## **COUNTY OF MENDOCINO DEPT OF PLANNING & BUILDING SERVICES** 752 SOUTH FRANKLIN STREET FORT BRAGG, CA 95437

Telephone: 707-964-5379

Case No(s)	EM_2025-0005
CDF No(s)_ Date Filed 9	
Fee \$1,783.0	
	PRJ_068476
Received by_	Sandy Arellano Office Use Only

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EMERGENCY PERMIT APPLICATION FORM				
Name of Applicant Dean and Tamara Weber	Name of Owner(s) Same as Applicant	Name of Agent N/A		
Mailing Address 701 Hollister Ranch Goleta, CA 93117	Mailing Address	Mailing Address		
Telephone Number (805)698-4061-Tammy	Telephone Number (805)588-9519- Dean	Telephone Number		
Project Description:  Our request is to repair an existing leach field & cesspit septic system, that serves two legal non conforming houses. The work will include:  1) one new 1200 gallon tank (replaces a cesspit system for Cabin #2);  2) installing a new riser on the existing tank for Cabin #1; and  3) sending both of those tanks effluent into a new 800 gallon pump tank which will disperse the effluent out to a mound system.  This repair meets the current EH code requirements. No trees will be removed, nor roots disturbed. Both the mound area and tank areas are made up of non- native grass. Total disturbance for mound area will be approximately 2000SF. Total area of disturbance for tanks will be approximately 400SF.  Driving Directions				
The site is located on the $\underline{N}$ (N/S/E/W) side of $\underline{Fish}$ Rock Rd (name road) approximately $\underline{1}$ mile (feet/miles) $\underline{E}$ (N/S/E/W) of its intersection with				
Hwy 1 and FishRock Rd (provide nearest major intersection).				
Assessor's Parcel Number(s) 143-152-1600				
Parcel Size	Street Address of Pr	roject		
8.66 Acres Squar	re Feet	ck Rd., Gualala, CA, 95445 submittal, please verify correct street address with the Ukiah.		

# EMERGENCY PERMIT APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

The purpose of this questionnaire is to relate information concerning your application to the Planning & Building Services Department and other agencies who will be reviewing your project proposal. The more detail that is provided, the easier it will be to promptly process your application. Please answer all questions. For questions which do not pertain to your project, please indicate "Not Applicable" or "N/A".

## 1. NATURE OF THE EMERGENCY NARRATIVE (use additional pages if necessary).

a) Describe the nature, cause and location of the emergency.

We are requesting the repair of two failing septic systems, for two out of three legal-non-conforming houses on our parcel. I have provided reports by two different professionals stating the status of these systems. Cabin #2 has pit type system that is filled with debris and rock. Cabin #1 has a 1950's type leach field, that was installed incorrectly and has caused an overload of effluent, that is not draining correctly.

- b) Describe the remedial protective or preventive work required to deal with the emergency. The work will include:
  - 1) Cabin #2 -one new 1200-gallon tank (replaces a cesspit system);
  - 2) Cabin #1- tank is functional, a new riser will be installed to meet code:
  - 3) Both of these tanks will require installation of a new pump tank to pump effluent out to a newly installed mound leach field system.
  - 4) Removal of old systems lines will be completed, and the cesspit backfilled as necessary.
  - c) Describe the circumstances during the emergency that justify the course(s) of action taken, including the probable consequences of failing to take action.

I honestly thought this repair was going to be a CE permit from PBS, thus not be an issue. However, if I cannot get this done before raining season, I will be forced to rent the cabin's "as-is" in order to make our mortgage payment. Daily tenant use of the restrooms will most likely contaminate the high ground water table that exists in this area.

d) Describe any secondary improvements such as wells, septic systems, grading, vegetation removal, roads, etc. that are necessary to deal with the emergency.

The septic system is the main repair.

