



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

825 5TH STREET, ROOM 111
EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 95501 PHONE: (707) 476-2390

April 4, 2019

Rex Bohn, Chair
Members of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors
825 5th Street, Room #111
Eureka, California 95501

Dear Chair Bohn and Members of the Board

I am writing to express my interest in being nominated for appointment to the North Coast Regional seat on the California Coastal Commission.

The letter from Governor Newsom requesting nominations asked for “officials who are committed to and knowledgeable about coastal preservation and conservation”. I believe I meet the qualifications.

I have a B.S. in Civil Engineering, an M.S. in Environmental Systems Engineering (Humboldt State University), and over 20 years as a consulting environmental engineer working for tribes, state and local agencies, non-profits, and private business. Much of this experience involved design, environmental review, planning and permitting projects in the Coastal Zone. Examples include the Wiyot Tribe’s Indian Island environmental cleanup, shoreline protection and cultural restoration project; engineering and design for the Ma-le’l Dunes Access Plan under contract with the Coastal Conservancy; and ecological restoration for the PG&E’s Humboldt Bay Nuclear Power Plant decommissioning project. For almost twelve years, I was a member of the Board of Directors for the Friends of the Dunes. During that time, we expanded our “Bay to Dunes” education program and built the Humboldt Bay Coastal Nature Center.

For 11 years, I served as an elected commissioner on the Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District. The district was responsible for the management of public trust resources in the Humboldt Bay and Shelter Cove areas, and included a wide variety of port, public access and estuarine restoration projects. One significant project included the redevelopment of the abandoned Samoa Pulp Mill following the removal of over three million gallons of toxic waste and the reuse of important infrastructure, a warehousing and dock space that now houses 17 businesses and dozens of workers.

Since 2005, as Harbor Commissioner and now as County Supervisor, I have represented the North Humboldt Bay Area including the communities of Arcata, Manila, Bayside and Indianola.

This is a beautiful and productive landscape of farmlands, marshes, dunes as well as semi-urban residential areas and important regional infrastructure. With over 30 miles of beach and bay coastline, the district I represent encompasses a mix of private and public lands including Humboldt Bay Wildlife Refuge, Manila, Ma-le'l and Lanphere Dunes, Mad River Beach Park and the Humboldt Bay Trail.

As a professional, elected and interested citizen I have been following coastal issues in Mendocino and Del Norte Counties as well as the rest of the state. The development of the California Coastal Trail, especially the Humboldt Bay sections is an important issue. I recently worked hard to help pass SB 1029 to establish the Great Redwood Trail with a goal of connecting the San Francisco Bay and Humboldt Bay areas.

Representation of the North Coast Region on the Coastal Commission requires an official who is familiar with the concerns and opportunities surrounding protection and promotion of our public trust resources for public access and a healthy economy and environment. I believe I have the understanding and experience to be a productive and collaborative member of the Commission.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Wilson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mike Wilson, 3rd District Supervisor
County of Humboldt

MW:kh