

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

CENTRAL COAST AND NORTH CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT OFFICES
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**NOTICE OF PROPOSED PERMIT WAIVER**

Date: April 4, 2013
To: All Interested Parties
From: Madeline Cavalieri, North Central Coast District Manager *MC for MC*
Nicholas Dreher, Coastal Analyst
Subject: Coastal Development Permit (CDP) Waiver 2-12-012-W
Applicant: Peter Grenell, San Mateo County Harbor District

Proposed Development

The proposed project includes clamshell bucket dredging of 5,600 cubic yards of material at an existing boat launch ramp and disposal within the Pillar Point Harbor breakwater at the Perch Beach disposal site. The dredged materials will be placed into dump trucks and transported via an existing roadway to the disposal site. The disposal will cover an area of approximately two-thirds of an acre. Dredging is expected to take approximately 25 days to complete. The dredged material will have containment k-rails and silt buffers, to remain for approximately 30 days, to prevent migration of materials into adjacent waters until ready to vegetate. As part of the proposed project, the Applicant will continue evaluating alternative disposal sites for beneficial reuse of materials associated with future dredging activities at the Harbor.

Executive Director's Waiver Determination

Pursuant to Title 14, Section 13252(e) of the California Code of Regulations, and based on project plans and information submitted by the Applicant regarding the proposed development, the Executive Director of the California Coastal Commission hereby waives the requirement for a CDP for the following reasons:

The proposed dredging activities are necessary to open up boat launch ramps, which are presently not usable due to sediment build-up (only one out of the four available docks/ramps is operable). The project materials demonstrate dredging at this location is not expected to result in significant impacts to coastal resources. The site does not contain sensitive habitats, such as eelgrass. The removal of the material will open up docks and ramps used by the Harbor and the public for fishing and recreational opportunities. The disposed materials will not significantly impact public access, because the existing nearby kayak rental company will not be impacted and there is still direct access from the Perch Beach site to the Harbor waters. The disposed materials will be contained on three sides with silt containment systems, and on two sides (to the west and south) with concrete k-rails to ensure sediment does not migrate to Harbor waters and/or sensitive habitats during dewatering. The Applicant has received all necessary federal, state and local approvals for the proposed project.

It is noted that the Applicant is committed to seeking alternative dredge material disposal sites, such as along the Princeton Shoreline and at Surfer's Beach (south of the Harbor), for future dredge projects. It is possible that such alternative sites would provide important beach nourishment benefits, but they are not timely available at this point (e.g., these other sites are currently being evaluated by the Army Corps,

NOTICE OF PROPOSED PERMIT WAIVER

CDP Waiver 2-12-012-W (Pillar Point Harbor Dredging)

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the County, and others, but approvals would appear to be some time off). Given the need to open up the dock and ramp area for use in the near term, including for the start of salmon fishing season on April 6, 2013, the proposed project makes sense in the short term. For all of the above reasons, including the Applicant's commitment to pursuing evaluation of nearby beach nourishment sites for future dredging episodes, any impacts of the development on coastal resources or coastal access are insignificant, and the proposed project is consistent with Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act.

Coastal Commission Review Procedure

This waiver is not valid until the waiver has been reported to the Coastal Commission. This waiver is proposed to be reported to the Commission on Thursday, April 11, 2013, in Santa Barbara. If three Commissioners object to this waiver at that time, then the application shall be processed as a regular CDP application.

If you have any questions about the proposal or wish to register an objection, please contact Nicholas Dreher in the North Central Coast District office.

April 4, 2013

California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105

Re: Proposed Waiver for San Mateo County Harbor District Dredging at Pillar Point Harbor

Commissioners:

My concerns with the proposed launch ramp dredging project placing dredge material at Perched Beach are two-fold:

Perched Beach was originally intended to mitigate for lost beach from harbor development. This area has already been impaired as a beach due to excess dredge material placed there more recently during two previous launch ramp dredging events. The excess dredge has led to weed growth and a steeper descent to the water. To place four additional feet of dredge over two thirds of the beach will make water access steep and difficult for most of the width of the beach. Please do not allow this decrease in beach access and area for small watercraft events so suitable for Perched Beach.

My other concern is nearby eroded beaches crying out for sand nourishment. A reasonable quick alternative would be to combine the launch ramp dredging project with the Harbor District's high priority West Trail erosion repairs for which engineering studies and estimates were completed a year ago, along with project budget allocation for current fiscal year. That comparable size project could be completed with the dredge material instead of hard armoring as the Harbor District proposes. The West Shoreline Trail is a very popular harbor coastal access trail that is in danger of being closed due to erosion.

Please deny the waiver and require a full Coastal Development Permit for this project.

Sincerely,

Lisa Ketcham
172 Culebra Lane
Moss Beach, CA 94038

From: April Armijo [mailto:aprilarmijo@hotmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, April 04, 2013 8:44 AM

To: Dreher, Nicholas@Coastal

Subject: Please, save our beach letter attached

Please preserve our beach access

April 4, 2013

Nick Dreher
CCC Coastal Analyst
California Coastal Commission

Mr. Dreher and Members of the California Coastal Commission,

I object to the proposed waiver for dredging, and filling in existing beach access at Pillar Point Harbor.

Perched Beach provides important public beach access. This beach has long been used for Outrigger Canoe races, kayak gatherings, sailing regattas, and other large group activities. The proposed dredge and fill of the beach will eliminate over 200' of beach access forever.

I have the following comments and proposed conditions:

1. This is not an emergency. The launch ramp area is located at a stream outfall, causing silt build-up, and dredging events have occurred in 1999, and 2006, and will occur in the future. The Harbor District has had over 6 years to find a suitable site for the dredge material, and apply for permits.
2. Any sand placed on Perched Beach should not take away beach access. The boat launch area could be made usable with many fewer yards of dredging than is being proposed. If more sand is dredged than will fit onto Perched Beach without losing 200' of public access to the water, than the excess sand should be stored elsewhere. This dredging will likely occur every 6-7 years in the future, and another site for the sand will have to be found. Filling in public access to California waterways is not an appropriate use for dredged sand.
3. Any material placed on site that does not conform to a usable sloping contour should be removed and full beach access restored within a period of one year.
4. Any beach access lost must be mitigated by harbor beach access in another location, with similar access to parking, bathrooms, and the safe pedestrian crossing at HWY1.

Please save our beach access for future generations.

Respectfully,

April Lee Armijo

Please preserve our beach access

April 3, 2013

Nick Dreher
CCC Coastal Analyst
California Coastal Commission

Mr. Dreher and Members of the California Coastal Commission

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Please save our beach access for future generations.

Respectfully,

April Lee Armijo

From: Neil & Jennifer Merrilees [<mailto:mermade4@yahoo.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, April 02, 2013 1:05 PM

To: Dreher, Nicholas@Coastal

Subject: Re: Pillar Point Dredge Project (2-12-012)

Nick

I am interested in objecting to the proposed waiver for the placing of dredging material on Perched Beach.

I feel that the substantial loss of public beach access should be prevented or mitigated.
of Could you place me on a notification list for the waiver?

Thank you

Neil Merrilees
215 Mirada Road
Half Moon Bay, CA 94019
(650) 728-3813

-----Original Message-----

From: Lennie Roberts [<mailto:ennie@darwin.ptvy.ca.us>]

Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2013 7:38 PM

To: Dreher, Nicholas@Coastal

Subject: SMC Harbor District dredging

Hi Nicholas, Could you please add me (on behalf of Committee for Green Foothills) to the list for notification of the proposed waiver regarding dredging for the boat launch ramp at the Harbor? CGF would like to object.

Thanks,

Lennie