

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**

Resolution Number: 23- 125

Record Number: PLN-2021-17513

Assessor's Parcel Numbers: 510-011-016, 511-111-056, 511-161-005

Resolution by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Humboldt to Make the Required Findings for Certifying Compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act and Conditionally Approving the Green Diamond Resource Company Lot Line Adjustment and Joint Timber Management Plan.

WHEREAS, the owner submitted an application and evidence in support of approving the Lot Line Adjustment and Joint Timber Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the County Planning Division reviewed the submitted application and evidence and has referred the application and evidence to involved reviewing agencies for site inspections, comments and recommendations; and

WHEREAS, the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors held a duly-noticed public hearing on August 8, 2023, and reviewed, considered, and discussed the application for the Lot Line Adjustment and Joint Timber Management Plan and reviewed and considered all evidence and testimony presented at the hearing.

Now, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors makes all the following findings:

- 1. FINDING:** A Lot Line Adjustment (LLA) between four vacant parcels of approximately 80.25 acres, 104 acres, 80.35 acres, and 119.5 acres resulting in four parcels of approximately 144.55 acres, 65.6 acres, 55.35 acres, and 118.6 acres. The purpose of the LLA is to facilitate the acquisition of a community forest and conservation easement, and for lands to remain as part of Green Diamond Resource Company timber production inventory. No development is proposed and the LLA will not result in a net loss of Timber Production Zone (TPZ) lands. A JTMP is required due to the resultant parcels containing less than 160 acres of TPZ.

EVIDENCE: a) Project File: PLN-2021-17513

2. FINDING: **CEQA:** The requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act have been complied with. The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors have found the project exempt from environmental review per Section 15305(a) and Section 15061(b)(3) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

EVIDENCE: a) The LLA does not result in a change in land use or overall density and is intended to facilitate the acquisition of a community forest and conservation easement, and for lands to remain as part of Green Diamond Resource Company timber production inventory. Therefore, the project is exempt pursuant to Sections 15061(b)(3) and 15305(a) of the CEQA Guidelines. Section 15061(b)(3) applies to projects when it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, and Section 15305(a) applies to minor lot line adjustments not resulting in the creation of any new parcel.

LOT LINE ADJUSTMENT

3. FINDING: The Lot Line Adjustment application is complete.

EVIDENCE: a) Project File: PLN-2021-17513

4. FINDING: The project is consistent with the Subdivision Map Act.

EVIDENCE: a) The project consists of four parcels that were created in compliance with the Subdivision Map Act and are therefore eligible for property boundary adjustments. All four parcels are separate legal parcels per Certificate of Subdivision Compliance, Instrument No. 2022-00955.

5. FINDING: The project is consistent with the General Plan.

EVIDENCE: a) The Timberland (T) designation applies to land that is primarily suitable for growing, harvesting and production of timber. Timber production is an allowable use type within the designation. All four resultant parcels will continue to be utilized for timber production. The project is therefore consistent with the goals of the Land Use Element of the General Plan.

b) No development is proposed with the LLA, and the proposed use on the project parcels will have no impacts on lands planned for preservation and conservation of Open Space. The project is

consistent with the Open Space Plan and the Open Space Action Program.

- c) According to the County GIS there is mapped habitat for coastal cutthroat trout on a portion of the resultant Parcel C; however, no development is proposed as part of the project. The project was referred to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and they responded stating that they had no comments at this time.
- d) The County does not have record of any culturally sensitive sites located in or around the project location. The project was referred to the Northwest Information Center, the Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria, Blue Lake Rancheria, and the Wiyot Tribe. Blue Lake Rancheria and the Wiyot Tribe responded stating that they have no concerns regarding the project but do recommend that if there is to be any ground disturbance that the Wiyot Tribes be notified, and also requested that standard inadvertent archaeological discovery protocols be in place for any ground disturbing activities of the proposed project. These have been made conditions of project approval.
- e) The site is in an area of low slope instability to high slope instability and outside of any Alquist-Priolo Fault Hazard Area or developed areas mapped as historic landslides. The parcels are outside of any flood zone. The parcels are located within a high fire hazard severity zone and within the State Fire Responsibility Area where the State of California has the primary responsibility for the prevention and suppression of wildland fires. The parcels are also within the Arcata Fire Protection District who provides structural fire protection as well as responding to medical emergencies. No new development is proposed, and the project is not projected to increase hazard risk.

