not affect the production or extraction of those resources. Thus, there would be no loss of any known mineral resources, or preclusion of future access to any mineral resources. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?

**No Impact.** Since no oil and gas extraction sites are located within the project area, the FMP and regulatory amendments would not affect the production or extraction of those resources. Thus, there would be no loss of or preclusion of future access to any mineral resources. Therefore, no impact would occur.

**XII. Noise.** Would the project:

- a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?

**No Impact.** The proposed project involves the preparation of a red abalone FMP and regulatory amendments to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. The project would not result in any construction activity that would generate noise disturbances nor would it increase noise levels compared to baseline conditions. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?



**No Impact.** As discussed in question XII (a), the proposed project would not result in any construction or other activities that would generate groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

**No Impact.** The proposed project involves the preparation of a red abalone FMP and regulatory amendments to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. The project would not result in any permanent, fixed noise sources nor would it result in a substantial increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above baseline conditions. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?

**No Impact.** The proposed project involves the preparation of a red abalone FMP and regulatory amendments to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. No construction is proposed a part of the project that would result in temporary or periodic noise disturbances. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

**No Impact.** Although the project area is within the marine environment, there are five public airports (Jack McNamara Field Airport, California Redwood Coast-Humboldt County Airport, Samoa Field Airport, Shelter Cove Airport, and Litter River Airport) and one privately owned public use airport (Ocean Ridge Airport) located within a 2-mile radius of the project site. However, the proposed project involves the preparation of a red abalone FMP and regulatory amendments to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. There would be no substantial effect on the existing noise conditions from implementation of the proposed project. In addition, the project would not locate sensitive receptors near the vicinity of a public or public use airport. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?

**No Impact.** Similar to question XII (e), there would be no substantial effect on the existing noise conditions from implementation of the proposed project and no sensitive receptors would be located near the vicinity of a private airstrip. Therefore, no impact would occur.

**XIII. Population and Housing.** Would the project:

- a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?

**No Impact.** The FMP and regulatory amendments would not include construction of new housing or commercial businesses. Therefore, no direct population growth would result from implementation of the FMP or regulatory amendments. In addition, the proposed changes would not require or indirectly cause any new construction or any infrastructure modification, and no additional temporary or permanent staff would be needed for operations and maintenance of the fishery. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- b) Displace substantial numbers of existing homes, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

**No Impact.** The FMP and regulatory amendments would not remove any homes or require construction of replacement housing. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?

**No Impact.** The FMP and regulatory amendments would not displace any people or require construction of replacement housing. Therefore, no impact would occur.

**XIV. Population and Housing.** Would the project:

- a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:

Fire protection?

**No Impact.** No construction of any new government facilities or the alteration of any existing government facilities that would increase the demand for fire protection services is proposed as part of the project. In addition, the project area is within the marine environment and the potential for fires would be limited to those on board of fishing vessels. The FMP and regulatory amendment would not substantially increase the amount of vessels in the project area or the demand for fire services. Therefore, no impact would occur.

Police protection?

**No Impact.** The FMP and regulatory amendments would not involve the construction of any new government facilities or the alteration of any existing government facilities that would increase the demand for police protection services. In addition, the FMP and regulatory amendment would not substantially increase the amount of vessels in the project area or the demand for police or other law enforcement services. Therefore, no impact would occur.

Schools?

**No Impact.** The FMP and regulatory amendments would not involve the construction or alteration facilities that would increase the demand for schools. Therefore, no impact would occur.

Parks?

**No Impact.** The FMP and regulatory amendments would not involve the construction or alteration of any facilities that would increase the demand for parks. Therefore, no impact would occur.

Other public facilities?

**No Impact.** The FMP and regulatory amendments would not involve the construction or alteration of any facilities that would increase the demand for other public facilities. The FMP and regulatory amendment could potentially cause shifts in the location or intensity of fishing within the project area; however, these shifts would be



temporary and would not be substantial enough to require construction of new marinas or other public facilities. Therefore, no impact would occur.

**XV. Recreation.** Would the project:

- a) Increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?
- b) Include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?

**Less Than Significant.** The proposed project could result in shifts in the recreational fishing intensity or location within the project area during one or more seasons based on fluctuations in ocean conditions and biological factors. These changes, however, are not anticipated to increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated, nor necessitate construction or expansion of recreational facilities. Therefore, this impact would be less than significant.

