

Nordic Public Comments

Supporting

From: [Cayetano Reynoso](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 11:37:58 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

Dear Members of the Humboldt Planning Commission, I work in the Northern California construction industry as a member of Operating Engineers Local 3, and I am writing today in support of the Nordic fish farm project, which would be built on the property of the old Samoa pulp mill facility.

This project will help people like me, who work in Northern California. It will also give training opportunities for apprentices, so we can grow the next generation of skilled working people. We need good jobs like this in the community, so we can support our families. We also need local jobs, so we don't have to travel many miles for work and spend our money elsewhere. COVID has drastically affected the tourism industry in this county and our economy, and things will only get worse, unless we create jobs that are careers. The Nordic fish farm is one of those.

Furthermore, this project will clean up an abandoned site and turn it into something our community can be proud of. With this fish farm, Humboldt County can continue our long tradition of helping feed California, and do it in a sustainable way. With the decline of the timber industry, we need projects like this to sustain the economic prosperity and employment opportunities in this region.

Humboldt County needs good-paying, long-term jobs, and the Nordic fish farm will give us that opportunity. Please take this letter of support into consideration during your open comment period.

Cayetano Reynoso
Sacramento

Regards,
Cayetano Reynoso
2807 Pasadena Ave
Sacramento, CA 95821

From: [Chris Dorn](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 9:51:54 AM

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Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

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Chris Dorn
North San Juan

Regards,
Chris Dorn
202 Ridge Rd
North San Juan, CA 95960

From: [Cory Allbritton](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 10:22:01 AM

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Cory Allbritton
Healdsburg

Regards,
Cory Allbritton
240 Alexandria Dr
Healdsburg, CA 95448

From: [Dave Rowe](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 9:16:48 AM

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Dave Rowe
Redding

Regards,
Dave Rowe
4855 Caterpillar Rd
Redding, CA 96003

From: [George Steffensen](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 10:15:38 AM

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Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

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George Steffensen
Santa Rosa

Regards,
George Steffensen
2512 Magowan Dr
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

From: [Gregory Silva](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 9:23:21 AM

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Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

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Gregory Silva
Plumas Lake

Regards,
Gregory Silva
1333 Bertas Ct
Plumas Lake, CA 95961

From: [Jeffrey Hunerlach](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Saturday, July 23, 2022 7:15:53 AM

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Jeffrey Hunerlach
Eureka

Regards,
Jeffrey Hunerlach
1821 Buhne Dr
Eureka, CA 95503

From: [Jerry seiff](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 10:00:00 AM

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Jerry seiff
Oroville

Regards,
Jerry seiff
52 Powell Ridge Rd
Oroville, CA 95966

From: [Jesse Jimenez](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Saturday, July 23, 2022 6:29:21 AM

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Jesse Jimenez
Newark

Regards,
Jesse Jimenez
35768 Haley St
Newark, CA 94560

From: [John Solari](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 10:31:43 AM

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Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

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John Solari
Petaluma

Regards,
John Solari
185 McBrown Rd
Petaluma, CA 94952

From: [Justin Bochmann](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 10:37:49 AM

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Justin Bochmann
Sacramento

Regards,
Justin Bochmann
3807 Pasadena Ave
Sacramento, CA 95821

From: [Manuel Morales](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 10:14:40 AM

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Manuel Morales
Rohnert Park

Regards,
Manuel Morales
1572 Gretchen Ct
Rohnert Park, CA 94928

From: [Mario Rodriguez](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 12:08:47 PM

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Mario Rodriguez
Sacramento

Regards,
Mario Rodriguez
3807 Pasadena Ave
Sacramento, CA 95821

From: [Rachel Hunerlach](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 3:31:50 PM

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Rachel Hunerlach
Eureka

Regards,
Rachel Hunerlach
1821 Buhne Dr
Eureka, CA 95503

From: [Steve Stewart](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 12:30:55 PM

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Steve Stewart
Oroville

Regards,
Steve Stewart
1300 7th St
Oroville, CA 95965

From: [Tyler Charlton](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 9:14:18 AM

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Tyler Charlton
Browns Valley

Regards,
Tyler Charlton
5534 Marysville Rd
Browns Valley, CA 95918

From: [Arturo Sainz](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 1:49:37 PM

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Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

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Arturo Sainz
Sacramento

Regards,
Arturo Sainz
3807 Pasadena Ave
Sacramento, CA 95821

From: [Haley, Mike](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: Public Comment for July 28, 2022 Planning Commission Meeting, Agenda Item G1
Date: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 2:45:53 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Planning Commission,

College of the Redwoods is committed to supporting the aquaculture industry in Humboldt County, both in long-standing mariculture endeavors and in emerging fields. As part of this commitment, the college is currently in the process of hiring a full-time aquaculture faculty member, and we are engaged in writing curriculum that would lead to both a certificate of achievement and an associate's degree in aquaculture. We anticipate that we can begin offering these courses during the fall 2023 semester.

For the last several years, our college has worked collaboratively with people at Nordic Aquaculture as we develop these new educational programs. The college is strongly supportive of Nordic Aquafarms' project on the peninsula, and we look forward to providing industry-relevant training to our community to help prepare for the job opportunities that will result from this project.

Thank you,
Mike Haley

Mike Haley
Interim Dean, Career Education
College of the Redwoods
7351 Tompkins Hill Road
Eureka, CA 95501
707-476-4341

County of Humboldt
Planning Commission
825 Fifth Street
Board of Supervisors Chambers
Eureka, California

Re: Planning Commission Hearing | Thursday, July 28, 2022 | Agenda item G.1.:
Nordic Aquafarms California, LLC; Coastal Development Permit and Special Permit
Record Number PLN-2020-16698 (filed 10-05-20)
Assessor's Parcel Number (APN): 401-112-021
Samoa area

Position: Support

I am writing on behalf of the California Aquaculture Association (CAA)ⁱ, a producer-supported association representing finfish, shellfish, and algae growers and seafood related businesses throughout California.

CAA would like to express its support for Nordic Aquafarms' Coastal Development Permit and Special Permit for their Samoa Peninsula Land-based Aquaculture Project (the Project).

The Food and Agriculture Organization's State of the World Fisheries report estimates that 93% of wild fish stocks worldwide are fished at maximum sustainable levelsⁱⁱ. Wild fisheries are managed well in California, but there are only so many fish that the ocean can sustainably produce. And with the world population projected to increase from the current 7.7 billion (2019) to 9.7 billion by 2050ⁱⁱⁱ, the demand for consumable proteins, including finfish, will only increase in the decades to come. Aquaculture is needed to supplement this demand.

Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic has made it clear the need to increase food security in the United States. The U.S. imports 80% to 90% of its seafood^{iv}, approximately 50% of which is produced by way of aquaculture^v. Consumers in this country are eating farmed fish already, it's just not coming from our own farmers. We need to be producing more seafood domestically, and Nordic Aquafarms' Project will do just that.

Also, aquaculture is the most efficient and sustainable method of protein production; far superior to chicken, pork, or cattle.^{vi} The feed conversion ratio for finfish aquaculture is very low, averaging approximately 1.15:1 (approximately 1.15 lbs of feed used to produce 1 lb of flesh).^{vii} Additionally, the use of wild fish protein and oil in aquaculture feed has been decreasing because of an increased use of plant-based feed substitutes. The "fish in, fish out" (FiFo) ratio, the amount of wild fish needed in feed to produce a pound of farmed fish, when averaged across species, is equal to or less than 0.5:1 (approximately 0.5 lbs of wild fish used to produce 1 lb of farmed fish) for current worldwide aquaculture production.^{viii}

Biosecurity is a top concern and priority of all who share our natural resources, and Nordic Aquafarms' Project addresses these concerns directly. As outlined in the Project's Escape Prevention, Containment Management, and Contingency Plan^{ix}, Nordic Aquafarms will employ a Closed Containment Systems (CCS), which significantly minimizes the possibility of fish escapement by system design. CAA agrees that Nordic Aquafarms has, as stated in their Project proposal, 'gone beyond most standards that require risk-based engineering, design, dimensioning, and construction to virtually arrive at an escape-proof facility and farm site'.



The continued development of our state's aquaculture industry will be vital to meet the growing demand for seafood in California and throughout the United States. Nordic Aquafarms' Project will create jobs and provide economic opportunities that are currently being lost to other states and countries.

Nordic Aquafarms is furthering the much-needed development of large-scale finfish production and, as such, CAA fully supports their Project.

If you have any questions or would like to speak more about this, please contact me at info@caaquaculture.org or 916-246-6349.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "MLL", is positioned above the name Michael Lee.

Michael Lee, Executive Director

ⁱ The California Aquaculture Association (CAA) is a producer-supported association representing finfish, shellfish, and algae growers and seafood related businesses throughout California since 1983. The CAA promotes commercial production of plants and animals in aquatic systems to satisfy the needs of consumers for wholesome products that are produced by sustainable means conserving California's land and water resources.

ⁱⁱ FAO, State of World Fisheries, p. 40.

ⁱⁱⁱ United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, World Population Prospects 2019, p.1.

^{iv} NMFS, Office of Science and Technology, Fisheries of the United States, 2017 Report, Current Fishery Statistics No. 2017, September 2018, p. 114.

^v Hauke L. Kite-Powell, Michael C. Rubino, and Bruce Morehead, "The Future of U.S. Seafood Supply," *Aquaculture Economics & Management*, vol. 17, no. 3 (August 2013), p. 229.

^{vi} Global Aquaculture Alliance, Why It Matters, <http://aquaculturealliance.org/what-we-do/why-it-matters/>

^{vii} Trine Ytrestoyl, Turid Synnove Aas, and Torbjorn Asgard, "Utilization of Feed Resources in Production of Atlantic Salmon," *Aquaculture*, vol. 448 (2015), pp. 365-374.

^{viii} NOAA Fisheries, Office of Aquaculture, *Feeds for Aquaculture*.

^{ix} Page 40, <https://humboldt.gov.org/DocumentCenter/View/102296/20-Project-Description-PDF>

From: [Cayetano Reynoso](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 11:37:58 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

Dear Members of the Humboldt Planning Commission, I work in the Northern California construction industry as a member of Operating Engineers Local 3, and I am writing today in support of the Nordic fish farm project, which would be built on the property of the old Samoa pulp mill facility.

This project will help people like me, who work in Northern California. It will also give training opportunities for apprentices, so we can grow the next generation of skilled working people. We need good jobs like this in the community, so we can support our families. We also need local jobs, so we don't have to travel many miles for work and spend our money elsewhere. COVID has drastically affected the tourism industry in this county and our economy, and things will only get worse, unless we create jobs that are careers. The Nordic fish farm is one of those.

Furthermore, this project will clean up an abandoned site and turn it into something our community can be proud of. With this fish farm, Humboldt County can continue our long tradition of helping feed California, and do it in a sustainable way. With the decline of the timber industry, we need projects like this to sustain the economic prosperity and employment opportunities in this region.

Humboldt County needs good-paying, long-term jobs, and the Nordic fish farm will give us that opportunity. Please take this letter of support into consideration during your open comment period.

Cayetano Reynoso
Sacramento

Regards,
Cayetano Reynoso
2807 Pasadena Ave
Sacramento, CA 95821

From: [Chris Dorn](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 9:51:54 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

Dear Members of the Humboldt Planning Commission, I work in the Northern California construction industry as a member of Operating Engineers Local 3, and I am writing today in support of the Nordic fish farm project, which would be built on the property of the old Samoa pulp mill facility.

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Humboldt County needs good-paying, long-term jobs, and the Nordic fish farm will give us that opportunity. Please take this letter of support into consideration during your open comment period.

