

Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration

Fred Coulson

Environmental Review of a Less than 3 Acre Conversion Exemption

December 2021



Prepared By
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Exhibits and Appendices Follow

Project Information Summary

1. **Project Title:** Fred Coulson Environmental Review of a Less than 3 Acre Conversion Exemption
2. **Lead Agency Name and Address:** Del Norte County
Planning Commission
981 H Street, Suite 110
Crescent City, CA 95531
3. **Contact Person and Phone Number:** Jacob Sedgley
(707) 464-7254
Jacob.Sedgley@co.del-norte.ca.us
4. **Project Location and APN:** 4732 Wonder Stump Road, Crescent City, CA
APN 106-111-049 & 106-111-051
5. **Project Sponsor’s Name and Address:** Fred Coulson
P.O Box 1797
Crescent City, CA 95331
6. **County Land Use:** RR (1/3)
7. **County Zoning:** RR-3-MFH
8. **Description of Project:**

Travis Coulson, acting as an agent for Fred Coulson, has submitted an application for a Grading Permit and Less than 3 Acre Conversion Exemption of APN 106-111-049 & 106-111-051, located at 4732 Wonder Stump Road, Crescent City. The applicant proposes to remove approximately 2.4 acres of vegetation and trees from the two parcels. The total combined acreage of the two parcels is approximately 3.2 acres. The General Plan Land Use designation for the project area is Rural Residential – one dwelling unit per three acres, and the zoning designation is Rural Residential – three acre minimum with a manufactured housing district overlay.

Based on the tree tally by Blair Forestry Consulting, the project will result in the removal of approximately 51% of all trees located on the property. Trees to be removed include 89 Redwood, 19 Douglas-fir, 31 Sitka Spruce, 14 Western Red Cedar, 3 Western Hemlock, 10 Red Alder, and 10 other hardwoods. Age classes of the trees vary from mature timber, estimated at 70 years old, to 10-30 years old. The size of the trees ranges from 0”-6” diameter at breast height (DBH) to over 36” at DBH, with the majority of trees falling within the 6”-12” at DBH category. The trees do not show signs of significant health issues. Trees to be retained are found primarily in the watercourse protection zones. Outside of these zones, all timber may be removed unless the applicant wishes to retain individual or groups of trees for visual or landscape aesthetic. Trees along the County right-of-way will also be retained. In total, the project is estimated to harvest 16-25 thousand board feet of timber.

A biological assessment was conducted by Galea Biological Consulting in which wetlands in the form of drainage channels were located on the property, with one drainage channel leading to an expanded wetland area on an adjacent property. The report recommends 25 foot non-development buffers for the drainage channels and 50 foot non-development buffers for the wetland areas. According to the Operations Map prepared by Blair Forestry Consulting, no grading will occur in areas that contain an identified watercourse or wetland area.

Additionally, the applicant has indicated that timber operations may occur during the winter period. Grading during the rainy season must be in compliance with 14 CCR § 1104.1(a)(2)(E)(1-3) which identifies specific requirements related to when winter timber operations may occur (e.g. during dry periods when saturated soil conditions will not produce significant sediment discharge).

9. Surrounding Land Uses and Settings:

Both parcels are surrounded by a mix of residential home sites, timberland preserve areas, and vacant forested parcels within residential zone districts. Parcels immediately to the north include both developed residential uses and timberland preserve areas. Parcels to the east are zoned for Agricultural Exclusive (AE) and Timberland Preserve (TPZ). Uses to the south of the parcel are mainly developed residential uses, and to the west is undeveloped Agricultural Forestry (AF) zoning.

10. Required Approvals: Adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration (Del Norte County Planning Commission)

11. Other Approval (Public Agencies): Community Development Department who will review the project for compliance with conditions of approval and CAL FIRE for the Less than Three-Acre Timber Conversion Exemption.

12. Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, has consultation begun?

Native American tribes, traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area have been notified of the project application completion and the beginning of the AB 52 consultation period pursuant to PRC §21080.3.1. Notification of the beginning of the AB 52 consultation period was provided October 15, 2021. No requests for consultation pursuant to PRC §21080.3.1 were received.

Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" without mitigation as indicated by the checklist on the following pages. All mitigation measures are provided in the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Aesthetics	<input type="checkbox"/>	Agriculture and Forestry Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	Air Quality
<input type="checkbox"/>	Biological Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cultural Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>	Energy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Geology/Soils	<input type="checkbox"/>	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hazards & Hazardous Materials
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hydrology / Water Quality	<input type="checkbox"/>	Land Use / Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mineral Resources
<input type="checkbox"/>	Noise	<input type="checkbox"/>	Population / Housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Services
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tribal Cultural Resources
<input type="checkbox"/>	Utilities / Service Systems	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wildfire	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mandatory Findings of Significance

Determination

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

<input type="checkbox"/>	I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
<input type="checkbox"/>	I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.



Jacob Sedgley
Planner

12/17/2021

Date

Environmental Checklist

1. Aesthetics

Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publically accessible vantage points). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

- a. The project would have no impact on a scenic vista.
- b. The project would not damage scenic resources located within a state scenic highway. Trees located within the County right-of-way are not proposed for removal and will be retained. Scenic resources along Wonder Stump Road will not be affected by this project.
- c. The project does not conflict with zoning or the General Plan Land Use designation of the site. The General Plan Land Use designation for the project area is Rural Residential – one dwelling unit per three acres, and the zoning designation is Rural Residential – three acre minimum with a manufactured housing district overlay. The planned use of the project area, after grading, is consistent with both designations. Additionally, the project does not substantially degrade the existing visual character of the surrounding area. Existing uses surrounding the property are consistent with the planned use of the project area and surrounding residential uses were established in a similar manner to this project.
- d. The project does not propose any development which would create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect views.

2. Agriculture and Forest Resources

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Williamson Act contract?				
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

- a. No prime farmland exists on-site.
- b. No agricultural zoning exists on-site.
- c. No Timber Production zones exist on-site or adjacent to the property.
- d. The loss of forestland or conversion of forestland to non-forest use creates a significant impact if appropriate permits are not obtained. A Registered Professional Forester from Blair Forestry Consulting has prepared a Less than Three Acre Conversion Exemption in accordance with the California Forest Practice Rules (14 CCR § 1104.1), and no significant impact would result following compliance with Cal Fire regulations. Additionally, the proposed use of the parcel, after grading, does not conflict with zoning or the General Plan Land Use designation of the two parcels.
- e. The project does not involve any other changes in the existing environment that could adversely affect farmland or timberlands.

3. Air Quality

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors or dust) adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

- a. The project would have no foreseeable impacts on the implementation of an air quality plan.
- b. The project would have no foreseeable impacts on increasing criteria pollutants in the region.
- c. The project would not expose receptors to pollutant concentrations.

- d. The project would have no foreseeable impacts in increasing any emissions.

4. Biological Resources

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

- a. A Biological Assessment was prepared by Galea Biological Consulting (GBC) in October, 2021. There are no records of threatened or endangered wildlife species in or near the project area. The northern red-legged frog is listed as potentially occurring, due to the presence of a wetland patch near this project; however, there does not appear to be connectivity between the wetland habitat and the project area. Therefore, there should be no impacts to this species. There are records of the American Porcupine in the surrounding area, which is a California species of concern. While the porcupine can forage within the timbered stands of this property, the location is not preferred due to the species of trees, as redwoods are not a preferred food item for porcupine. This project should have no impacts on this species.
- b. The Biological Assessment notes that the western lily is found in the general area; however, this property and the immediate surrounds do not contain habitat for the western lily and no other sensitive plants or habitat for sensitive plants were found during review.
- c. A wetland patch was found off of the project area at the end of a drainage channel (see channel A in the Biological Assessment). The wetland patch was identified by hydric vegetation occupying an expanded channel. A non-development buffer of 50 feet was recommended for the wetland patch, and a 25 foot buffer was

recommended for the channel leading up to it. A second drainage channel was also identified on the southernmost parcel and a non-development buffer of 25 feet was recommended by GBC. However, the Operations Map prepared by Blair Forestry Consulting shows this second channel to be more substantial than identified in the Biological Assessment. Given that the Operations Map was submitted with the Less than Three Acre Conversion Exemption application, and contains additional protections for potential watercourses, the applicant will abide by the exemption area shown in the Operations Map as well as buffers provided in the Biological Assessment. In other words, the applicant will use a combination of both documents to provide the most extensive protections for all potential watercourse areas. As the project does not propose development, vegetation removal, or grading within these areas, there will be no impact to protected wetlands. See Mitigation Measure BIO-1.

- d. The project will not interfere with the movement of any native resident, migratory fish, wildlife species, or interfere with a wildlife corridor or nursery site.
- e. The project does not conflict with any local policies or ordinances related to the protection of biological resources.
- f. The project does not conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, nor other approved conservation plans.

Mitigation Measure BIO-1

A condition of the grading permit shall be the flagging of the edge of the watercourse protection areas in the field prior to the issuance of the Grading Permit. The flagging shall be in substantial accord with the Operations Map prepared by Blair Forestry Consulting and the map prepared by Galea Biological Consulting. Verification of the flagging shall be completed by County Planning and Engineering Division staff. Furthermore, another condition of project approval will be that no vegetation removal or other disturbance may occur within the watercourse protection areas.

Timing/Implementation: Prior to issuance of the Grading Permit.

Enforcement: County Community Development Department, California Department of Fish and Game

Monitoring: Ongoing.

5. Cultural Resources

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to § 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to § 15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

- a-c. No cultural resources are known to exist on-site. The County records were searched for known cultural sites in the general project vicinity, and none were identified. Notice was provided to the two tribes traditionally culturally affiliated with the project area and no comment was given with regard to cultural resources. Additionally, cultural staff from the Tolowa-Dee-ni’ Nation is a voting member of the County Environmental Review Committee which reviews projects and makes CEQA recommendations. While resources are not known to exist on-site, the possibility of an inadvertent discovery is always possible during construction or other

implementation activities associated with the project. In this case, mitigation measures included as CULT-1 assigned to the project will ensure that any resources located on-site will be properly treated as to not cause a significant impact.

Mitigation Measure CULT-1

An inadvertent discovery condition shall be added to the Grading Permit stating that in the event that archeological or cultural resources are encountered during grading or construction, work shall be temporarily halted and a qualified archaeologist, local tribes, and the County shall be immediately contacted. Workers shall avoid altering the materials and their context until a qualified professional archaeologist, in collaboration with the local tribes, has evaluated the situation and provided appropriate recommendations. Project personnel shall not collect any resources.

Timing/Implementation: Ongoing during grading subject to the Grading Permit

Enforcement: County Community Development Department

Monitoring: N/A

6. Energy

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

- a. The project would have no foreseeable impacts on increasing wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary energy use due to the relatively small size of the project. The project will use minimal amounts of fuel and energy.
- b. This project does not conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency.

7. Geology and Soils

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

- a. The project is not anticipated to cause significant impacts including the risk of loss, injury, or death related to soils impacts. The site is flat and has no potential for landslides, mass wasting, or other slope-related impacts. Seismic ground shaking and liquefaction could occur in any region of coastal California; however, the potential impacts would be considered less than significant as future structural development will be engineered and constructed to current building code. Based on the Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42 and Maps from the California Department of Conservation, the project is not located within an Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone.
- b. The proposed Less than Three Acre Conversion Exemption will be performed in accordance with the California Forest Practice Rules (14 CCR § 1104.1). Section (a)(2)(E) provides guidance on Winter Period operations and are identical to the conditions included in Mitigation Measure GEO-1.
- c. The project site has not been identified as being located with a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse.
- d. Standard and approved engineering practices shall be implemented during any excavation and construction activities. These measures will ensure that proposed buildings are structurally sound and future inhabitants are not exposed to geologic hazards.
- e. No construction is proposed for this project. However, future residential development would require an On-Site Sewage Disposal Evaluation that would determine whether soils are adequate to support a septic system or other alternative.
- f. No known paleontological resources or unique geologic features are known to exist on site.

Mitigation Measure GEO-1

Timber Operations may be conducted during the Winter Period. Tractor Operations in the Winter Period are allowed under any of the following conditions:

1. During dry, rainless periods but shall not be conducted on Saturated Soil Conditions that may produce Significant Sediment Discharge. Erosion Control structures shall be installed on all constructed skid trails and Tractor Road prior to sunset if the National Weather Service forecast is a “chance” (30% or more) of rain within the next 24 hours.
2. When ground conditions in the conversion exemption area and Appurtenant Roads satisfy the “hard frozen” definitions in 14 CCR § 895.1.
3. Over-snow operations where no soil disturbance occurs.

Timing/Implementation: Ongoing during grading subject to the Grading Permit
 Enforcement: County Community Development Department
 Monitoring: N/A

8. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

- a. In 2002, the California State Legislature declared that global climate change was a matter of increasing concern for the state’s public health and environment, and enacted a law requiring the California Air Resource Board (CARB) to control greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from motor vehicle (Health and Safety Code §32018.5 et seq.). CEQA Guidelines define GHG to include carbon dioxide (CO₂), nitrous oxide (N₂O), hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride. The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32) definitively established the state’s climate change policy and set GHG reduction targets (Health and Safety Code §38500 et seq.). The state has set its target at reducing greenhouse gases to 1990 levels by the year 2020.

Approval of the Grading Permit may generate GHG emissions as a result of combustion of fossil fuels consumed by grading and logging equipment. Grading and logging related GHG emissions would be minor and short-term, and would not constitute a significant impact based on established thresholds.

- b. The project does not conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing GHG emissions.

9. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

a-g. The project would not create impacts related to hazards or hazardous materials. This grading permit would not facilitate the transport of hazardous materials, the release of hazardous materials, nor would it create additional exposure to wildland fires besides that by allowing for the potential to construct an additional single-family residence in the future within the State Responsibility Area.

10. Hydrology and Water Quality

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:				
i) result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional source of polluted runoff; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk release of pollutants due to project inundation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable ground water management plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

- a. The project would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements.
- b. The project would not decrease groundwater supplies or interfere with groundwater recharge rates.
- c. Based on existing site conditions, it is not expected that they project will create or contribute to runoff beyond the capacity of existing drainage, result in substantial erosion on- or off-site, or increase the amount of runoff that would result in flooding on- or off-site.
- d. The project is not in any Special Flood Hazard Area, and would not affect flood waters. Additionally, it is identified as being outside the Tsunami Hazard Map for Crescent City.
- e. The project will not conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable ground water management plan.

11. Land Use and Planning

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

- a-b. This project does not divide an established community, nor does it cause a conflict with any land use plan in the County. The proposed project does conform to the General Plan, as well as other applicable ordinances and codes.

12. Mineral Resources

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

- a-b. No mineral resources are known to exist on site.

13. Noise

Would the project:	Potentially Significant	Less Than Significant Impact	Less Than Significant	No Impact
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	Impact	with Mitigation Incorporated	Impact	
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

- a-b. The project does not have the potential to generate a significant temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project above that which currently exists on the property. Temporary noise and vibration will be generated as a result of grading activities; however, this is not considered significant and will not exceed any applicable thresholds.
- c. The project is not located within any Airport Influence Area and does not fall within any noise contours that would indicate the exposure of residential use to excessive noise level.

14. Population and Housing

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

- a. The project will not induce substantial population growth in the area.
- b. The project would not displace any number of existing people or housing.

15. Public Services

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain				

acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

- a. The project would not result in substantial adverse impacts associated with the need for new or altered governmental facilities and/or public services. The project would allow for the future potential to develop a maximum of two single-family residences within an existing community. Given the low number of new dwelling units, existing public services in the area, and lack of growth inducing impacts, any impact to service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives of these public services are expected to be less than significant.

16. Recreation

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities which might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

- a-b. The project does not involve significant growth inducing impacts that would put significant additional pressures on area parks or recreation facilities. No impact would occur.