**XVI. Transportation/Traffic.** Would the project:

- a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?

**Less Than Significant.** The proposed project would not conflict with any plans or policies related to circulation. The FMP could result in shifts in the location or intensity of fishing activity during one or more seasons, which may affect motorized travel to and from fishing locations, but would not result in a long-term increase in traffic volume or roadway capacities. Therefore, this impact would be less than significant.

- b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?

**No Impact.** The proposed project is located within the marine environment and is not subject to any congestion management program for roads or highways. As discussed under question XVI (a), the FMP could result in shifts in the location or intensity of fishing activity during one or more seasons, which may affect motorized travel to and from fishing locations, but would not result in a long-term increase in traffic volume or roadway capacities that would conflict with any congestion management program. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?

**No Impact.** Several private and public airports contribute to air traffic over the project area. However, the proposed project is entirely within the marine environment and implementation of the project would not affect any air traffic patterns. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?



**No Impact.** No new facilities would be constructed under the FMP or regulatory amendments, and implementation of these changes would not involve any design feature related to any transportation of traffic-related infrastructure. Therefore, no impact would occur.

e) Result in inadequate emergency access?

**No Impact.** The proposed project would not change emergency access within the project area. Therefore, no impact would occur.

f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?

**No Impact.** The proposed project is located within the marine environment. Implementation of the FMP and regulatory amendments would not affect adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities. Therefore, no impact would occur.

**XVII. Tribal Cultural Resources.** Would the project:

a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:

- i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or
- ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe?

**Less Than Significant.** CDFW is committed to open communication with Tribes under CDFW's Tribal Communication and Consultation Policy, which is available through the CDFW's Tribal Affairs webpage at <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/General-Counsel/Tribal-Affairs>. Early tribal consultation with the Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of Stewarts Point Rancheria occurred in October 2014. CDFW initiate communication with the tribe on issues concerning red abalone use and the development of the Red Abalone FMP.

In addition, in February 2018, CDFW contacted NAHC to identify registered, Native American sacred sites in or within the vicinity of the project area and to obtain a list of tribes affiliated with the geographic area of the project. The results of the NAHC Sacred Lands File search indicate that Native American cultural sites are present within the project area. NAHC provided a list of Native American tribes who may have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. On March 15, 2018, the Commission and CDFW sent a joint letter describing the project to Tribal representatives on the NAHC Tribal Consultation List requesting any input or concerns they might have regarding the project. The goal of the Commission and CDFW is to understand Tribal interests and concerns early in the project and to work collaboratively to resolve any concerns. No request for consultation has been submitted to CDFW to date. Correspondences related to tribal cultural resources are included in Appendix A.

Abalone and abalone fishing are culturally important resources to many coastal tribes within the project area. Abalone harvest by Native Americans is currently covered under state recreational fishing regulations for the northern California recreational abalone fishery for which this FMP is being developed. The proposed project

seeks to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. Thus, tribal use and harvest of abalone will continue as long as the recreational fishery continues. Any changes to the fishery that may affect tribal use will be addressed directly with the tribes through CDFW's Tribal Communication and Consultation Policy.

**XVIII. Utilities.** Would the project:

- a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?

**No Impact.** The proposed project involves the preparation of a red abalone FMP and regulatory amendments to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. No land use changes or development are proposed as part of the project which would generate wastewater requiring treatment. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

**No Impact.** Implementation of the FMP and regulatory amendments would not include any facilities that would require water and would not increase the demand for water. In addition, the proposed project would not result in impact related to construction of new or expanded wastewater treatment facilities. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- c) Require or result in the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?

**No Impact.** The proposed project involves the preparation of a red abalone FMP and regulatory amendments to sustainably manage the red abalone resource and improve the long-term sustainability of the fishery. Implementation of the project would not result in land use change or development that would generate stormwater that would require the construction of new storm water drainage facilities or the expansion of existing facilities within the project area. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?

**No Impact.** Implementation of the FMP and regulatory amendments would not include any facilities that would require water and would not increase the demand for water. Therefore, no impact would occur.

- e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand, in addition to the provider's existing commitments?

**No Impact.** See discussion under XVIII (a). There would be no impact related to wastewater treatment capacity.

- f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?