Are there existing structures on the property?	Yes	□ No

Three legal non-conforming houses and one permitted shed and two exempt sheds	
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3. Is any grading or road construction planned? Yes No	
Estimate the amount of grading in cubic yards None c.y. If greater than 50 cubic yards or if great	er
than 2 feet of cut or 1 foot of fill will result, please provide a grading plan.	
Describe the terrain to be traversed (e.g., steep, moderate slope, flat, etc.).	
Slopes of less than 3%	
4. Will vegetation be removed on areas other than the building sites and roads? Yes No	
If yes, explain:	
Non native grass for tanks and dispersal field	
The true grade for tarme and diopered here	
	<i></i>
5 Project Height Maximum height of structure(s): N/A	
5. Project Height. Maximum height of structure(s): N/A feet	
6. Describe all exterior materials and colors of all proposed structures that are visible beyond the boundaries of	
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subject parcel.	he
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subject parcel.	ihe
subject parcel. N/A	
subject parcel.  N/A  Are there any water courses, anadromous fish streams, ponds, lakes, sand dunes, rookeries, marine mammal l	naul-
<ul> <li>8. N/A</li> <li>7. Are there any water courses, anadromous fish streams, ponds, lakes, sand dunes, rookeries, marine mammal lout areas, wetlands, riparian areas, pygmy vegetation, rare or endangered plants, animals or habitat which support the support of the</li></ul>	naul-
7. Are there any water courses, anadromous fish streams, ponds, lakes, sand dunes, rookeries, marine mammal lout areas, wetlands, riparian areas, pygmy vegetation, rare or endangered plants, animals or habitat which superare and endangered species located on the project site or within 100 feet of the project site?	naul-
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JULIA KROG, DIRECTOR
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FB FAX: 707-961-2427
pbs@mendocinocounty.gov
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## **Indemnification And Hold Harmless**

ORDINANCE NO. 3780, adopted by the Board of Supervisors on June 4, 1991, requires applicants for discretionary land use approvals, to sign the following Indemnification Agreement. Failure to sign this agreement will result in the application being considered incomplete and withheld from further processing.

## **Indemnification Agreement**

As part of this application, applicant agrees to defend, indemnify, release and hold harmless the County of Mendocino, its agents, officers, attorneys, employees, boards and commissions, as more particularly set forth in Mendocino County Code Section 1.04.120, from any claim, action or proceeding brought against any of the foregoing individuals or entities, the purpose of which is to attack, set aside, void or annul the approval of this application or adoption of the environmental document which accompanies it. The indemnification shall include, but not be limited to, damages, costs, expenses, attorney fees or expert witness fees that may be asserted by any person or entity, including the applicant, arising out of or in connection with the approval of this application, whether or not there is concurrent, passive or active negligence on the part of the County, its agents, officers, attorneys, employees, boards and commissions.

9-24-25	Sammy Heber
Date	Applicant

## CERTIFICATION AND SITE VIEW AUTHORIZATION

1.	I hereby certify that I have read this completed application and that, information in this application, and all attached appendices and extunderstand that the failure to provide any requested information or an support of the application shall be grounds for either refusing to act the permit, for suspending or revoking a permit issued on the basis seeking of such further relief as may seem proper to the County.	nibits, is complete an y misstatements subm ecept this application	d correct. I litted in litted for denying
2.	I hereby grant permission for County Planning and Building Services upon and site view the premises for which this application is made in conecessary for the preparation of required reports and render its de	order to obtain inform	odies to enter ation
	Sammes Heber	9-24-25	
	Sammy Weber  Wener/Authorized Agent	Date	<del></del>
	E: IF SIGNED BY AGENT, <u>OWNER</u> MUST SIGN BELOW.  ORIZATION OF AGENT		
I hereb	y authorize	to :	act as my
	ntative and to bind me in all matters concerning this application.		cet as my
	Owner	Date	<del></del>
	MAIL DIRECTION		
to who	litate proper handling of this application, please indicate the names as m you wish correspondence and/or staff reports mailed if different full polication form.	nd mailing addresses rom those identified	of individuals on Page One

Name Tamara Weber	Name	Name
Mailing Address 701 Hollister Ranch Goleta, CA 93117	Mailing Address	Mailing Address