17. Transportation

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Conflict with a program, plan, ordinance or policy addressing the circulation system, including transit, roadway, bicycle and pedestrian facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Would the project conflict or be inconsistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision(b)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

(e.g., farm equipment)?				
d) Result in inadequate emergency access?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

- a. The project is not anticipated to conflict with a program, plan, ordinance, or policy addressing any circulation system.
- b. The project is expected to be consistent with CEQA Guidelines section 15064.3, subdivision (b). According to the 2020 Del Norte Region SB 743 Implementation Plan, the Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ 102) containing in the project area describes the average VMT to be approximately 7.96 daily VMT per capita. The project was analyzed subject to screening criteria outline in the 2020 Del Norte Region SB 743 Implementation Plan. Using to the 10th Edition of the Institute of Transportation Engineers Trip Generation Manual, single-family detached housing has 9.44 average daily trips per dwelling unit. Assuming a maximum of two potential future dwelling units, it is projected using this methodology that the project would create up to 18.9 trips per day. Further, the 2020 Del Norte Region SB 743 Implementation Plan provides for thresholds of significance that screen certain projects out of constituting a significant impact toward VMT generation. In this case, the project is expected to generate less than 110 trips per day, so it can be considered to have a less than significant impact as a ‘Small Project’ under Section 3.2.1 of the SB 743 Implementation Plan.
- c. The project does not increase hazards due to a design feature. There are no dangerous features in the project area and this project would not require improvements that would introduce circulation or traffic safety hazards.
- d. The project would have no impact on emergency access in the surrounding area.

18. Tribal Cultural Resources

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a tribal cultural resource, defined in Public Resources Code section 21074 as either a site, feature, place, cultural landscape that is geographically defined in terms of the size and scope of the landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe, and that is:				
i) Listed or eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources, or in a local register of historical resources as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k), or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) A resource determined by the lead agency, in its discretion and supported by substantial evidence, to be significant pursuant to criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resources Code Section 5024.1. In applying the criteria set forth in subdivision (c) of Public Resource Code Section 5024.1, the lead agency shall consider the significance of the resource to a California Native American tribe.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

- a. The project would have no foreseeable impacts on tribal cultural resources. AB 52 tribal consultation letters were sent to local tribes associated with the project area including the Tolowa Dee-ni’ Nation and the Elk Valley Rancheria, and no requests for consultation have been received by the Lead Agency.

19. Utilities and Service Systems

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment, or stormwater drainage, electric power, natural gas, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and reasonably foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the providers existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

a-e. The project would not have any impact on utilities and service systems. The project may result in a higher solid waste generation rate; however, the project will not produce or induce waste generation rates in excess of established thresholds.

20. Wildfire

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Discussion of Impacts

- a. The project would not substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan.
- b. The project is located within the State Responsibility Area (SRA) with Moderate fire hazard severity. However, the topography of the site is relatively flat with no vegetation that would require additional mitigation for rapid wildfire movement or an excess of fuel.
- c. The project does not require the installation or maintenance of any infrastructure that may exacerbate fire risk, or result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment.
- d. The project does not expose people or structures to significant risks associated with flooding, landslides, post-fire instability, or drainage changes.

21. Mandatory Findings of Significance

Would the project:	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

- a-c. The project does not have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife species to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory. Additionally, the project does not have impacts that are individually limited but cumulatively considerable and does not have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings directly or indirectly.

Mitigation Monitoring Plan

Biological Resources

Mitigation Measure BIO-1

A condition of the grading permit shall be the flagging of the edge of the watercourse protection areas in the field prior to the issuance of the Grading Permit. The flagging shall be in substantial accord with the Operations Map prepared by Blair Forestry Consulting and the map prepared by Galea Biological Consulting. Verification of the flagging shall be completed by County Planning and Engineering Division staff. Furthermore, another condition of project approval will be that no vegetation removal or other disturbance may occur within the watercourse protection areas.

Timing/Implementation: Prior to issuance of the Grading Permit.

Enforcement: County Community Development Department, California Department of Fish and Game
Monitoring: Ongoing.

Cultural Resources

Mitigation Measure CULT-1

An inadvertent discovery condition shall be added to the Grading Permit stating that in the event that archeological or cultural resources are encountered during grading or construction, work shall be temporarily halted and a qualified archaeologist, local tribes, and the County shall be immediately contacted. Workers shall avoid altering the materials and their context until a qualified professional archaeologist, in collaboration with the local tribes, has evaluated the situation and provided appropriate recommendations. Project personnel shall not collect any resources.

Timing/Implementation: Ongoing during grading subject to the Grading Permit

Enforcement: County Community Development Department
Monitoring: N/A

Geology and Soils

Mitigation Measure GEO-1

Timber Operations may be conducted during the Winter Period. Tractor Operations in the Winter Period are allowed under any of the following conditions:

1. During dry, rainless periods but shall not be conducted on Saturated Soil Conditions that may produce Significant Sediment Discharge. Erosion Control structures shall be installed on all constructed skid trails and Tractor Road prior to sunset if the National Weather Service forecast is a “chance” (30% or more) of rain within the next 24 hours.
2. When ground conditions in the conversion exemption area and Appurtenant Roads satisfy the “hard frozen” definitions in 14 CCR § 895.1.
3. Over-snow operations where no soil disturbance occurs.

Timing/Implementation: Ongoing during grading subject to the Grading Permit

Enforcement: County Community Development Department
Monitoring: N/A

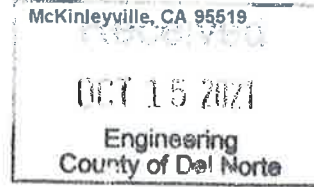


Providing Professional Forestry Services

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Del Norte County
Planning Department
981 H Street, Suite 110
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August 23, 2021

RE: Tree Removal Proposed for APN 106-111-049 & 106-111-051, Coulson Ownership

Dear County Representative,

This letter is in regard to the "Less Than 3 Acre Conversion Exemption" prepared for the purposes of tree removal on a property located in Del Norte County on APNs 106-111-049 and 106-111-051. These parcels are currently one ownership and, combined, are approximately 3.2 acres of Rural Residential (RR-3) zoned land located in a residential area along Wonder Stump Road.

The landowner wishes to remove timber on the site for the purposes of clearing and grading land for a home site with associated landscaping and other potential outbuildings. The parcels are in a suitable location for the proposed use as observed by other improved lots in the immediate vicinity and the predominantly flat terrain. The property has previously had a structure on site that was razed ~30-40 years ago. The County has a right of way which encompasses the first ~15-20 feet of frontage along Wonder Stump Road for the potential widening of the county-maintained road, and timber within this frontage is not proposed for removal.

Tree removal would occur in accordance with 14 CCR 1104.1(a) "Less Than 3 Acre Conversion Exemption" as permitted through the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and follow County guidelines for grading. Watercourses are present within the parcels and have been provided protection buffers as described in the Forest Practice Rules 14 CCR 916.9 and no operations, including tree removal or heavy equipment use, are proposed within these zones. For a detail of the proposed clearing and retention areas, please see the Operations Map in the Conversion Exemption package.

A chart has been provided below which shows the proposed trees to be removed and retained within the ownership by tree species and diameter at breast height in 6" classes. Tree species present on the parcels include redwood, Douglas-fir, Sitka spruce, Western red cedar, Western hemlock, Red Alder, and miscellaneous hardwoods. Age classes of the trees vary, from mature timber estimated at 70 years old to 10-30 years old in areas associated with the previous structure. No overmature or old-growth trees are present on the ownership. The trees show no signs of significant health issues.

Trees to be retained are found primarily in the watercourse protection zones. Outside of these zones, all timber may be removed unless the landowner wishes to retain individual or groups of trees for visual or landscape aesthetic.

Removal of the trees for the purposes of this Conversion Exemption are not likely to have a significant visual impact. The parcel is zoned for residential use and is located within a residential area of the county with other homes and neighborhoods visible from Wonder Stump Road. The most visible portion of the proposed clearing is in the early seral stage of regrowth from removal of the previous structure. Once the project is complete, this property is proposed to have a residential structure on it similar to most of the parcels in the vicinity. Given the watercourse protection zones within the parcel proposed for retention, portions of the property will retain a timbered appearance. The County right of way along Wonder Stump Road includes brush and immature hardwoods near the intersection of Coulson Lane on the north end of the ownership, and a mature redwood stand on the south end, and the timbered portion will provide a visual buffer from potential impacts.

Coulson Tree Tally
APN 106-111-049 & 106-111-051

Trees to be Removed							
Species	0-6"	6-12"	12-18"	18-24"	24-30"	30-36"	36+
RW	8	12	9	15	24	11	10
DF	4	10	4	1	0	0	0
SS	3	12	5	5	4	2	0
WRC	4	2	2	2	2	0	2
WH	0	2	1	0	0	0	0
RA	1	5	4	0	0	0	0
OH	2	6	2	0	0	0	0

Trees to be Retained							
Species	0-6"	6-12"	12-18"	18-24"	24-30"	30-36"	36+
RW	10	22	30	29	18	16	7
DF	0	3	2	1	0	1	0
SS	0	10	1	0	0	1	3
WRC	4	4	0	0	0	0	0
WH	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
RA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OH	4	5	0	0	0	0	0

Species Code: RW=Redwood, DF=Douglas-fir, SS=Sitka Spruce, WRC=Western Red Cedar,
 WH=Western Hemlock, RA=Red Alder, OH=Other Hardwood

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you need any clarification or I can answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,



Todd Truesdell, Registered Professional Forester #2969
 707.496.7322 --- todd.truesdell@hotmail.com
 BLAIR FORESTRY CONSULTING





GALEA BIOLOGICAL CONSULTING

200 Raccoon Court Crescent City California 95531

Tel: 707-218-6039 E-mail: frankgalea@charter.net

BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT FOR SINGLE HOME DEVELOPMENT, COULSON PROPERTY, WONDERSTUMP ROAD, DEL NORTE COUNTY. APN # 106-111-049 & 106-111-051

Submitted to: Travis and Christine Coulson
3700 Wonderstump Road
Crescent City, CA 95531

Prepared by: Frank Galea, Certified Wildlife Biologist
Galea Biological Consulting
200 Raccoon Court
Crescent City, CA 95531

Submitted: October, 2021

By:

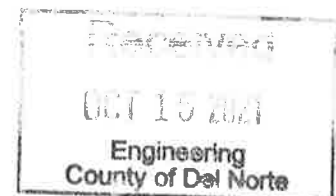


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A biological assessment was prepared for Travis and Christine Coulson (Applicants) for a single-family home to be built within two parcels located on Wonderstump Road in Del Norte County (Figure 1). The Applicants wish to harvest existing timber before building their home.

Galea Biological Consulting (GBC) Incorporated was contracted to provide a general biological assessment to determine the potential impacts of the project on sensitive wildlife species, including federally or state listed species, and species of special concern. Additionally, GBC conducted a review of habitats within and adjacent to the project area to determine the location of wetlands or watercourses which may be present.

Wetlands in the form of drainage channels were located on the property, and one led to an expanded wetland area on an adjacent property. Non-development buffers of 50 feet were recommended for wetlands and a 25-foot buffer for drainage channels.

2.0

INTRODUCTION

2.1 Project Description

The Applicants plan to log existing timber and then build a single-family residence within two, undeveloped parcels. The two parcels are both located on Wonderstump Road, with one parcel in the corner with Coulson Lane (106-111-049) and the other located immediately south of the first. Water would be provided by an existing water line and an on-site leach field would have to be located within the property.

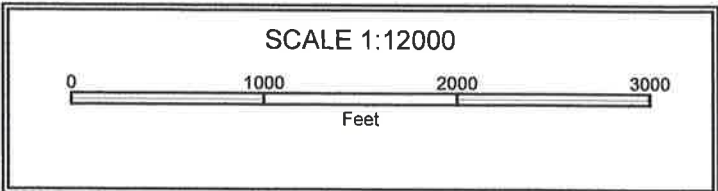
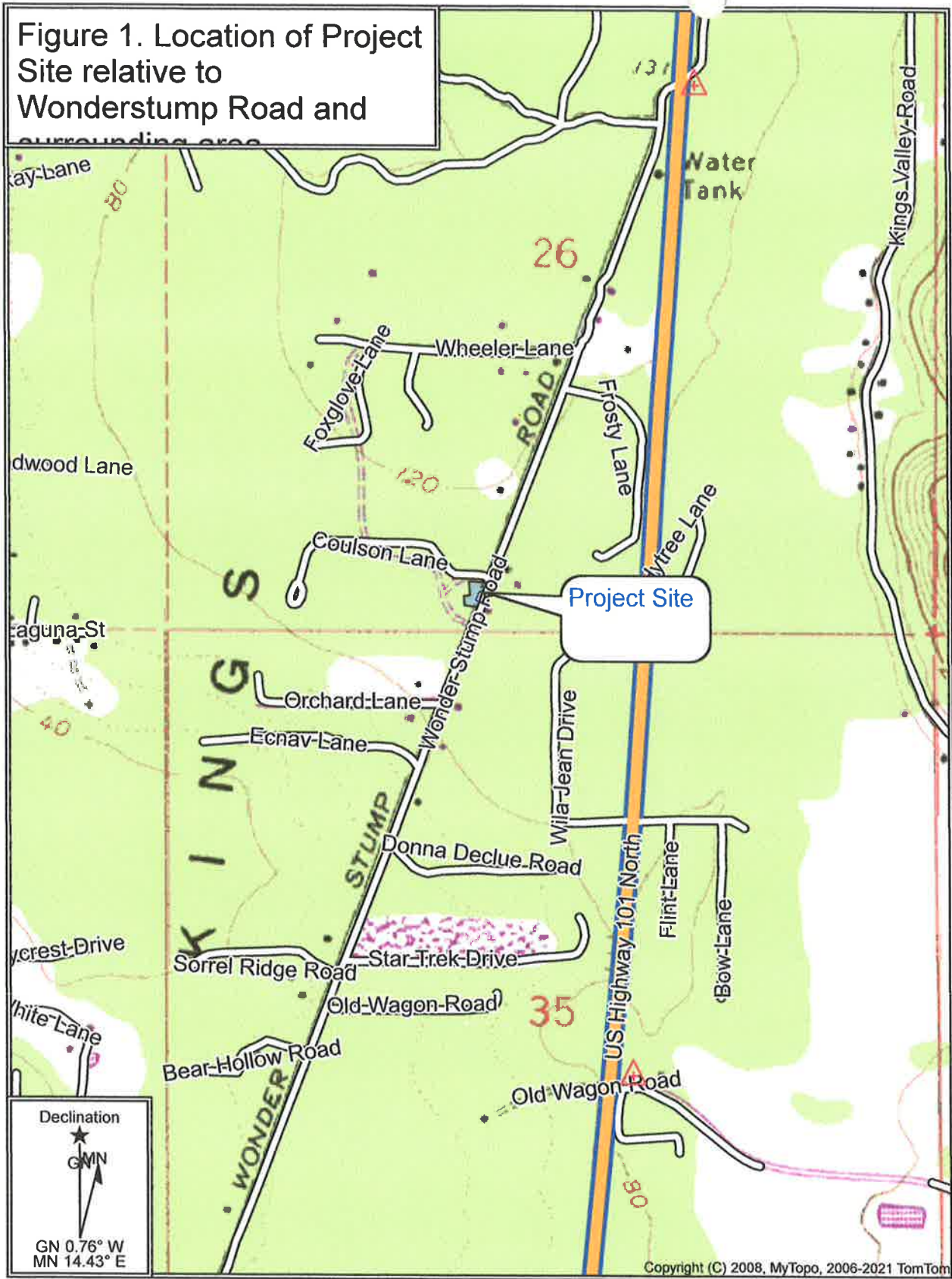
2.2 Environmental Setting

The property is located within a rural-residential neighborhood, with homes on treed lots in all directions. The property is flat on the east side along Wonderstump Road, but has a very gradual gradient downhill toward the west side. There is a drainage channel in the northwest corner of the north parcel (106-111-049) where surface water from Wonderstump Road has been culverted through the property to the immediate north, cross Coulson Lane, and then enters their property, running for a very short distance before entering the property to the west.

2.3 Physical Environment

The climate of northern California is characterized as Mediterranean, with cool, wet winters and warm, dry summers with frequent fog. Along the coastline, proximity to the Pacific Ocean produces high levels of humidity and results in abundant fog and fog drip precipitation. The maritime influence diminishes with distance from the coast, resulting in lesser amounts of fog, drier summer conditions and more variable temperatures. Annual precipitation in the project watershed ranges from 60 - 150 inches occurring primarily as rain during the winter months. Air temperatures measured in the Crescent City area vary from 41°F to 67°F annually.

Figure 1. Location of Project Site relative to Wonderstump Road and surrounding area



2.4 Regulatory Context

The project is located within the geographic range of several special- status plant and wildlife species. Biological resources on the site may be subject to agency jurisdictions and regulations, as described below.

(a) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The USFWS has jurisdiction over species listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA). The ESA protects listed species from "take," broadly defined as to "harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or attempt to engage in any such conduct." An activity is defined as a "take" even if unintentional or accidental. An endangered plant or wildlife species is one that is considered in danger of becoming extinct throughout all, or a significant portion of its range. A threatened species is one that is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future. In addition to endangered and threatened species, the USFWS has a list of candidate species, which are those for which the USFWS currently has enough information to support a proposal for listing. Section 9 of the ESA and its applicable regulations restrict certain activities with respect to endangered and threatened plants. However, these restrictions are less stringent than those applicable to fish and wildlife species. These provisions prohibit the removal of, malicious damage to, or destruction of any listed plant species "from areas under federal jurisdiction." Listed plants may not be cut, dug up, damaged or destroyed, or removed from any other area (including private lands) in knowing violation of a State law or regulation.

(b) Raptors & Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). The MBTA (16 United States Code [USC] 703) enacts the provisions of treaties between the United States, Great Britain, Mexico, Japan, and the Soviet Union and authorized the U.S. Secretary of the Interior to protect and regulate the taking of migratory birds. The MBTA sets seasons and bag limits for hunted species and protects migratory birds, their occupied nests, and their eggs (16 USC 703, 50 CFR 21, 50 CFR 10).

(c) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for regulating the discharge of fill material into waters of the U.S. Waters of the U.S. and their lateral limits are defined in 33 CFR (Code of Federal Regulations) Part 328.3 (a) and include streams that are tributary to navigable waters and their adjacent wetlands. Wetlands that are not adjacent to waters of the U.S. are termed "isolated wetlands" and may be subject to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers jurisdiction.

(d) California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDF&W). The CDF&W has jurisdiction over threatened or endangered species that are formally listed by the State under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). The CESA is similar to the federal Endangered Species Act both in process and substance; it is intended to provide additional protection to threatened and endangered species in California.

The CESA does not supersede the federal Endangered Species Act, but operates in conjunction with it. Species may be listed as threatened or endangered under both acts (in which case the provisions of both State and federal laws would apply) or under only one act. The California endangered species

laws prohibit the taking of any plant listed as threatened, endangered, or rare. In California, an activity on private lands (such as development) will violate Section 9 of the Endangered Species Act if a plant species, listed under both State and federal endangered species laws, is intentionally removed, damaged, or destroyed. Under the State Fish and Game Code, the CDF&W also has jurisdiction over species that are designated as "fully protected." These species are protected against direct impacts. The CDF&W maintains informal lists of species of special concern, which are broadly defined as plants and wildlife that are of concern to CDF&W because of population declines and restricted distributions, and/or they are associated with habitats that are declining in California. These species, as well as threatened and endangered species, are inventoried in the California Natural Diversity Database.

The CDF&W also exerts jurisdiction over the bed and banks of watercourses according to the provisions of Section 1600 to 1616 of the Fish and Game Code. The Department requires a Streambed Alteration Permit for the fill or removal of any material from any natural drainage. CDF&W's jurisdiction extends to the top of banks and may include the outer edge of riparian vegetation canopy cover.

(e) California Native Plant Society (CNPS). The CNPS has developed lists of plants of special concern in California. A CNPS List IA plant is a species, subspecies, or variety that is considered to be extinct. A List 1B plant is considered rare, threatened, or endangered in California and elsewhere. A List 2 plant is considered rare, threatened, or endangered in California, but is more common elsewhere. A List 3 plant is a species for which CNPS lacks necessary information to determine if it should be assigned to a list or not. A List 4 plant has a limited distribution in California. All List 1 and List 2 plant species meet the requirements of Section 1901, Chapter 10 (Native Plant Protection Act) or Sections 2062 and 2067 (California Endangered Species Act) of the CDF&G Code, and are eligible for State listing. Therefore, List 1 and 2 species should be considered under CEQA. Very few List 3 and List 4 plants are eligible for listing, but may be locally important, and their listing status could be elevated if conditions change.

(f) CEQA Guidelines, Section 15380. Although threatened and endangered species are protected by specific federal and State statutes, the CEQA Guidelines in Section 15380(b) provide that a species not included on the federal or State lists of protected species may be considered rare or endangered if the species can be shown to meet certain specified criteria. These criteria have been modeled after the definitions in the federal Endangered Species Act and the CDFG Code. This section was included in the CEQA Guidelines primarily to deal with situations in which a public lead agency is reviewing a project that may have a significant effect on a species that has not yet been listed by either the USFWS or CDFW. Thus, CEQA provides a lead agency with the ability to protect a species from a project's potential impacts until government agencies have an opportunity to designate the species as protected, if warranted.

(g) Regional Water Quality Control Board. Pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, projects that apply for a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit for discharge of dredge or fill material, and projects that qualify for a Nationwide Permit, must obtain water quality certification from the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) that the project will uphold State water

quality standards. Alternatively, the RWQCB may elect to notify an applicant that the State may issue Waste Discharge Requirements in lieu of a Section 401 certification.

(h) California Coastal Commission. The California Coastal Commission (CCC) is a state regulatory agency whose primary role is the protection of coastal resources. This project is not located within the coastal appeal zone, therefore CCC protection measures would not apply.

3.0

METHODS

3.1 Records Search

A records search of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDF&W) Natural Diversity Data Base (October, 2021) was conducted to determine if special-status plant or animal species had been previously reported near the project area. Listed and sensitive wildlife species potentially occurring within two miles of the project area are presented in Table 1.

Special-Status Species and Significant Natural Communities.

The following special-status species and sensitive community types were considered in this evaluation:

- Species that are listed, or designated as candidates for listing, as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act;
- Species that are listed, or designated as candidates for listing as rare (plants), threatened, or endangered under the California Endangered Species Act;
- Wildlife species listed by the CDF&W as species of special concern or fully protected species;
- Communities designated by the CDFW to be "significant" natural communities;
- Plant species on List 1A, List 1B, and List 2, in the California Native Plant Society's Inventory of Rare and Endangered Vascular Plants of California;
- Species that meet the definition of rare or endangered under the California Environmental Quality Act (under Section 15380 of CEQA, a species not included on any formal list "shall nevertheless be considered rare or endangered if the species can be shown to meet the criteria" for listing); and
- Taxa of special concern by local agencies.

3.3 Field Investigation

A field investigation of the project area was conducted in October of 2021. All potential wildlife habitats within the project area and within 1.3 mile around the project area were assessed for their potential for listed wildlife and plant species. Certified Wildlife Biologist Frank Galea conducted the field review. The entire property was searched for potential wetlands. Trees were searched with high-power binoculars for nests.

4.0

RESULTS AND POTENTIAL IMPACTS

4.1 Records Search

The CDF&W Natural Diversity Data Base (CNDDDB, 2021) provided a summary of those federal and state-listed and sensitive wildlife and plant species and their mapped locations (Figure 2), reported to have occurred at least once within one mile of the project site.

A list of those sensitive or listed animal and plant species potentially occurring in the vicinity of the project area is presented in Table 1, including the common and scientific names for each. The listing status of each species and if potential habitat (as determined by GBC, based upon a review of habitat available within the project area) was located within or near the project area is also indicated in Table 1.