**No Impact.** Although some solid waste is generated with fishing activities, implementation of the FMP and regulatory amendments would not result in an overall increase in solid waste generated by the fishery. Therefore, there would be no impact on landfill capacity.

- g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?



**No Impact.** The proposed FMP and regulatory amendments would not result in a change in compliance with solid waste regulations. Therefore, no impact would occur.

h) Interfere with utilities?

**No Impact.** While there are potential for submerged utilities to exist within the project area, implementation of the proposed project would not cause an increase in interference with utilities. During the open season, rock picking occurs along the shore during low tide and free divers generally do not dive deeper than 8.5 meters (28 feet) for abalone. These fishing activities are not known to interfere with underwater cable or other submerged utilities. Therefore, no impact would occur.

#### **XIX. Mandatory Findings of Significance.**

a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of an endangered, rare, or threatened species, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?

**Less Than Significant.** As evaluated in this Initial Study, the proposed project would not substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of an endangered, rare, or threatened species, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. The proposed FMP and regulatory amendments would benefit the red abalone fishery by adaptively managing it for sustainability to ensure the long-term health of the resource. In addition, the proposed project is consistent with the goals of the adopted ARMP for managing existing and future abalone fisheries in California. The red abalone FMP will build off current management of the northern California red abalone sport fishery as outlined in ARMP, as well as meet requirements for fisheries management in the MLMA. Therefore, this impact would be less than significant.

b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.)

**Less Than Significant.** The potential for adverse cumulative effects were considered in the response to each question in sections I through XIX of this Initial Study. As a result of this evaluation, there is no substantial evidence that there are adverse cumulative effects associated with the proposed project that would have significant impacts or require mitigation. Pursuant to the MLMA, this project in combination with past, present, and probable future projects would contribute to the conservation of marine ecosystems and marine living resources. Therefore, the proposed project would not add considerably to any cumulative impacts in the region. Therefore, cumulative impacts would be less than significant.

c) Does the project have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?

**No Impact.** The potential for adverse direct or indirect impacts to human beings were considered in the evaluation of environmental impacts for certain questions in sections I, III, VI, VIII, IX, XII, XIII, and XVI of this Initial Study. As a result of this evaluation, the proposed project would not have environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse direct or indirect effects on human beings. Therefore, no impact would occur.



