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**Humboldt Bay**  
**Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District**  
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**NOTICE OF PREPARTION OF DRAFT EIR**

**SUBJECT:** Notice of Preparation of Coast Seafoods Shellfish Aquaculture Draft EIR

**PROJECT TITLE:** Coast Seafoods Company Humboldt Bay Shellfish Permit Renewal and Expansion Project

**PROJECT LOCATION:** Humboldt Bay

**APPLICANT:** Coast Seafoods Company  
25 Waterfront Drive  
Eureka, CA 95501

**LEAD AGENCY:** Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation, and Conservation District

The Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation, and Conservation District (“Harbor District”) prepared a draft Initial Study for the proposed project. Based on comments received, the Harbor District has determined that an Environmental Impact Report (“EIR”) will be prepared. Interested public agencies, organizations and individuals are invited to comment on the scope of the EIR. Comments already received on the draft Initial Study will be addressed in the Draft EIR and incorporated therein.

**Notice of Preparation of Draft Environmental Impact Report**

**Comments on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) must be received no later than 5:00 p.m., Monday, September 21, 2015 or within 30 days after your receipt of the NOP as indicated by certified mail, whichever is later.**

The project description, location, and an analysis indicating potential environmental impacts of the proposed project are provided in the NOP/Final Initial Study, which is available for public review at the Harbor District offices, located at 601 Startare Drive, Eureka. A copy will also be made available on the Harbor District’s website, <http://humboldtby.org/>. The following is a brief summary of the proposed project:

The project involves: (1) extending regulatory approvals for Coast’s existing approximate 300 acres of shellfish culture, with the exception of a 5.5 acre area where farming will be discontinued; (2) increasing shellfish culture within an already permitted floating upwelling system by adding eight culture bins; and (3) permitting an additional 622 acres of intertidal culture area. Within a maximum of 522 acres, a cultch-on-longline method would be used. Spacing between the lines would be five (5) feet between longlines with a ten (10) foot row between shellfish beds. Basket-on-longline culture would be used on a maximum of 96 acres with three (3) lines spaced five (5) feet apart, with an open row of twenty (20) feet, and then repeated. Rack-and-bag culture would be used on a maximum of four acres and would not be placed within ten (10) feet of an eelgrass bed. The Project only involves culture of the same species that Coast currently cultures (Kumamoto oyster, Pacific oyster and Manila clam). The project would occur entirely in areas currently leased by Coast in Humboldt Bay and that are part of Coast’s historic operational footprint in the bay.

Your comments regarding the forthcoming EIR must be written and submitted to:

Adam Wagschal, Deputy Director  
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Email: [awagschal@humboldtby.org](mailto:awagschal@humboldtby.org)