



MEMORANDUM

DATE: JUNE 23, 2026

TO: HONORABLE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

FROM: MARK CLISER, SENIOR PLANNER

SUBJECT: LCP_2026-0003 CONSOLIDATED COASTAL DEVELOPMENT PERMIT REQUEST FOR WILDBLUE AQUACULTURE TO CULTIVATE PURPLE SEA URCHINS.

SUMMARY OF PROJECT

Wildblue Aquaculture requests the processing of a Consolidated Coastal Development Permit to cultivate purple sea urchins in Noyo Harbor for regional distribution and direct-to-consumer sales. The proposed project includes the installation and use of a land-based tank systems inside the commercial building located at 19280 S. Harbor Drive, Fort Bragg; APN: 018-150-22. All infrastructure is designed to minimize environmental impact. Operations are designed to be consistent with the goals of coastal resource protection and restoration. Subsequent to the initial application, Wildblue Aquaculture has withdrawn the proposed Floating Upweller System (FLUPSY) component from the project.

In later phases, the project may be adapted for oysters, abalone, or other viable aquaculture operations. Additional information can be found at <https://wildblueaquaculture.com/>

The project area includes development within both the County's jurisdiction and the jurisdiction of the California Coastal Commission, as shown in Figure 1. The southern highlighted portion of the subject parcel is located within County jurisdiction.

Without the Consolidated Coastal Development Permit procedure, review and approval of the Project would require the processing of separate Coastal Development Permits by both the California Coastal Commission and the County. These separate permits would be processed at different times, heard at different meetings, and likely impair analysis of the Project as a whole.

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. 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 Wildblue Aquaculture would allow for streamlined processing of this project. By authorizing the consolidation, the Board would allow the California Coastal Commission to process a Coastal Development Permit for the entirety of the project.



Figure 1. Coastal Commission and County Permit Jurisdiction

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the Resolution authorizing the processing of a Consolidated Coastal Development Permit, LCP_2026-0003, by the California Coastal Commission, for Wildblue Aquaculture to cultivate purple sea urchins within a land-based tank system, located at 19280 S. Harbor Drive, Fort Bragg; APN: 018-150-22, and authorize Chair to sign same.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1) Resolution
- 2) Application, Consolidation Request and Attachments