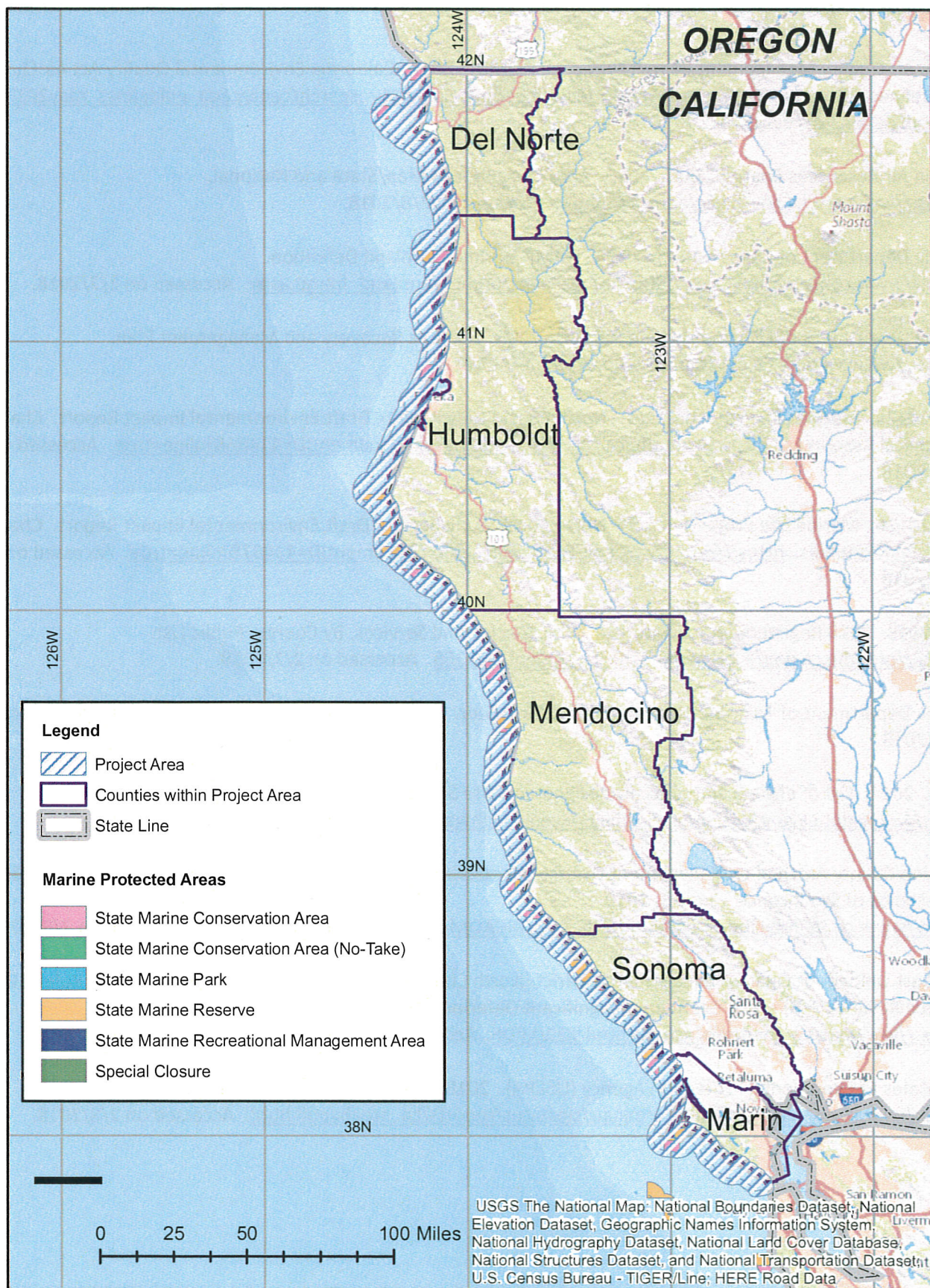


Figure 1. Marine Protected Areas and Counties within Project Area



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## **APPENDIX A**

### Correspondence Related to Tribal Cultural Resources





State of California – Natural Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
Marine Region  
1933 Cliff Drive, Suite 9  
Santa Barbara, CA 93109  
[www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov)

EDMUND G. BROWN, Jr., Governor  
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



February 15, 2018

Honorable James Ramos  
Chairperson  
Native American Heritage Commission  
1550 Harbor Boulevard, Suite 100  
West Sacramento, CA 95691  
(916) 373-3710  
[nahc@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:nahc@nahc.ca.gov)

SUBJECT: SACRED LANDS FILE SEARCH AND LIST OF TRIBAL CONTACTS FOR  
THE RED ABALONE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Dear Chairperson Ramos:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is in the process of developing a red abalone (*Haliotis rufescens*) Fishery Management Plan (FMP). CDFW requests a search of the Sacred Lands File and a list of tribes that are culturally or traditionally affiliated with the geographic area of the project.

Red abalone is a resource managed by CDFW currently under the Abalone Recovery and Management Plan (ARMP). The development of a separate FMP for red abalone will further refine and implement the long-term management objectives outlined in the ARMP, as well as meet requirements for fisheries management in the Marine Life Management Act. The FMP will be a framework document that gathers the best available scientific information on the natural history of red abalone, its fisheries (both current and historical), the economic conditions under which they operate, and the effects of the fisheries on the marine ecosystem. In addition, the FMP will review fishery management methods used in abalone fisheries in other parts of the world, and examine any other conservation and management measures that should be considered for the sustainability of the resource and its fisheries.

To assist you in the Sacred Lands File search, we are providing a map of the project area (Attachment 1). The project is located within ocean waters in Northern California extending from north of San Francisco to the California-Oregon border, encompassing the following counties: Marin, Sonoma, Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte. The project area does not include marine protected areas (MPAs) that specifically prohibits abalone fishing.

Thank you for your assistance. If you would like more information on the Red Abalone FMP or have any questions, please contact Mr. Ian Taniguchi, Senior Environmental Scientist, at [Ian.Taniguchi@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Ian.Taniguchi@wildlife.ca.gov), (562) 342-7182, or write to 4665 Lampson Avenue, Suite C, Los Alamitos, CA 90720.

*Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1870*

Mr. James Ramos, Chairperson  
Native American Heritage Commission  
February 7, 2018  
Page 2

Sincerely,

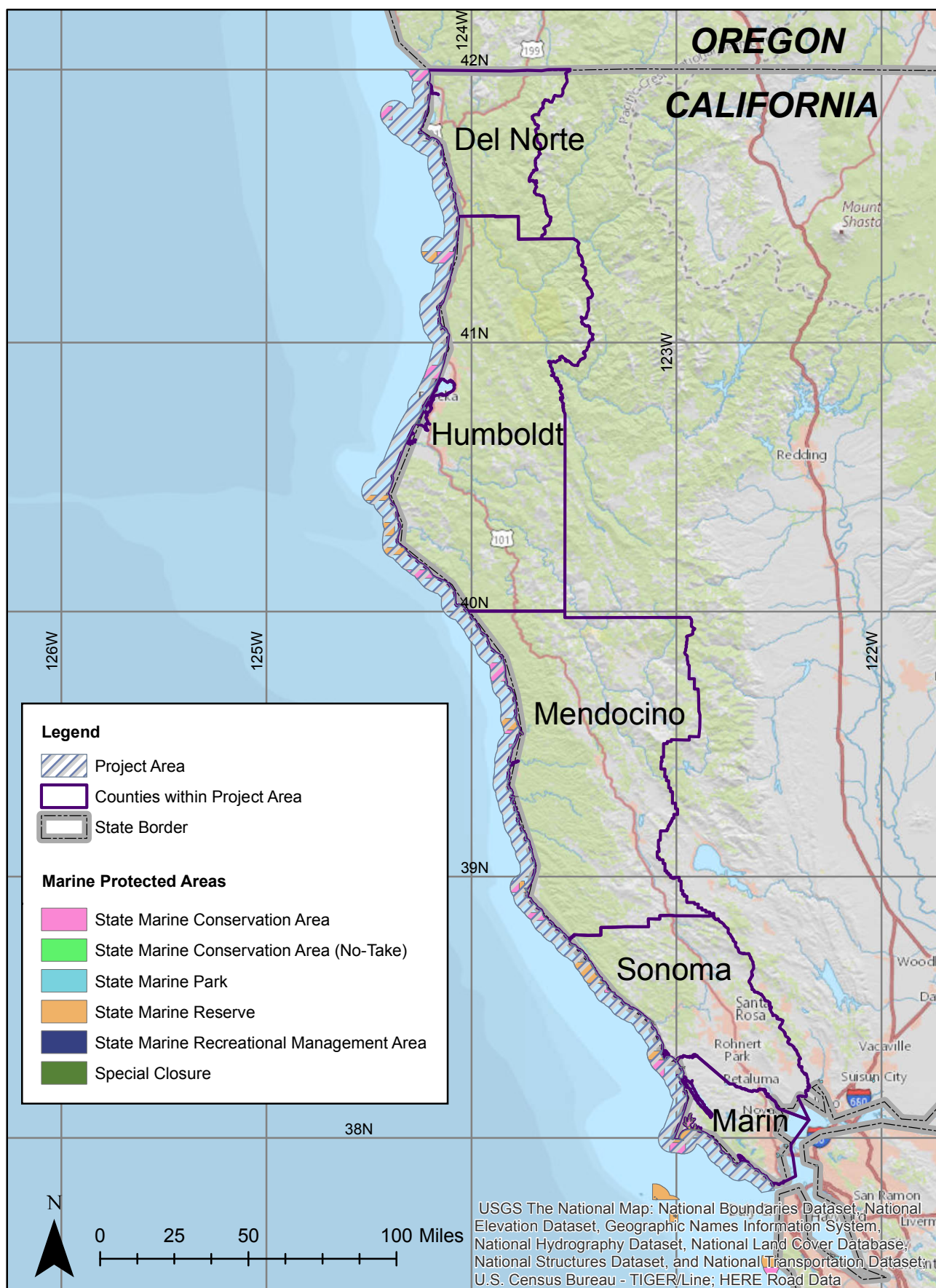
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sonke Mastrup", written over a horizontal line.