Table 1. Sensitive Species Occurring or with Potential to Occur Within the Region of the Project Area (From CNDDDB 2021 Quad search, USFWS Del Norte County list, and GBC sources)					
Common Name	Latin Name	Federal Status	State Status	Breeding Habitat in Project Area?	Forage Habitat in Project Area?
MAMMALS					
American Porcupine	<i>Erethizon dorsatum</i>	None	CSC	Yes	Yes
AMPHIBIANS					
Northern red-legged frog	<i>Rana aurora aurora</i>	None	CSC	No	Yes
PLANTS					
Western lily	<i>Lillium occidentale</i>	FE	CE	No	NA

Codes:

Federal Status

FE Federally endangered
 FT Federally threatened
 FC Federal candidate for listing
 FSC Federal species of concern

State Status

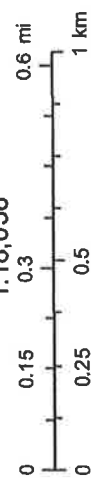
CE California endangered
 CT California threatened
 CCE California candidate for endangered listing
 CSC California species of concern (CDFW)

Map of Project Area

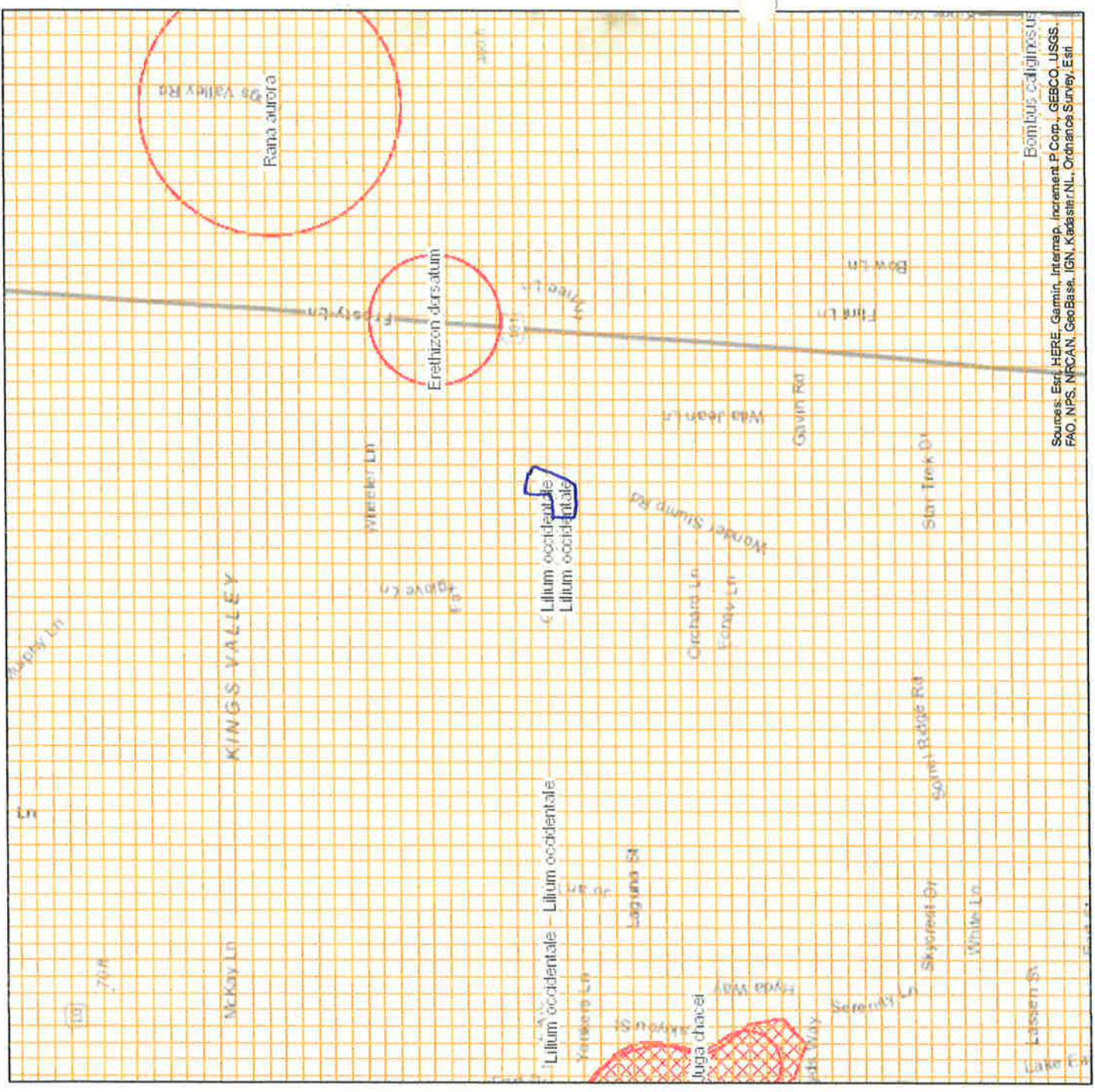
California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) Commercial [ds85]

- Plant (80m)
- Plant (specific)
- Plant (non-specific)
- Plant (circular)
- Animal (80m)
- Animal (specific)
- Animal (non-specific)
- Animal (circular)
- Terrestrial Comm. (80m)
- Terrestrial Comm. (specific)
- Terrestrial Comm. (non-specific)
- Terrestrial Comm. (circular)
- Aquatic Comm. (80m)
- Aquatic Comm. (specific)
- Aquatic Comm. (non-specific)
- Aquatic Comm. (circular)
- Multiple (80m)
- Multiple (specific)
- Multiple (non-specific)
- Multiple (circular)
- Sensitive EO's (Commercial only)

1:18,056



October 6, 2021



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri

4.2 Field Investigation

The undeveloped property contained mid-seral redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) with a dense understory. In the northern lot (106-111-049) there is an old kiln, and topographic maps show an old road system through the lot. These artifacts demonstrate the property had historically been used for more than just growing timber.

A drainage channel (Channel A) crosses under Coulson Lane via a culvert, and enters the northwest corner of the north parcel, begins as a defined channel then runs southwest through the woods for approximately 100 feet as an undefined channel. At approximately 200 feet from Coulson Lane, a large (50 feet by 25 feet) wetland area was located in the midst of the woods. As the wetland patch was located on an adjacent property, it was not totally delineated, but a GPS reading was taken on the northeast end.

On the south parcel (106-111-051) a very shallow, short drainage channel (Channel B) was located which also runs northeast to southwest, but this channel was very short and terminated in the woods. No hydric vegetation was found in association with Channel B, and only upland plants were found along the limited banks of the channel.

4.3 Habitat Analysis and Impact Assessment for Fish and Wildlife

Table 1 shows there were no records of threatened or endangered wildlife species in or near the project area. The following is an analysis of sensitive species potentially present and an assessment of their potential to be impacted by this project.

4.3a Sensitive Species: The following is an analysis of sensitive species potentially present and an assessment of their potential to be impacted by this project.

Table 1 lists the northern red-legged frog (*Rana aurora*) as potentially occurring in the area. The northern red-legged frog was relatively common in wetlands, riparian areas and ponds in northern California. Loss of habitat and predation by non-native frogs has reduced or eliminated populations of a close relative, the California red-legged frog (*Rana draytonii*), in southern and central California.

In Del Norte County the northern red-legged frog this is a very common species in a wide range of habitats. This species breeds in moist areas, requiring standing water. It feeds on a variety of invertebrates, and can forage in wet fields, backyards, and in woodlots. It is designated as a Species of Special Concern by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Although this species is not a protected species in Del Norte County and is locally relatively abundant, population levels are not doing well in the remainder of its range.

Northern red-legged frogs can utilize a variety of habitats for foraging and they are never found far from available, standing water. Due to the presence of a wetland patch near this project, this species may occur nearby, however there does not appear to be connectivity between the wetland habitat and this project, therefore there should be no impacts to this species.

The CNDDDB also noted the record of an American Porcupine in the area. The porcupine is a California species of concern. The porcupine is not uncommon over most of its range, which in northern California includes most conifer forests and mixed-conifer woodlands. It occurs locally primarily in second-growth forests, however they are mostly found close to the coast, where preferred habitat exists. They will range about and do occur inland as well. This author has had porcupine on his property, which is only ¼ mile from this project. While the porcupine can forage within the timbered stands of this property, the location is not preferred due to the species of trees, as redwoods are not a preferred food item for porcupine. This project should have no impacts on this species.

4.3b Non-sensitive Wildlife

Black-tailed deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), black bear (*Ursus americanus*) and other local species are known in the area. No heron or egret rookeries are known of nearby and none were observed during field surveys.

4.3c Sensitive Plants

The CNDDDB notes that the western lily (*Lilium occidentale*) is found in the general area. This property and the immediate surroundings does not contain habitat for the western lily. Dense understory vegetation is typical for a second-growth redwood forest. No sensitive plants or habitat for sensitive plants was found during review.

