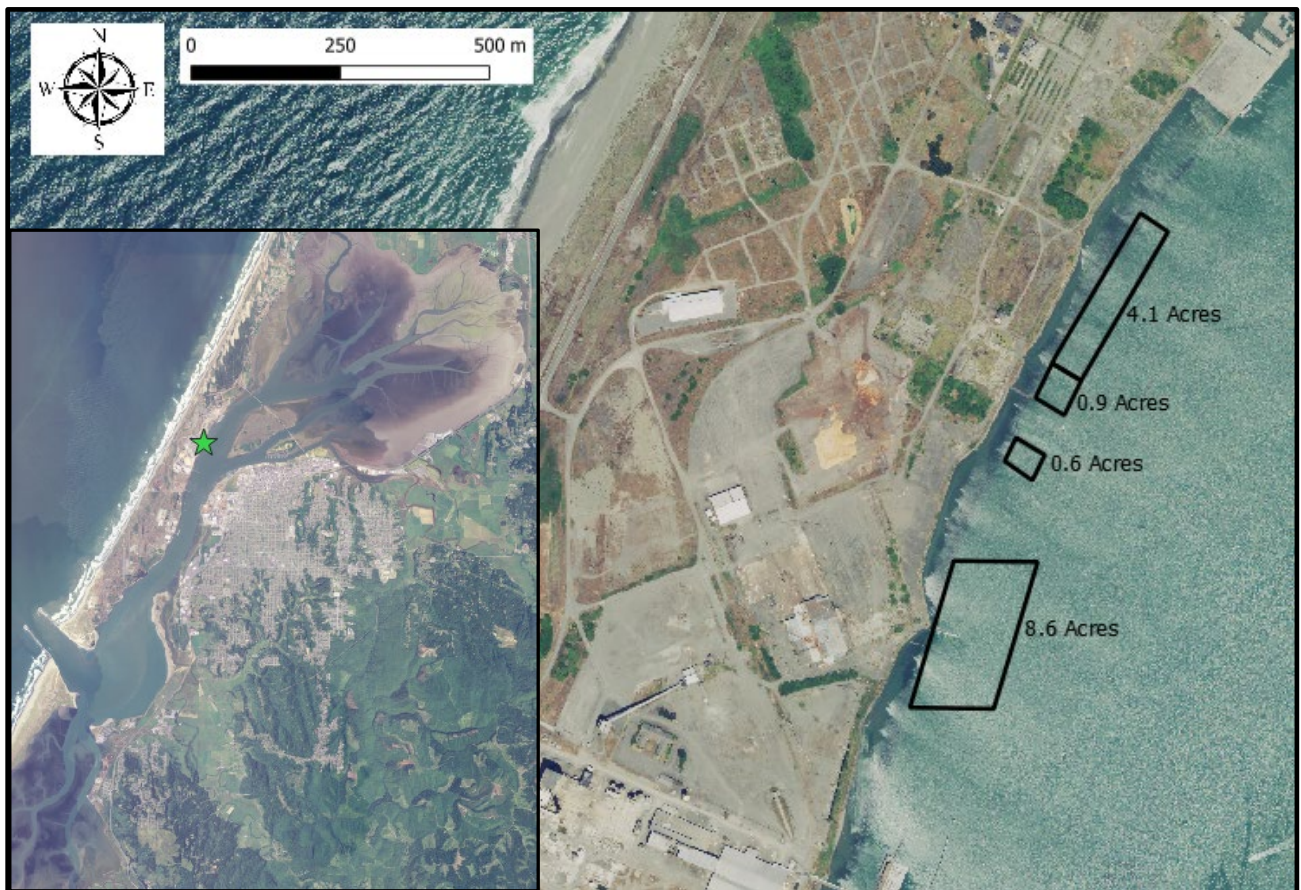


**Humboldt Bay Harbor District – Mariculture Pre-Permitting Project**  
Request for Letters of Interest  
September 30, 2019

The Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District has permitted specific sites in Humboldt Bay for nursery culture of Kumamoto oysters, Pacific oysters and Manila clams, as well as native red algae species. As of September 30, 2019, there are approximately 14.2 acres of subtidal area available for lease (Figure 1). The District will lease the permitted sites to private culturists. Electricity is not currently available at these sites but may be in the future. Upland areas, including buildings with electricity, freshwater and saltwater, may be available in conjunction with the subtidal sites.

At this point, the District is pursuing letters of interest from shellfish and algae culturists that may be interested in leasing space. The configuration of individual leases within each site, as well as the leasing process, will be determined based on the level of interest. Lease terms are not yet established. Preference may be given to entities that replied to a Request for Proposals for mariculture leases that the District released in 2014.



**Figure 1. Areas available for lease through the Humboldt Bay Harbor District Mariculture Pre-Permitting Project as of September 30, 2019.**

Before leases can be entered, culture descriptions and eelgrass avoidance plans must be approved. Guidance for development of culture descriptions and information regarding allowable culture methods are available at [humboldt-bay.org](http://humboldt-bay.org). District staff is available to help interpret this information.

It is not expected that letters of interest will reflect a final decision regarding proposed culture. Rather, information in the letters of interest will serve as a starting point for the District to determine the appropriate process for awarding leases and to work with culturists to develop projects that are appropriate for the sites.

After reviewing the letters of interest received, District staff will contact all interested entities to discuss next steps for pursuing a lease. Only entities that submit a letter of interest will be considered for issuance of a lease through this current effort. Letters of interest should include the following information:

1. Email, address and phone number of interested entity
2. Species proposed for culture
3. Proposed culture methods
4. Estimated lease area desired (in square meters)

Submit questions and letters of interest via email to Adam Wagschal at [awagschal@humboldt-bay.org](mailto:awagschal@humboldt-bay.org). Adam will reply to confirm receipt of the letters. If you do not receive a confirmation email, then call the District office at (707) 443-0801. Letters of interest must be received by November 15, 2019.