Sonke Mastrup  
Environmental Program Manager

Enclosure

ec: California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Nathan Voegeli, Tribal Liaison, [tribal.liaison@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:tribal.liaison@wildlife.ca.gov)

## Red Abalone Fishery Management Plan Project Area





**NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION**

Environmental and Cultural Department  
1550 Harbor Blvd., ROOM 100  
West SACRAMENTO, CA 95691  
(916) 373-3710  
Fax (916) 373-5471



March 8, 2018

Ian Taniguchi  
Department of Fish and Wildlife

Sent by Email: [ian.taniguchi@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:ian.taniguchi@wildlife.ca.gov)

Re: Red Abalone Fishery Management Plan, Marin, Sonoma, Mendocino, Humboldt, Del Norte Counties

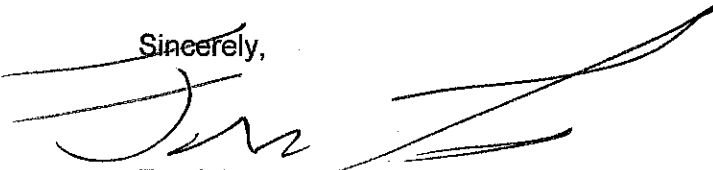
Dear Mr. Taniguchi,

A record search of the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) Sacred Lands File (SLF) was completed for the information you have submitted for the above referenced project. The results indicate Native American cultural sites are present. Please contact the tribes provided. Other sources for cultural resources should also be contacted for information regarding known and/or recorded sites.

Enclosed is a list of Native American tribes who may also have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. I suggest you contact all of those indicated, if they cannot supply information, they might recommend others with specific knowledge. By contacting all those listed, your organization will be better able to respond to claims of failure to consult with the appropriate tribe. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the Commission requests that you follow-up with a telephone call to ensure that the project information has been received.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from any of these tribes, please notify me. With your assistance we are able to assure that our lists contain current information. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at [frank.lienert@nahc.ca.gov](mailto:frank.lienert@nahc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Frank Lienert  
Associate Governmental Program Analyst

**Native American Heritage Commission  
Native American Contacts  
3/8/2018**

**Big Lagoon Rancheria**  
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P. O. Box 3060  
Trinidad, CA 95570  
vmorehead@earthlink.net  
(707) 826-2079

Yurok  
Tolowa

(707) 826-1737 - Fax

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(707) 668-5101  
(707) 668-4272 Fax

Wiyot  
Yurok  
Tolowa

**Guidiville Rancheria of California**  
Merlene Sanchez. Chairperson  
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(707) 462-3682

Pomo

(707) 462-9183 Fax

**Hoopa Valley Tribe**  
Rvan P. Jackson. Chairperson  
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Hoopa, CA 95546  
(530) 625-4211  
(530) 625-4504 Fax

Hoopa - Hupa

**Cloverdale Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California**  
Patricia Hermosillo. Chairperson  
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Pomo

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sellriott@hoplandtribe.com  
(707) 472-2100

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Sokow  
Shanel  
Pomo

(707) 744-1506

**Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians**  
Chris Wright. Chairperson  
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Gevserville, CA 95441  
(707) 522-4233  
(707) 522-4286

Pomo

**Karuk Tribe**  
Russell Atteberry. Chairperson  
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Happy Camp, CA 96039  
(530) 493-1600  
(530) 493-5322 - Fax

Karuk / Karok

**Elk Valley Rancheria**  
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Crescent City, CA 95531  
dmiller@elk-valley.com  
(707) 464-4680

Tolowa

(707) 464-4519

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Environmental@cahto.org  
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Cahto  
Kato  
Pomo

(707) 984-6201 Fax

This list is current only as of the date of this document and is based on the information available to the Commission on the date it was produced.

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resource Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native American Tribes with regard to cultural resources assessments for the proposed **Red Abalone Fishery Management Plan, Marin, Sonoma, Mendocino, Humboldt, Del Norte Counties**

**Native American Heritage Commission  
Native American Contacts  
3/8/2018**

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(707) 575-6974 - Fax

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(707) 882-3417 Fax

Middletown Rancheria  
Jose Simon III. Chairperson  
P.O. Box 1035 Pomo  
Middletown , CA 95461 Lake Miwok  
(707) 987-3670 Office  
(707) 987-9091 Fax

Pinoleville Pomo Nation  
Leona Williams. Chairperson  
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(707) 463-6601 Fax

Potter Valley Tribe  
Salvador Rosales. Chairperson  
2251 South State Street Pomo  
Ukiah , CA 95482  
pottervalleytribe@pottervalleytribe.com  
(707) 462-1213  
(707) 462-1240 - Fax