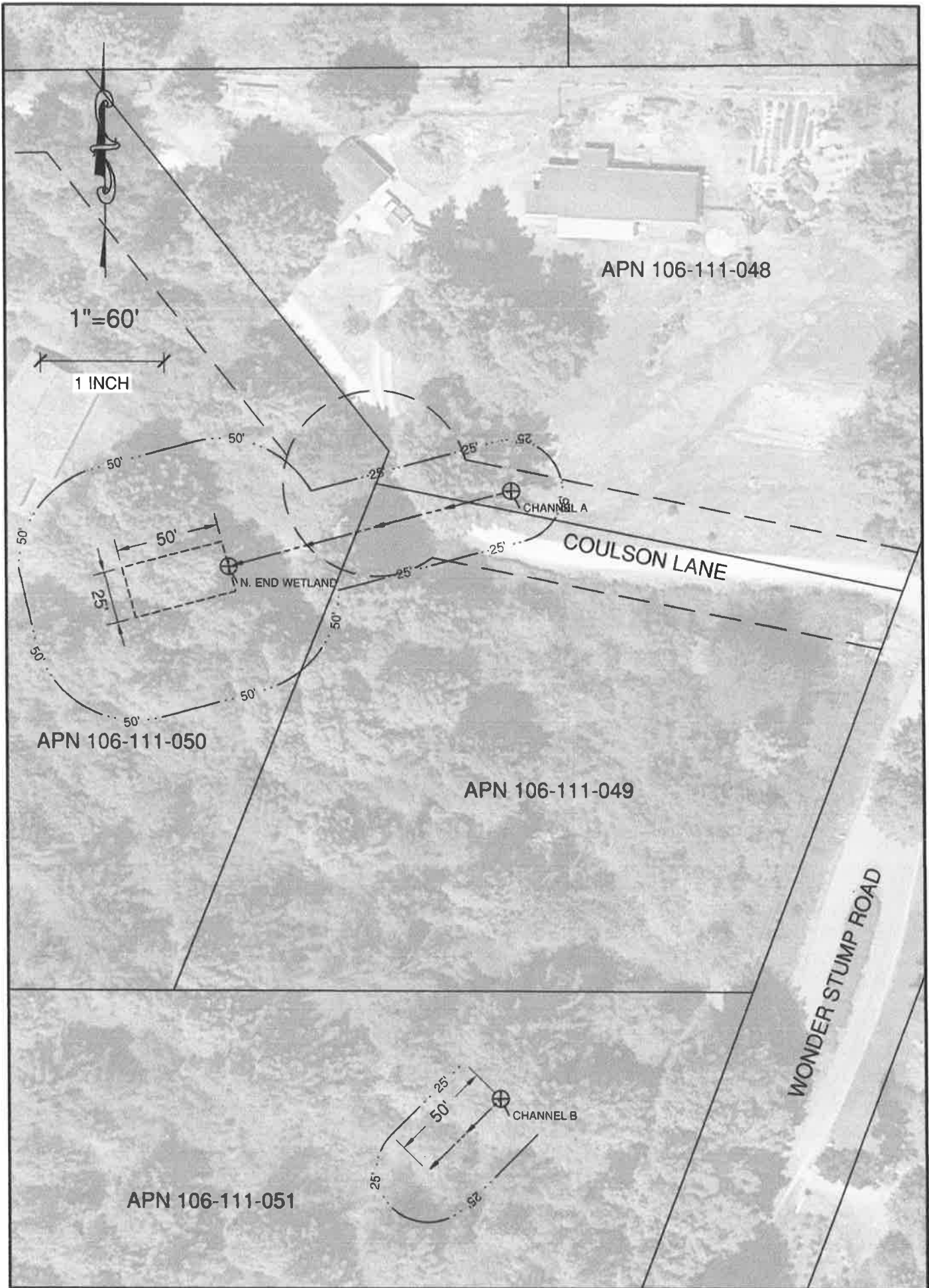
4.4 Wetland Habitats

A wetland patch was found off the project (Figure 3), at the end of a drainage channel (Channel A) which ran through the northwest corner of the north parcel. A wetland delineation was not conducted as the wetland is on private property. The wetland patch was identified by hydric vegetation occupying an expanded channel. The wetland patch is surrounded by mid-seral redwood forest and is limited in size. A non-development buffer of 50 feet is recommended for the wetland patch, and a 25-foot buffer is recommended for the channel leading up to it, as the channel was barely discernable in the woods.

No wetlands were found in association with Channel B (Figure 3). A non-development buffer of 25 feet is recommended for Channel B, as it too was small and barely discernable.

4.5 Potential Impacts from Project

The Applicant proposes to clear much of the property in order to build a single-family home. As the property is surrounded by developed, single-family homes and is located next to a busy road, there would be no additional impacts to wildlife species from this project. Non-development buffers would suffice to protect the wetland area and drainage channels from impacts.



5.0

STAFF QUALIFICATIONS

Habitat assessment and report writing for this project was conducted by Principal Biologist, Frank Galea. Frank is the primary Biological Consultant and owner of Galea Biological Consulting, established in 1989. Frank is certified as a Wildlife Biologist through the Wildlife Society. Frank's qualifications include a Master of Science Degree in Wildlife Management from Humboldt State University and a Bachelor of Science in Zoology from San Diego State University. Frank has been assessing habitat and conducting field surveys for Threatened and Endangered species in Del Norte County for over 30 years. Frank has taken an accredited class on wetland delineation through the Wetland Training Institute, and has successfully completed a Watershed Assessment and Erosion Treatment course through the Salmonid Restoration Federation.



Providing Professional Forestry Services

PO Box 2517
McKinleyville, CA 95519

CELL 707.834.2990
EMAIL blairforestry@gmail.com

May 3, 2021

Del Norte County Planning Division
Heidi Kunstal, County Community Development Director
981 H Street, Suite 110
Crescent City, CA 95531

Re: Notification of Conversion Exemption Timber Operations

Dear County Representative,

Please see the included "LESS THAN 3 ACRE CONVERSION EXEMPTION" which has been prepared in accordance with the California Forest Practice Rules 14CCR 1104.1. Conversion Exemption operations are proposed for the following location:

ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER: 106-111-049 & 106-111-051
Timberland Owner(s): Name Coulson Trust Address PO Box 1797
City Crescent City State CA Zip 95531 Phone (707) 951-4626

As the County Board of Supervisors authorized designee for Del Norte, this form is not complete until signed by you. By signing under Item 6, you declare that this conversion exemption is in conformance with all County regulatory requirements. The forms may then be prepared for filing with the California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection.

As the Registered Professional Forester, I certify that I have, or my supervised designee has, prepared this Notice of Conversion Exemption timber operations, visited the site, and flagged the boundaries of the conversion exemption and any applicable watercourse protection zones.

You may contact me with any questions regarding this conversion exemption.

Regards,

Todd Truesdell, Registered Professional Forester 2969
Blair Forestry Consulting



LESS THAN 3 ACRE CONVERSION EXEMPTION

FOR ADMIN. USE ONLY

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION
NOTICE OF TIMBER OPERATIONS THAT ARE EXEMPT FROM
CONVERSION AND TIMBER HARVESTING PLAN REQUIREMENTS
RM-73 (1104.1a) (01/2019)

EX. # _____
Date of Receipt _____
Date Validated by CAL FIRE _____
Date Expires _____

VALID FOR ONE YEAR FROM DATE RECEIPT BY CAL FIRE.
OPERATIONS CANNOT COMMENCE FOR FIFTEEN DAYS AFTER RECEIPT AND A NOTICE OF VALIDATION IS RECEIVED FROM CAL FIRE.

The Director of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) is hereby notified of timber operations under the requirements of 14 CCR § 1104.1(a): Harvesting of trees that is a single conversion to a non-timber growing use of timberland of less than three acres. (See 14 CCR § 1104.1(a) for a description of the conditions on the conduct of this type of timber operation and additional information that is required to be submitted.) Complete Items 1 through 8 on both pages of this notice.

