

BEAR RIVER BAND of the ROHNERVILLE RANCHERIA

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Humboldt Bay LLC has proposed a project in Humboldt County, CA.

The proposed location of the project includes a site of cultural significance described as:

The Wiyot village of "Tagoriok" (P-12-000090 I CA-HUM-32) was mapped in 1918 as a site containing shell midden, within the boundaries of the proposed project area. In the north end of the property, outside the proposed project area (APN 506-181-006), was a village named "Tapu't" or "howetotol" (P-12-000091 / CA-HUM-33), documented as a large village site with extensive shell midden and human remains.

Although a recent archaeological survey revealed no cultural resources, and the report states that intact features are unlikely to have survived previous disturbances, there is the possibility that cultural resources may be present beneath the asphalt on APNs 506-061-006, 506-061-007, and 506-061-028, or found in the fill deposited in a former slough channel during the SPI mill building and development phase.

If ground disturbance is proposed in the North end of the property, an intensive (non-cursory) survey with or without ground penetrating radar would be required to identify any resources present and avoid a potentially significant impact on cultural historical resources.

Due to the reported presence of Native American sites within and/or near the proposed project area, support for a finding that no significant historical resources would be adversely affected as defined by the CEQA (15064.5 (a)) would require monitoring of all ground disturbing activities that would extend to below the existing asphalt and imported fill. Monitoring of ground disturbance would allow identification and mitigation of potentially significant effects on any human remains, artifacts, or other cultural materials that may be discovered. Additional permit conditions that would be required are: 1. The THPOs and Council Chairs of the three Wiyot area Tribes shall be notified in case of inadvertent discovery, and 2. Inadvertent discovery protocols would be followed for any ground disturbing activities of the proposed project, in accordance with: the Humboldt County General Plan policies CU-P1 through CU-P5; Section 7050.5(b) and (c) of the California Health and Safety Code; Sections 5097.94(k) and (i) and 5097.98(a) and (b) of the Public Resources Code (PRC); and Sections 15064.5(d-f) and 15126.4(b) (3) of the CEQA Guidelines.

With the understanding of all information above, the Tribal Council of the Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria, a Wiyot area Tribe, is in full support of the project proposed by Humboldt Bay LLC. with the assumption that all Local, State, and Federal guidelines (including but not limited to monitoring by the Wiyot area Tribal THPO's) are followed in the planning and execution of said project.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Josefina Frank", is written over a blue circular stamp. The stamp contains the text "BEAR RIVER BAND" and "ROHNERVILLE RANCHERIA".

Josefina Frank
Tribal Chairwoman

Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria