



AGENDA ITEM NO.
C-6

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: September 5, 2017

Date: September 1, 2017

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Supervisor Virginia Bass

Subject: Letter of Support for Coast Seafood's project request before the California Coastal Commission to continue its existing aquaculture operations in Arcata Bay while reducing the size of its 300 acre operation by 21 acres

RECOMMENDATION(S): That the Board of Supervisors authorize the Chair to sign the letter of support.

SOURCE OF FUNDING: N/A

DISCUSSION: The California Coastal Commission will be considering Coast Seafood's project request at their September 13, 2017 meeting, to continue its existing aquaculture operations in Arcata Bay while reducing the size of its 300 acre operation by 21 acres. The Board of Supervisors has been asked for a letter of support for Coast Seafood's proposed project.

Aquaculture is a valuable public trust use in Humboldt Bay and an important part of Humboldt County's economy. Well managed shellfish farming can co-exist with other important bay resources and uses while protecting and enhancing high water quality. Humboldt Bay is the largest producer of oysters in California and Humboldt County and its residents continue to support this sustainable industry.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: N/A

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: N/A

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Board discretion.

ATTACHMENTS: Letter of Support.

Prepared by Kathy Hayes Signature Virginia Bass

REVIEW: Auditor _____ County Counsel _____ Personnel _____ Risk Manager _____ Other _____

TYPE OF ITEM:
 Consent
 Departmental
 Public Hearing
 Other

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
 Upon motion of Supervisor Sundberg Seconded by Supervisor Wilson
 Ayes Sundberg, Fennell, Bass, Bohn, Wilson
 Nays
 Abstain
 Absent

Board Order No. _____
 Meeting of: _____

and carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the recommended action contained in this Board report.

1 Dated: Sep. 5, 2017
 By: Kathy Hayes
 Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

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

July 25, 2017

Jack Ainsworth, Executive Director
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite # 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Dear Director Ainsworth and Honorable Coastal Commissioners:

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors would like to offer our support for Coast Seafood's proposed project in Arcata Bay to continue its existing aquaculture operations while reducing the size of its 300 acre operations by roughly 21 acres.

We believe that the current proposed project addresses many of the concerns raised during the June 7, 2017 Coastal Commission meeting by consolidating oyster farming operations and by implementing appropriate mitigation measures as recommended by Coastal Commission staff to address negative impacts going forward.

Humboldt County has long supported oyster farming in Humboldt Bay and our Board fully understands the impact the loss of approximately 70 living wage jobs could have on our local economy. We are also committed to good resource management and the use of sound science in protecting the bay's water.

As such, our Board respectfully requests your favorable approval of the proposed Coast Seafood application. Thank you for your consideration of this very important project.

Sincerely,

Virginia Bass, Chair
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

VB:kh