# **Mendocino County** Planning and Building Services

860 North Bush Street Ukiah, CA 95482 (707) 234-6650

120 West Fir Street Fort Bragg, CA 95437 (707) 964-5379

**Paid By: DEAN AND TAMARA WEBER** 701 HOLLISTER RANCH

**GOLETA** CA 93117

Project Number: EM\_2025-0005

Project Description: WEBER, (2) FAILING SEPTIC REPAIR MOUND S

Site Address: 46300 FISH ROCK RD

EM 2025-0005

Receipt: PRJ\_068476

Date: 9/24/2025

Pay Method: CREDIT 48431719

**Received By: SANDY ARELLANO** 

Fee Description	Account Number	Qty	Fee Amount
BASE FEES	1100-2851-822609		\$1,378.00
P3.14 EM BASE FEE			\$1,378.00
P7.2 RECORDS MANAGEMENT MINOR FEE	1222-2852-826260		\$205.00
			\$205.00
P7.4 GENERAL PLAN MINOR FEE	1100-2851-826188		\$200.00
			\$200.00
Total Fees Paid:			\$1.783.00

Iotal Fees Paid: **\$1,/83.00** 



## CARL RITTIMAN & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Certified Professional Soil Scientist PO Box 590 • Mendocino CA 95460

Cassie Henderson cassie@kennedyrealestate.com

Date: December 23rd, 2024

Re: 46300 Fish Rock Road

Preliminary soils evaluation to determine on-site sewage disposal system repair options

#### Cassie,

As was requested, personnel from our office were at the above referenced parcel on December 18<sup>th</sup> in order to conduct a soils evaluation, in order to determine what type of repair disposal system could be proposed for the site.

The site contains three separate cabins, two of which contain one bedroom and the third containing two bedrooms. It was reported that the County Assessors office first notes the cabins in three separate years; 1925, 1953 and 1959. Each cabin is reported to be served by its own septic system.

Our evaluation was requested following a inspection of the system by Septic Skeptic which indicated that there were problems with two of the septic systems; cabins #1 and #2. Cabin #1 was reported to have a septic tank that is in good condition. A flow test was conducted (water added to the tank to evaluate the rate at which the leachfield accepts water) and the water level in the tank rose, indicating that the leachfield was not accepting water at an acceptable rate. Cabin #2 was reported to have a cesspool which was in marginal condition. A cesspool is essentially the septic tank and leachfield all in one. All wastewater enters the 'tank' and effluent then seeps out of the sides and bottom of the 'tank', which is typically constructed of wood. We were not made aware of the history of use relating to cabins #1 and #2. It is assumed that the cabins were in regular use and to our knowledge, no reports of flow problems (plumbing back-ups) were reported. No evidence of surfacing effluent around cabins #1 and #2 (associated with a septic system failure) were noted during our site visit. The system for cabin #3 was reported to be in good condition.

We contacted the the County Environmental Health Department and no information for any septic systems on the parcels is on record.

Our visit to the site was two fold: we first investigated the make-up and condition of the leachfield serving cabin one and secondly, we evaluated the soil conditions on-site to determine what type of permitted repair disposal system the site could support.

We uncovered the piping exiting the septic tank which serves cabin #1. The pipe was found to run into a gravel filled trench which ran downhill for approximately 30 feet. The gravel within the trench was full of soil and was not accepting water at an acceptable rate. This 'leachline' was not installed properly (leachlines need to be installed level so that effluent can enter the soil along the entire trench. A trench running downhill will send all effluent to the lowest point, over-loading the bottom of the trench) and the materials used were not those available in the 50's or 60's. There are no simple mechanical repairs which could be conducted to make this trench operational. While investigating this leachline, we also uncovered what we believe was the original cesspool that historically served this cabin. We un-covered a concrete top which appeared to be installed over a wooden box. The access port to this had been filled in with concrete and the 'box' was now primarily full of soil.

Based on the configuration and condition of the leachline that serves cabin #1, we could not propose a simple fix, nor could we propose connecting cabin #2 to this system. As such, we evaluated the soils on-site to determine repair leachfield options.

