



COUNTY OF MENDOCINO

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING SERVICES

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 19, 2026

TO: HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

FROM: LIAM CROWLEY, PLANNER III

SUBJECT: LCP_2026-0002 Consolidated Coastal Development Permit Request for the California Marine Sanctuary Foundation (CMSF) to install Marine Protected Area (MPA) signs along the California coast, including three (3) locations in Mendocino County's Local Coastal Program (LCP) jurisdiction and one (1) location where jurisdiction is bisected between the County and Coastal Commission.

SUMMARY OF PROJECT

The California Marine Sanctuary Foundation (CMSF) requests the processing of a Consolidated Coastal Development Permit to install Marine Protected Area (MPA) signs along the California coast, including three (3) locations in Mendocino County's Local Coastal Program (LCP) jurisdiction and one (1) location where jurisdiction is bisected between the County and Coastal Commission. The proposed installation is part of a larger signage project across the State in partnership with the MPA Collaborative Network, California Department of Fish & Wildlife, and Ocean Protection Council. The signs would be installed at the following locations (also shown on the attached maps):

- Mixed sign at a parking lot on Lighthouse Rd south of Point Arena Lighthouse on a provided post. Coordinates: 38.951011, -123.737472.
- Mixed sign on the east side of Highway 1, by the Old Smith Ranch Preserve sign on an existing post. Coordinates: 39.54066008, -123.7562486.
- Regulatory sign at Seaside Beach parking lot on an existing post. Coordinates: 39.55867896, -123.7656394.
- Mixed sign at Van Damme State Beach on an existing post. Coordinates: 39.2735027, -123.791.
- Mixed sign at the southern end of the Van Damme State Beach parking lot off of Shoreline Hwy on a provided post. Coordinates: 39.2729637, -123.79059.
- Mixed sign at Sea Lion Rocks parking lot off Lighthouse Rd on a provided post. Coordinates: 38.940234, -123.72989.

The signs would include general and regulatory information about the MPAs, such as icons, maps, regulations, contact information, and QR codes (see attached).

The project area includes land within the permit jurisdiction of both the County of Mendocino and the California Coastal Commission. The Point Arena Lighthouse and Old Smith Ranch locations are within Mendocino County's jurisdiction, the Van Damme State Park locations are within the Coastal Commission's jurisdiction, and the Seaside Beach location bisects County and Coastal Commission jurisdiction.

California Public Resources Code Section 30601.3 allows the processing of a Consolidated Coastal Development Permit when the local government and Coastal Commission both consent to the consolidation, provided public participation is not substantially impaired. All parties have agreed to the

consolidation. The processing of a Consolidated Coastal Development Permit would eventually require that the Coastal Commission hold a public hearing, which would afford the same degree of public participation as the hearing procedures in Mendocino County. Both the Coastal Commission and the County offer in-person and virtual participation options for public hearings.

The consolidation requested by CMSF would allow for streamlined processing of this project. By authorizing the consolidation, the Board would allow the California Coastal Commission to process a single Coastal Development Permit for the entirety of the project. As part of a larger statewide project, consolidation would allow consistent regulation across jurisdictions. Consolidation would simplify timelines and procedural differences that could arise if separate permits were required.

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the Resolution authorizing the processing of a Consolidated Coastal Development Permit, LCP_2026-0002, by the California Coastal Commission, for CMSF to install MPA signs along the California coast, including three (3) locations in Mendocino County's Local Coastal Program (LCP) jurisdiction and one (1) location where jurisdiction is bisected between the County and Coastal Commission; and authorize Chair to sign same.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1) Resolution
- 2) Consolidation Letter
- 3) Project Plans & Supplemental Information
- 4) Jurisdictional Boundary Determination
- 5) County Maps