## **COMMISSIONERS**

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

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



October 11, 2024

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

**NOTICE IS HEARBY GIVEN** that the Humboldt Bay Harbor Recreation and Conservation District (Harbor District) applied for a Harbor District permit for Humboldt Bay Regional Spartina Eradication Plan Continued Implementation (Permit 2024-04). The application was accepted for filing by the Harbor District Board on October 10, 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 Humboldt Bay Regional Spartina Eradication Plan (Regional Plan) provides a framework for eradicating invasive Spartina densiflora (dense-flowered cordgrass) at a regional level using a coordinated strategic approach that has been underway since the early 2000s. Coordinated by the Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation, and Conservation District, the project involves partnerships with the Wiyot Tribe, Caltrans, Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge, the City of Arcata, Redwood Community Action Agency (RCAA), the State Coastal Conservancy, and other stakeholders. These groups continue to work together to effectively remove the invasive Spartina from tidal marshes around Humboldt Bay. The existing Harbor District Permit 2014-05 for this project expires on 12/18/2024. As the Project remains consistent with the approved project description, this application requests a new Harbor District Permit for the ongoing project activities as fully described in the Regional Plan. The project uses a combination of treatments, including specialized equipment like brush cutters and an amphibious Marsh Master, to remove Spartina from these areas. In 2013, a Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) was developed and certified to streamline permitting and facilitate efficient eradication efforts. The PEIR project area (the Management Area) is the Humboldt Bay region which is defined as the area spanning from the Mad River to the north, the Eel River delta to the south, and includes the mouths of rivers, sloughs, estuaries, and tidal channels within Humboldt Bay. Key areas of concern include Eel River Estuary, Mad River Estuary, Mad River Slough, McDaniel Slough, Jacoby Creek, Eureka Slough, Salmon Creek, Hookton Slough, and the Salt River.

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 <a href="https://humboldtbay.org/public-notices-announcements-information">https://humboldtbay.org/public-notices-announcements-information</a>. 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 <a href="https://districtplanner@humboldtbay.org">districtplanner@humboldtbay.org</a>. Written comments should be submitted no later than thirty (30) days from the date of this notice.