The two main findings that must be made during an evaluation of a site for a repair on-site sewage disposal system are:

- 1. The presence of and depth of a seasonal groundwater condition.
- 2. The permeability of the soil.

The County codes for repair disposal system are slightly less restrictive than the codes for new construction. If the existing development is permitted, or pre-code (1974), then the County Environmental Health Department will allow a repair disposal system to be designed, no matter how challenging the site conditions may be. The depth of a seasonal groundwater condition is critical to any on-site sewage disposal system proposal because there is a required separation distance between the bottom of the leaching system and the seasonal watertable. The repair codes suggest that the system design must come as close to the codes for NEW construction as possible. The expected separation distance between a leachfield and the winter watertable is 2 feet. The type of permissible disposal system; deep trench, shallow trench, above ground system or above ground system with sewage treatment responds to this depth of seasonal groundwater and the required separation distance. Based on the need to attempt to match codes for new construction, the type of permissible system may differ significantly from what has historically served the parcel.

If a minimum two-foot separation distance beneath a system and the watertable cannot be met, then a secondary pre-treatment system must be incorporated into the design. A septic tank is considered to be primary treatment, using the anaerobic bacteria from our bodies to treat the sewage. Secondary treatment would entail the installation of an aerobic treatment tank or fixed media filter. These tanks would aerate the effluent, growing aerobic bacteria, intended to 'clean' the effluent prior to its introduction into the soil

The depth to a seasonal watertable is determined in two ways. The first is by using soil color. A specific soil color pattern, known as soil mottling, occurs when soils are saturated with water for prolonged periods. The depth to this soil color pattern may be used to indicate the depth to a seasonal watertable. The second method to determine a seasonal watertable is by direct observation. Monitoring wells are installed in the potential leachfield area and the depth to groundwater is measured weekly through the required wet weather testing period. The monitoring period opens after 20 inches of rain has fallen then must contain *two* storm events of 1 inch or more of rain within a 60-day period. It is possible that some winters do not meet the minimum rainfall requirements for the groundwater results to be acceptable.

We use the direct observation of seasonal watertable on sites where soil mottling shows the site to be restrictive (mottles above 2 feet) or where we feel that the soil mottles may not reflect the modern day groundwater conditions. Two of the soil profiles (A1 and C1) were developed into monitoring wells. If monitoring is conducted this winter and shows the groundwater levels are considerably lower than the soil mottling indicates, then a potentially less complex system could be designed.

The second main soil finding that must be made is that of soil permeability. In this County two methods are used to determine that a soil has acceptable permeability rates for an on-site disposal system. The first method is a laboratory analysis of the soil. This method is acceptable for soils with up to about 35% clay. The laboratory results obtained are converted to an allowable sewage effluent application rate and the disposal system is sized based on these values. If the results of the laboratory analysis shows the soil contains greater than 35% clay then an in-field percolation test, conducted during the winter-wet season, is required. The test consists of augering 6-inch diameter holes into the subject soil horizons and pouring water into them on a timed base. The rate at which the water level drops is then used to size the leachfield. This test can be conducted after 20 inches of rain is reached and shall be completed prior to April 15th. The percolation rate measured in this test is used to size the leaching system.

A minimum of 2 feet of permeable (and useable) soil must be demonstrated beneath the bottom of a disposal system. The depth of useable soil relates directly to the type of system that can be permitted in addition to its size.

It also must be noted that two leachfield areas must be identified and designed, one field to be built at this time and the second area to be held in reserve for a future replacement leachfield. The leachfield areas must each be sized to accommodate the wastewater flow generated from the existing development. Residential leachfields are sized based on the total number of bedrooms that exist. A flow of 150 gallons of wastewater per day is assigned to each bedroom.