6. FINDING: The project conforms to zoning and building ordinances.

EVIDENCE: a) The parcels are zoned Timberland Production Zone (TPZ) and Agriculture Exclusive (AE). The project will adjust the parcel lines between four existing legal parcels in order to facilitate the acquisition of a community forest and conservation easement, and for lands to remain as part of Green Diamond Resource Company timber production inventory. The LLA will not cause a non-conformance or increase the severity of any preexisting nonconformities with zoning and building ordinances as the

reconfiguration of TPZ zoned parcels below 160 acres, but no smaller than 40 acres, is permitted with an approved JTMP, and the LLA will not change the amount of existing available AE zoned land. No development is proposed.

- b) Proposed Parcels A - D are consistent with the minimum parcel size allowed in TPZ zones. Parcels less than 160 acres but larger than 40 acres may be created in the TPZ zone provided that the requirements of Government Code Section 51119.5 are met. Consistent with Section 51119.5 of the California Government Code, a JTMP was prepared by Craig A. Compton, Registered Professional Forester. The County's Forestry Review Committee (FRC) reviewed and recommended approval of the JTMP on February 8, 2023. Pursuant to Section 51119.5, the JTMP must receive a 4/5's affirmative vote of the Board of Supervisors to become effective.

7. FINDING: The Project and the conditions under which it may be operated or maintained will not be detrimental to the public health, safety, or welfare or materially injurious to properties or improvements in the vicinity.

- EVIDENCE:**
- a) All reviewing referral agencies that responded to the County with no comment, approved, or conditionally approved the proposed project. The application is complete. Parcels to be adjusted are found to be in compliance with the Subdivision Map Act. The proposal neither causes non-conformance nor increases the severity of preexisting nonconformities with zoning and building ordinances.
 - b) The Project results in facilitating the acquisition of a community forest and conservation easement, and for lands to remain as part of Green Diamond Resource Company timber production inventory, and therefore ensures the economic viability of maintaining these properties in such open space uses.

8. FINDING: The proposed development does not reduce the residential density for any parcel below that utilized by the Department of Housing and Community Development in determining compliance with housing element law.

- EVIDENCE:**
- a) The parcels were not included in the housing inventory of Humboldt County's 2019 Housing Element and the project will not add any units to the County's housing inventory.

9. FINDING: The Joint Timber Management Plan provides for the management and harvesting of timber by the original and any subsequent owners and shall be recorded as a deed restriction.

- EVIDENCE:**
- a) The County’s Forestry Review Committee has reviewed the JTMP for its effectiveness for maintaining the ability of the resultant parcels to be effectively managed and harvested for timber and at its meeting of February 8, 2023, they recommended that the Board of Supervisors approve the JTMP.
 - b) The JTMP declaration will be executed by the property owner and will be recorded simultaneously with the Notices of Lot Line Adjustment.

DECISION

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED that the Board of Supervisors does hereby:

- Adopt the findings set forth in this resolution; and
- Conditionally approves the Lot Line Adjustment and Joint Timber Management Plan for Green Diamond Resource Company, subject to the conditions of approval attached hereto as Attachment 1A.



Steve Madrone
Chair, Board of Supervisors

Adopted on motion by Supervisor Bushnell, seconded by Supervisor Arroyo and the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors—Bushnell, Arroyo, Madrone, Bohn
NOES: Supervisors--
ABSENT: Supervisors-- Wilson
ABSTAIN: Supervisors—

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)

ss.

County of Humboldt)

I, KATHY HAYES, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, County of Humboldt, State of California, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a full, true and correct copy of the original made in the above-entitled matter by said Board of Supervisors at a meeting held in Eureka, California as the same now appears of record in my office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
set my hand and affixed the Seal of
said Board of Supervisors

KATHY HAYES
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of
the County of Humboldt, State of
California

By  _____