Chris Dorn
North San Juan

Regards,
Chris Dorn
202 Ridge Rd
North San Juan, CA 95960

From: [Cory Allbritton](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 10:22:01 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

Dear Members of the Humboldt Planning Commission, I work in the Northern California construction industry as a member of Operating Engineers Local 3, and I am writing today in support of the Nordic fish farm project, which would be built on the property of the old Samoa pulp mill facility.

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Humboldt County needs good-paying, long-term jobs, and the Nordic fish farm will give us that opportunity. Please take this letter of support into consideration during your open comment period.

Cory Allbritton
Healdsburg

Regards,
Cory Allbritton
240 Alexandria Dr
Healdsburg, CA 95448

From: [Dave Rowe](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 9:16:48 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

Dear Members of the Humboldt Planning Commission, I work in the Northern California construction industry as a member of Operating Engineers Local 3, and I am writing today in support of the Nordic fish farm project, which would be built on the property of the old Samoa pulp mill facility.

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Humboldt County needs good-paying, long-term jobs, and the Nordic fish farm will give us that opportunity. Please take this letter of support into consideration during your open comment period.

Dave Rowe
Redding

Regards,
Dave Rowe
4855 Caterpillar Rd
Redding, CA 96003

From: [George Steffensen](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 10:15:38 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

Dear Members of the Humboldt Planning Commission, I work in the Northern California construction industry as a member of Operating Engineers Local 3, and I am writing today in support of the Nordic fish farm project, which would be built on the property of the old Samoa pulp mill facility.

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Humboldt County needs good-paying, long-term jobs, and the Nordic fish farm will give us that opportunity. Please take this letter of support into consideration during your open comment period.

George Steffensen
Santa Rosa

Regards,
George Steffensen
2512 Magowan Dr
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

From: [Gregory Silva](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 9:23:21 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

Dear Members of the Humboldt Planning Commission, I work in the Northern California construction industry as a member of Operating Engineers Local 3, and I am writing today in support of the Nordic fish farm project, which would be built on the property of the old Samoa pulp mill facility.

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Humboldt County needs good-paying, long-term jobs, and the Nordic fish farm will give us that opportunity. Please take this letter of support into consideration during your open comment period.

Gregory Silva
Plumas Lake

Regards,
Gregory Silva
1333 Bertas Ct
Plumas Lake, CA 95961

From: [Jeffrey Hunerlach](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Saturday, July 23, 2022 7:15:53 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

Dear Members of the Humboldt Planning Commission, I work in the Northern California construction industry as a member of Operating Engineers Local 3, and I am writing today in support of the Nordic fish farm project, which would be built on the property of the old Samoa pulp mill facility.

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Humboldt County needs good-paying, long-term jobs, and the Nordic fish farm will give us that opportunity. Please take this letter of support into consideration during your open comment period.

Jeffrey Hunerlach
Eureka

Regards,
Jeffrey Hunerlach
1821 Buhne Dr
Eureka, CA 95503

From: [Jerry seiff](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 10:00:00 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

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Humboldt County needs good-paying, long-term jobs, and the Nordic fish farm will give us that opportunity. Please take this letter of support into consideration during your open comment period.

Jerry seiff
Oroville

Regards,
Jerry seiff
52 Powell Ridge Rd
Oroville, CA 95966

From: [Jesse Jimenez](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Saturday, July 23, 2022 6:29:21 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

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Jesse Jimenez
Newark

Regards,
Jesse Jimenez
35768 Haley St
Newark, CA 94560

From: [John Solari](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 10:31:43 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

Dear Members of the Humboldt Planning Commission, I work in the Northern California construction industry as a member of Operating Engineers Local 3, and I am writing today in support of the Nordic fish farm project, which would be built on the property of the old Samoa pulp mill facility.