Redwood Valley or Little River Band of Pomo  
Debra Ramirez. Chairperson  
3250 Road I Pomo  
Redwood Valley , CA 95470  
rvrsecretary@comcast.net  
(707) 485-0361  
(707) 485-5726 Fax

Residhini Rancheria  
Rick Dowd. Chairperson  
P.O. Box 529 Yurok  
Klamath , CA 95548  
k.dowd6@verizon.net  
(707) 482-2431  
(707) 482-3425 Fax

Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria  
Barry Brenard. Chairperson  
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Loleta , CA 95551 Mattole  
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(707) 733-1727 Fax

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77826 Covelo Road Yuki ; Nomlaki  
Covelo , CA 95428 Pit River  
tribalcouncil@rvit.org Pomo  
(707) 983-6126 Concow  
Wailaki; Wintun  
(707) 983-6128 Fax

Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians  
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190 Sherwood Hill Drive Pomo  
Willits , CA 95490  
svradministrator@sbcglobal.net  
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(707) 459-6936 Fax

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**Native American Heritage Commission  
Native American Contacts  
3/8/2018**

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loren.bommelvn@tolowa-nsn.gov  
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Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of the Stewarts Point Ranch  
Chairperson  
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Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
(707) 591-0580 Office

(707) 591-0583 Fax

Wivot Tribe  
Ted Hernandez, Chairperson  
1000 Wivot Drive Wivot  
Loleta, CA 95551  
ted@wivot.us  
(707) 733-5055

(707) 733-5601 Fax

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Garth Sundberg Sr., Chairperson  
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Trinidad, CA 95570-06 Karuk  
gsundberg@TrinidadRancheria.com Tolowa  
(707) 677-0211 Office Wivot

(707) 677-3921 Fax

Yurok Tribe of the Yurok Reservation  
Thomas O'Rourke, Chairperson  
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Klamath, CA 95548  
torouroke@yuroktribe.nsn.us  
(707) 482-1350

(707) 482-1377

Yurok Tribe of the Yurok Reservation  
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Hoopa, CA 95546  
rmccconnell@yuroktribe.nsn.us

(707) 498-2536

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(707) 482-1377 Fax

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Salver, CA 95563  
tsunungweofcalifornia@gmail.com  
530-739-3828

Novo River Indian Community  
Chairperson  
P.O. Box 91 North Coastal Pomo  
Fort Bragg, CA 95437 Coast Yuki

Cahto Tribe  
Aimie R. Lucas, Chairperson  
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Lavtonville, CA 95454 Kato  
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(707) 984-6201 Fax

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jeidsness@bluelakerancheria-nsn.gov Tolowa

(707) 668-5101

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707-668-4272 - Fax

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**Native American Heritage Commission**

**Native American Contacts**

**3/8/2018**

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(707) 487-0930 Fax

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Grea Sarris, Chairperson  
6400 Redwood Drive, Ste 300 Coast Miwok  
Rohnert Park, CA 94928 Southern Pomo  
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(707) 566-2291 Fax

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Scott Gabaldon, Chairperson  
2275 Silk Road Wappo  
Windsor, CA 95492  
scottg@mishewalwappotribe.com  
(707) 494-9159

Yurok Tribe of the Yurok Reservation  
NAGPRA Coordinator  
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Klamath, CA 95548  
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(707) 482-1355  
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Redwood Valley, CA 95470  
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(707) 485-1247 Fax

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California Fish and Game Commission  
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1320  
Sacramento, CA 95814

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
EDMUND G. BROWN JR., GOVERNOR

NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY



California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
1416 Ninth Street, 12th Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

March 15, 2018

Honorable [Name, Title]  
[Tribe Name]  
[Address]  
[City, State Zip]

**Subject: Notification Pursuant To California Environmental Quality Act Section 21080.3.1 for the Red Abalone Fishery Management Plan**

Dear Honorable Tribal Representative:

The California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) would like to inform you as a Tribal representative that the Department is in the process of developing a Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for red abalone (*Haliotis rufescens*) (Project). The Commission is providing this formal notice as the Project lead agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). (Pub. Resources Code § 21080.3.1.) Your input can be provided to the Commission through consultation pursuant to CEQA sections 21080.3.1 and 21080.3.2 or during the public comment period anticipated to begin in August 2018. The Commission and the Department would welcome direct communication and consultation prior to the public process on this proposed Project and any anticipated impacts on Tribal interests or cultural resources.