A total of four augered soil profiles were conducted on the parcel. A general site map is attached which depicts their locations. The profile descriptions and what **REPAIR** system can be installed are as follow:

#### Profile A1

- 0-6" gray sandy loam
- 6-10" pale grayish brown sandy loam
- 10-18" strong brown sandy clay loam
- 18-30" yellowish brown sandy clay/heavy sandy clay loam with common reddish brown iron staining on ped faces and common gray mottles
- 30-40" gray sandy clay with common yellowish brown mottles
- 40-60" yellowish brown sandy clay loam with pale grayish brown mottles
  - Permeability questionable below 18 inches.
  - Soil mottling noted at 18 inches
  - Site could likely support an At-Grade leachfield, constructed on the soil surface. Effluent
    would be pumped to this system. Aerobic secondary effluent treatment would be
    incorporated into the design.

#### Profile C1

0-4" strong brown sandy loam

4-12" yellowish brown sandy loam

12-24" yellowish brown sandy clay loam/heavy sandy clay loam

24-36" yellowish brown sandy clay with common reddish brown and gray mottles

36-60" reddish brown sandy clay loam with many pale brown, grayish brown and gray mottles

- Permeability questionable below 24 inches.
- Soil mottling noted at 24 inches
- Site could likely support an At-Grade leachfield, constructed on the soil surface. Effluent
  would be pumped to this system. This area could likely support a system without Aerobic
  treatment

#### Profile A2

Mottled sandy clay soils noted at 14 inches

- Permeability questionable below 14 inches.
- Soil mottling noted at 14 inches
- Site could likely support an At-Grade leachfield, constructed on the soil surface. Effluent
  would be pumped to this system. Aerobic secondary effluent treatment would be
  incorporated into the design.

### Profile A3

Mottled sandy clay soils noted at 16 inches

- Permeability questionable below 16 inches.
- Soil mottling noted at 16 inches
- Site could likely support an At-Grade leachfield, constructed on the soil surface. Effluent
  would be pumped to this system. Aerobic secondary effluent treatment would be
  incorporated into the design.

Based on our initial soil profiling, it appears as if the likely leachfield configuration would be for an At-Grade. This system is a gravel bed constructed on the soil surface, then covered with imported soil, resulting in a 24 inch mounded area. The soil conditions noted in Profile C1 would likely not need to incorporate Aerobic secondary effluent treatment into the design. If these noted soil conditions are not consistent over the entire footprint of the leachfield, then the County would require aerobic treatment. The future replacement area ( as initially depicted on the site map ) would require Aerobic treatment.

As this parcel is located within the Coastal Zone, other Planning Department considerations will need to be taken into account prior to finalizing the leachfield area locations. It is likely that a biological study will need to take place, Our final design work would be conducted after any biological constraints are determined.

We also believe that it is wise to design the system to support Cabin #3, so that when it is necessary, the cabin can tie into the system.

Our initial thoughts of the system design are as follow:

- installation of a new 1,200 gallon concrete septic tank to serve cabins #2 and #3.
- re-sealing of the septic tank serving cabin #1 with the addition of risers and an effluent filter to the tank, typically we do not re-use old septic tanks. In this scenario, as the tank was reportedly installed in the late 70's and because it is shallow, we are proposing to re-use it.
- installation of a 1,500 gallon concrete pump chamber. Effluent from both septic tanks will be connected to the pump chamber
- installation of an At-Grade leachfield to serve 4 total bedrooms. The leachfield would have a rough footprint of 100 feet by 30 feet

We estimate that the cost for the above referenced system description and the abandonment of the cess-pool at cabin #2 and the tank at cabin #3 would be approximately \$55,000. If the final design does need aerobic treatment, this would incur an additional cost of \$9,000

The fees for our office to prepare a design would be \$4,500. The Environmental Health Department (EHD) fees ( plan review and permit) would be approximately \$2,500. The permit from EHD cannot be issued until the Coastal Development Permit (CDP) is issued. The Planning Department fees for the CDP are site specific and are not known at this time. Our office works with EH but others will need to be engaged to apply for the CDP.

If you have any questions regarding the work conducted or the process to complete a design, please feel free to give us a call. Thank you.

Sincerely

Andrew Kawczak

Associate