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John Solari
Petaluma

Regards,
John Solari
185 McBrown Rd
Petaluma, CA 94952

From: [Justin Bochmann](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 10:37:49 AM

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Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

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Justin Bochmann
Sacramento

Regards,
Justin Bochmann
3807 Pasadena Ave
Sacramento, CA 95821

From: [Manuel Morales](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 10:14:40 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

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Manuel Morales
Rohnert Park

Regards,
Manuel Morales
1572 Gretchen Ct
Rohnert Park, CA 94928

From: [Mario Rodriguez](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 12:08:47 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

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Mario Rodriguez
Sacramento

Regards,
Mario Rodriguez
3807 Pasadena Ave
Sacramento, CA 95821

From: [Rachel Hunerlach](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 3:31:50 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

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Rachel Hunerlach
Eureka

Regards,
Rachel Hunerlach
1821 Buhne Dr
Eureka, CA 95503

From: [Steve Stewart](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 12:30:55 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

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Steve Stewart
Oroville

Regards,
Steve Stewart
1300 7th St
Oroville, CA 95965

From: [Tyler Charlton](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Friday, July 22, 2022 9:14:18 AM

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

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Tyler Charlton
Browns Valley

Regards,
Tyler Charlton
5534 Marysville Rd
Browns Valley, CA 95918

From: [Arturo Sainz](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: I support the Nordic fish farm project!
Date: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 1:49:37 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

Dear Members of the Humboldt Planning Commission, I work in the Northern California construction industry as a member of Operating Engineers Local 3, and I am writing today in support of the Nordic fish farm project, which would be built on the property of the old Samoa pulp mill facility.

This project will help people like me, who work in Northern California. It will also give training opportunities for apprentices, so we can grow the next generation of skilled working people. We need good jobs like this in the community, so we can support our families. We also need local jobs, so we don't have to travel many miles for work and spend our money elsewhere. COVID has drastically affected the tourism industry in this county and our economy, and things will only get worse, unless we create jobs that are careers. The Nordic fish farm is one of those.

Furthermore, this project will clean up an abandoned site and turn it into something our community can be proud of. With this fish farm, Humboldt County can continue our long tradition of helping feed California, and do it in a sustainable way. With the decline of the timber industry, we need projects like this to sustain the economic prosperity and employment opportunities in this region.

Humboldt County needs good-paying, long-term jobs, and the Nordic fish farm will give us that opportunity. Please take this letter of support into consideration during your open comment period.

Arturo Sainz
Sacramento

Regards,
Arturo Sainz
3807 Pasadena Ave
Sacramento, CA 95821

From: [Haley, Mike](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: Public Comment for July 28, 2022 Planning Commission Meeting, Agenda Item G1
Date: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 2:45:53 PM

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Planning Commission,

College of the Redwoods is committed to supporting the aquaculture industry in Humboldt County, both in long-standing mariculture endeavors and in emerging fields. As part of this commitment, the college is currently in the process of hiring a full-time aquaculture faculty member, and we are engaged in writing curriculum that would lead to both a certificate of achievement and an associate's degree in aquaculture. We anticipate that we can begin offering these courses during the fall 2023 semester.

For the last several years, our college has worked collaboratively with people at Nordic Aquaculture as we develop these new educational programs. The college is strongly supportive of Nordic Aquafarms' project on the peninsula, and we look forward to providing industry-relevant training to our community to help prepare for the job opportunities that will result from this project.

Thank you,
Mike Haley

Mike Haley
Interim Dean, Career Education
College of the Redwoods
7351 Tompkins Hill Road
Eureka, CA 95501
707-476-4341

County of Humboldt
Planning Commission
825 Fifth Street
Board of Supervisors Chambers
Eureka, California

Re: Planning Commission Hearing | Thursday, July 28, 2022 | Agenda item G.1.:
Nordic Aquafarms California, LLC; Coastal Development Permit and Special Permit
Record Number PLN-2020-16698 (filed 10-05-20)
Assessor's Parcel Number (APN): 401-112-021
Samoa area

Position: Support

I am writing on behalf of the California Aquaculture Association (CAA)ⁱ, a producer-supported association representing finfish, shellfish, and algae growers and seafood related businesses throughout California.

CAA would like to express its support for Nordic Aquafarms' Coastal Development Permit and Special Permit for their Samoa Peninsula Land-based Aquaculture Project (the Project).