Red abalone is a resource managed by the Department currently under the Abalone Recovery and Management Plan (ARMP). The development of a separate FMP for red abalone will further refine and implement the long-term management objectives outlined in the ARMP, as well as meet requirements for fisheries management in the Marine Life Management Act. The FMP will be a framework document that gathers the best available scientific information on the natural history of red abalone, its fisheries (both current and historical), the economic conditions under which they operate, and the effects of the fisheries on the marine ecosystem. In addition, the FMP will review fishery management methods used in abalone fisheries in other parts of the world, and examine any other conservation and management measures that should be considered for the sustainability of the resource and its fisheries.

The project is located within ocean waters in Northern California extending from north of San Francisco to the California-Oregon state line, encompassing the following counties: Marin, Sonoma, Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte. The project area does not include marine protected areas (MPAs) that specifically prohibit abalone fishing. Although no impact is anticipated to natural resources, abalone may be a resource of cultural importance that may be of interest to your Tribe.



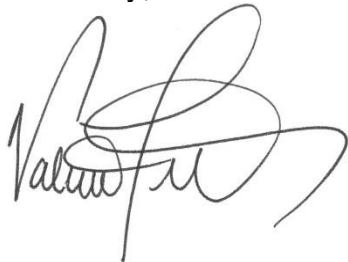
[Name, Title]  
[Tribe Name]  
March 15, 2018  
Page 2

The goal of the Commission and the Department is to understand Tribal interests and concerns early in the Project and to work collaboratively to resolve any concerns. The Commission's Tribal Consultation Policy can be viewed at <http://www.fgc.ca.gov/policy/p4misc.aspx>. The Department is committed to open communication with your Tribe under its Tribal Communication and Consultation Policy, which is available through the Department's Tribal Affairs webpage at <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/General-Counsel/Tribal-Affairs>.

If you would like more information on the Project, please contact Mr. Ian Taniguchi, Senior Environmental Scientist, at [Ian.Taniguchi@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Ian.Taniguchi@wildlife.ca.gov) or by telephone (562) 342-7182. To request formal consultation with the Commission on the Project pursuant CEQA section 21080.3.1, please respond in writing within 30 days to Executive Director Valerie Termini by email [Valerie.Termini@fgc.ca.gov](mailto:Valerie.Termini@fgc.ca.gov) or by mail at California Fish and Game Commission, 1416 9th Street, Suite 1320, Sacramento, CA 95814. To request consultation with the Department, please contact Tribal Liaison Nathan Voegeli by email [Tribal.Liaison@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Tribal.Liaison@wildlife.ca.gov) or by mail at Department of Fish and Wildlife, 1416 9th Street, Suite 1341, Sacramento, CA 95814. Please be sure to designate and provide contact information for the appropriate lead contact person.

We look forward to your response and input into the proposed Project.

Sincerely,



Valerie Termini  
Executive Director  
California Fish and Game Commission



Craig Shuman, D. Env.  
Marine Regional Manager  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife

ec: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Nathan Voegeli, Tribal Liaison  
[tribal.liaison@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:tribal.liaison@wildlife.ca.gov)

Ian Taniguchi, Senior Environmental Scientist  
Marine Region  
[Ian.Taniguchi@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Ian.Taniguchi@wildlife.ca.gov)

## Tribal Distribution List

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Aimie R. Lucas, Chairperson  
Cahto Tribe  
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Laytonville, CA 95454

Sonny Elliot, EPA Director  
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Laytonville, CA 95454

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Patricia Hermosillo, Chairperson  
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Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians  
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Elk Valley Rancheria  
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## **Tribal Distribution List, continued**

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Jose Simon III, Chairperson  
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Novo River Indian Community  
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Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Leona Williams, Chairperson  
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Ukiah, CA 95482

Debra Ramirez, Chairperson  
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Rick Dowd, Chairperson  
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James Russ, President  
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Willits, CA 95490

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Smith River, CA 95567

Suntavea Steinruck, THPO  
Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation  
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Tsnungwe Council  
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Yurok Tribe of the Yurok Reservation  
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