



# COUNTY OF MENDOCINO

## DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUILDING SERVICES

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## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** APRIL 8, 2025

**TO:** HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**FROM:** JULIA KROG, DIRECTOR

**SUBJECT:** LCP\_2025-0002 CONSOLIDATED EMERGENCY COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT AND FOLLOW-UP COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT REQUEST FOR THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONSTRUCT A BEACH REVETMENT AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE AT THE WESTPORT EMERGENCY LANDSLIDE REPAIR ON STATE ROUTE 1

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### SUMMARY OF PROJECT

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) requests the processing of a Consolidated Emergency Coastal Development Permit and follow-up Coastal Development Permit to construct a beach revetment and associated infrastructure at the Westport emergency landslide near Westport between postmiles 75.0 and 76.5 on State Route 1. This area has undergone a series of emergency repairs dating back to 2005. This emergency project was initiated under Governor's proclamation 23-3. On March 1, 2023, following a period of heavy rainfall and accelerated coastal erosion, the area began to show severe roadway structure distress, along with distress to the existing Soldier Pile Ground Anchor (SPGA) walls. Work began shortly after the storm event and has been ongoing. The current stress and damage to the facility represents an imminent threat to the public. Work is deemed to be the minimum necessary to maintain State Route 1.

Several nested slides throughout the site have developed, along with additional movement of the larger landslide complex. Work has been ongoing, including installation of a SPGA, roadway profile correction, and geotechnical investigations to help inform the minimum repairs necessary along with potential long-term solutions. Work also entailed developing a structural shore protection analysis to help inform the beach revetment portion of this emergency.

In addition to the SPGA walls, two other critical components of work that define the minimum necessary to address the immediate threat to the highway and associated facilities include a coastal rock revetment at the toe of the slope to help minimize coastal erosion and mass wasting on the bluff face, along with a dewatering strategy to reduce hydrostatic load of the landslide. Geotechnical work to inform the short term and long-term dewatering strategy is ongoing, and the rock revetment at the toe of the slope is scheduled to begin in April of 2025. This three-part strategy is deemed to be the minimum necessary to maintain this section of State Route 1.

The portions of the project within the County's jurisdiction include portions of the staging and access roads, portions of the temporary k-rail placement, portions of the revetment as it moves up the bluff face, and portions of the proposed mitigation site at Westport Union Landing.

The project area includes lands within the jurisdiction of both the County of Mendocino and the California Coastal Commission. California Public Resources Code Section 30601.3 allows the processing of a Consolidated Emergency Coastal Development Permit and follow-up Coastal Development Permit when the local government and Coastal Commission both consent to the consolidation, provided public participation is not substantially impaired. In this case, 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. In

this case, 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 Coastal Development Permit 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 Caltrans would allow for streamlined processing of this project. The alternative would be the processing of multiple Coastal Development Permits by multiple jurisdictions, which would not allow analysis of the project as a whole. By authorizing the consolidation, the Board would allow the California Coastal Commission to process a Coastal Development Permit for the entirety of the proposed improvements address the Westport landslide complex. Otherwise, a separate Coastal Development would be processed by both the California Coastal Commission and the County for the improvements within each jurisdiction.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt the resolution authorizing the processing of a Consolidated Emergency Coastal Development Permit and Follow-up Coastal Development Permit, LCP\_2025-0002, by the California Coastal Commission, for The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to Construct a Beach Revetment and associated infrastructure at the Westport Emergency Landslide Repair; and authorize Chair to sign same.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

- 1) Resolution for Adoption
- 2) Project Application, Description, Plans, and Maps