

COMMISSIONERS

1st Division: Aaron Newman
2nd Division: Greg Dale
3rd Division: Stephen Kullmann
4th Division: Craig Benson
5th Division: Patrick Higgins

**Humboldt Bay Harbor,
Recreation and Conservation
District**
(707)443-0801
P.O. Box 1030
Eureka, California 95502-1030



August 13, 2024

**HUMBOLDT BAY HARBOR, RECREATION, AND CONSERVATION DISTRICT
NOTICE OF APPLICATION**

NOTICE IS HEARBY GIVEN that Humboldt Resource Conservation District applied for a Harbor District Permit for the Wadulh Lagoon Tidal Wetland Enhancement Project (Permit 2024-02). The application was accepted for filing by the Harbor District Board on August 8, 2024. This notice is being given consistent with District Ordinances and the Harbors and Navigation Code. Staff will follow standard procedures to review and evaluate the project. Following that analysis, the permit will go before the Board for a decision for or against approval.

The Wadulh Lagoon Tidal Wetland Enhancement Project (Project; Wadulh pronounced “wah-dush”) is intended to restore a diked former agricultural pasture to a combination of estuarine and palustrine wetland habitats, including salt marsh, brackish marsh, mudflat, and subtidal/intertidal eelgrass habitat, while protecting existing forested wetlands to the west. The Project includes a 54.2-acre Project Area within a 78-acre parcel along the upper western portion of the Mad River Slough on Humboldt Bay, approximately 1.25 miles west of the City of Arcata, in Humboldt County, California. The Project Area is located on the Wadulh Unit of the Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). The Project Applicant is the Humboldt County Resource Conservation District, the parcel is owned by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). This Project proposes to modify the current ground contours slightly through the creation of the new tidal lagoon channel and placement of excavated materials in locations and elevations to support establishment of salt marsh habitat. Placement of fill will result in the creation of new upland conditions at the northern cross levee site (the existing southern cross levee will be enhanced). The removal of the existing tide gate (including associated culvert) in the Mad River Slough levee will provide full tidal connectivity between Mad River Slough and the excavated tidal lagoon channel network.

The exact location and nature of the proposed project are on file in the Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District office, 601 Startare Drive, Woodley Island Marina, Eureka, CA 95501 and <https://humboltdbay.org/public-notices-announcements-information>. Interested parties are invited to submit in writing any comments or requests for a public hearing relative to the proposed activity to the District office or districtplanner@humboltdbay.org. Written comments should be submitted no later than thirty (30) days from the date of this notice.