The Food and Agriculture Organization's State of the World Fisheries report estimates that 93% of wild fish stocks worldwide are fished at maximum sustainable levelsⁱⁱ. Wild fisheries are managed well in California, but there are only so many fish that the ocean can sustainably produce. And with the world population projected to increase from the current 7.7 billion (2019) to 9.7 billion by 2050ⁱⁱⁱ, the demand for consumable proteins, including finfish, will only increase in the decades to come. Aquaculture is needed to supplement this demand.

Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic has made it clear the need to increase food security in the United States. The U.S. imports 80% to 90% of its seafood^{iv}, approximately 50% of which is produced by way of aquaculture^v. Consumers in this country are eating farmed fish already, it's just not coming from our own farmers. We need to be producing more seafood domestically, and Nordic Aquafarms' Project will do just that.

Also, aquaculture is the most efficient and sustainable method of protein production; far superior to chicken, pork, or cattle.^{vi} The feed conversion ratio for finfish aquaculture is very low, averaging approximately 1.15:1 (approximately 1.15 lbs of feed used to produce 1 lb of flesh).^{vii} Additionally, the use of wild fish protein and oil in aquaculture feed has been decreasing because of an increased use of plant-based feed substitutes. The "fish in, fish out" (FiFo) ratio, the amount of wild fish needed in feed to produce a pound of farmed fish, when averaged across species, is equal to or less than 0.5:1 (approximately 0.5 lbs of wild fish used to produce 1 lb of farmed fish) for current worldwide aquaculture production.^{viii}

Biosecurity is a top concern and priority of all who share our natural resources, and Nordic Aquafarms' Project addresses these concerns directly. As outlined in the Project's Escape Prevention, Containment Management, and Contingency Plan^{ix}, Nordic Aquafarms will employ a Closed Containment Systems (CCS), which significantly minimizes the possibility of fish escapement by system design. CAA agrees that Nordic Aquafarms has, as stated in their Project proposal, 'gone beyond most standards that require risk-based engineering, design, dimensioning, and construction to virtually arrive at an escape-proof facility and farm site'.



The continued development of our state's aquaculture industry will be vital to meet the growing demand for seafood in California and throughout the United States. Nordic Aquafarms' Project will create jobs and provide economic opportunities that are currently being lost to other states and countries.

Nordic Aquafarms is furthering the much-needed development of large-scale finfish production and, as such, CAA fully supports their Project.

If you have any questions or would like to speak more about this, please contact me at info@caaquaculture.org or 916-246-6349.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "MLL", is positioned above the name Michael Lee.

Michael Lee, Executive Director

ⁱ The California Aquaculture Association (CAA) is a producer-supported association representing finfish, shellfish, and algae growers and seafood related businesses throughout California since 1983. The CAA promotes commercial production of plants and animals in aquatic systems to satisfy the needs of consumers for wholesome products that are produced by sustainable means conserving California's land and water resources.

ⁱⁱ FAO, State of World Fisheries, p. 40.

ⁱⁱⁱ United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, World Population Prospects 2019, p.1.

^{iv} NMFS, Office of Science and Technology, Fisheries of the United States, 2017 Report, Current Fishery Statistics No. 2017, September 2018, p. 114.

^v Hauke L. Kite-Powell, Michael C. Rubino, and Bruce Morehead, "The Future of U.S. Seafood Supply," *Aquaculture Economics & Management*, vol. 17, no. 3 (August 2013), p. 229.

^{vi} Global Aquaculture Alliance, Why It Matters, <http://aquaculturealliance.org/what-we-do/why-it-matters/>

^{vii} Trine Ytrestoyl, Turid Synnove Aas, and Torbjorn Asgard, "Utilization of Feed Resources in Production of Atlantic Salmon," *Aquaculture*, vol. 448 (2015), pp. 365-374.

^{viii} NOAA Fisheries, Office of Aquaculture, *Feeds for Aquaculture*.

^{ix} Page 40, <https://humboldt.gov.org/DocumentCenter/View/102296/20-Project-Description-PDF>