1. Registered Professional Forester preparing Notice: Name Todd Truesdell Number 2969
Address PO Box 2517
City McKinleyville State CA Zip 95519 Phone 707-496-7322

I have, or my supervised designee has, (1) prepared this Notice of Conversion Exemption Timber Operations; (2) visited the site and flagged the boundaries of the conversion exemption, applicable WLPZs and equipment limitation zones; (3) prepared a Neighborhood Notice of Conversion Exemption according to 14 CCR § 1104.1(a)(3) to be mailed by the landowner to adjacent landowners; and (4) posted and dated a copy of the Neighborhood Notice of Conversion Exemption on the ownership, visible to the public, at least 5 days prior to the postmark date of submission of the Notice of Conversion Exemption. I certify that if the County Board of Supervisors has not designated a representative authorized to sign in Item 6 that I, or my supervised designee, contacted the county and the Notice is in conformance with county regulations. I am not responsible for determination of property lines that define an ownership boundary or ownership of line trees.

SIGNATURE of RPF (required) _____ Date _____

2. LICENSED TIMBER OPERATOR(S): Name Smith River Equipment - Richard Hopkins Lic. No. A-9917
Address 2807 Prince Rd
City Crescent City State CA Zip 95531 Phone 707-218-8027

SIGNATURE  Date 6-2-21

3. TIMBERLAND OWNER(S) OF RECORD: Name Coulson Trust
Address PO Box 1797
City Crescent City State CA Zip 95531 Phone 707-951-4626

I certify, under penalty of perjury, that this is a one-time conversion to a non-timberland use and that there is a "BONA FIDE INTENT" [14 CCR §1100(b)] to convert to: (required) Potential homesite and associated landscaping.

(State what the conversion will be to)

Per 14 CCR 1104.1(a)(1)(E)(4), The Timberland Owner of Record, certifies and declares under penalty of perjury that he/she whether acting as an individual, acting as a member of a partnership, or acting as an officer or employee of a corporation or other legal entity, has not obtained an exemption pursuant to this section in the last five years unless a waiver has been granted pursuant to 14 CCR 1104.1(a)(9).

SIGNATURE  Date 5/4/2021
Fred Coulson (Trustee)

4. TIMBER OWNER(S) OF RECORD: Name Same as 3 above
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

5. NOTICE SUBMITTER(S): Name Coulson Trust
Address PO Box 1797
City Crescent City State CA Zip 95531 Phone 707-951-4626

Submitter must be 2,3 or 4 above, and must sign.

SIGNATURE [Signature] Date 5/4/2021

6. COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DECLARATION: (required)
I, _____, declare as the authorized designee of the County Board of Supervisors that this conversion exemption is in conformance with all county regulatory requirements, including public notice. (If the county has authorized a designee this item MUST be completed. If it has not, see Item 1.)
SIGNATURE _____ Date _____

TIMBER TAX NOTICE: The TIMBER OWNER is responsible for payment of a yield tax.
For timber yield tax information or for assistance with these questions call 1-800-400-7115, or write: Timber Tax Section, MIC: 60, California Department of Tax and Fee Administration, P.O. Box 942879, Sacramento, CA 94279-0060; or see the CDTFA Web Page on the Internet <http://www.cdtfa.ca.gov>.

TIMBER TAX EXEMPTION: Some small or low value harvests may be exempt from the timber yield tax (Revenue and Taxation Code sec. 38116)
Timber Owners may be considered exempt if the value of the harvesting operations does not exceed \$3,000 dollars within a quarter, according to CDTFA Harvest Value Schedules, Rule 1024.

IF THE TIMBER OWNER BELIEVES HARVESTING MAY BE EXEMPT (see timber tax exemption language above for low value harvests) PLEASE CHECK BELOW:

FINAL DETERMINATION of tax exempt status will be made by the Timber Tax Section of the California Department of Tax and Fees Administration. If you think you are exempt based on the directions above please complete the below information so the Timber Tax Section can make the final determination.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE CDTFA TIMBER TAX SECTION TO CONSIDER A TAX EXEMPTION BASED ON PROJECTED HARVEST PLEASE COMPLETE THE INFORMATION BELOW.

- A. Circle the option that most closely estimates the total volume for this harvest, in thousands of board feet (mbf - Net Scribner short log):
Under 8 mbf 8-15 mbf 16-25 mbf Over 25 mbf
- B. Estimate what percentage of timber will be removed during this harvest: (percentages provided should equal 100%)
Redwood 75 %; Ponderosa/Sugar pine _____ %; Douglas-fir 10 %; Fir 15 %;
Port-Orford Cedar _____ %; Cedar (IC, WRC) _____ %; Other conifer _____ %; Other hardwood _____ %.
- C. Fuelwood over 150 cords? Yes No D. Christmas trees over 3,000 lineal feet? Yes No

7. 14 CCR § 1038 (i) - Is it anticipated that a tree existing before 1800 A.D. greater than 60 inches' diameter at stump height for Sierra or Coastal Redwoods or 48 inches in diameter at stump height for all other tree species will be harvested? YES NO (required)

NOTE: If yes please refer to 14 CCR § 1038(h) and have an RPF prepare an explanation and justification described in 14 CCR § 1104.1(i) to be included at Submission

8. Has the Timberland Owner, whether acting as an individual, partnership or as an employee of a corporation or other legal entity obtained a conversion on a contiguous land ownership within the last 5 years? YES NO (required)

NOTE: If YES then the landowner may not apply for the conversion. The Timberland Owner may request a waiver of the five-year limitation with the Department per 14 CCR § 1104.1(a)(9)(A)(1-3)(B-D)

9. Has all or a portion of the contiguous land ownership been subject to a PRIOR, unpermitted Timberland conversion? (required) YES NO

If YES please provide a description or information to assist the Director in determining that this conversion would be consistent with the purpose of the Act. (optional)

NOTE: Per 14 CCR § 1104.1(a) This conversion exemption is applicable to a conversion of Timberland to a non-timber use only, of less than three acres in one contiguous ownership, whether or not it is a portion of a larger land parcel and shall not be part of a THP. This conversion exemption may only be used once per contiguous land ownership. If all or a portion of the contiguous land ownership has been subject to prior, unpermitted Timberland conversion, a conversion exemption hereunder shall not be accepted unless the Director determines that it would be consistent with the purposes of the Act

10. Will Timber operations occur within the winter period? YES NO (optional)

NOTE: If YES refer to 14 CCR § 1104.1(a)(2)(E)(1-3) for specific requirements

11. Has the County / City approved by local permit operations within a WLPZ? YES NO (optional)

NOTE: timber operations are NOT allowed within a WLPZ without approval by county or city approval.

12. Have significant archaeological sites been identified within the project area? (required) YES NO
 - If yes will the site be preserved in place? YES NO
 - If yes please provide written concurrence from the Departments Archaeologist at the time of submission.

13. Designate the legal land description of the location of the timber operation. Attach a USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle or equivalent map showing the location of timber operations, it would be helpful to describe the access route to the timber operation so that it can be easily located, and/or include an assessor's parcel map for small areas. (required)

Base Meridian	Township	Range	Section	County	Logging Area Acreage (Estimated)	(required) Assessor's Parcel #
<u>Humboldt</u>	<u>17-North</u>	<u>1-West</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>Del Norte</u>	<u>2.4</u>	<u>106-111-049;106-111-051</u>

The exemption area is located on Wonderstump Road.

The following are limitations or requirements for timber operations conducted under a Less Than Three Acre Conversion Exemption: (Notice, Notice of Conversion Exemption, Conversion Exemption):

- Timber operations shall comply with all other applicable provisions of the Forest Practice Act and regulations, county general plans, zoning ordinances, State regulations and any implementing ordinances; copies of the state rules and regulations may be found on CAL FIRE's Web Page on the Internet at <http://www.fire.ca.gov>.
- All timber operations shall be complete within one year from the date of acceptance by CAL FIRE. 14 CCR § 1104.1(a)(2)(A)

3. All conversion activities shall be completed within two years from the date of acceptance by CAL FIRE unless under permit by local jurisdiction. Failure to complete the conversion requires compliance with stocking standards and stocking report requirements of the Forest Practice Act and Board of Forestry and Fire Protection regulations. 14 CCR § 1104.1(a)(2)(B)
4. The RPF or supervised designee shall visit the site and flag the boundary of the conversion exemption timber operations and flag any applicable WLPZs and equipment limitation zones. 14 CCR § 1104.1(a)(2)(C)
5. The Timber Operator shall be the responsible party for the treatment of logging Slash and woody debris. 14 CCR 1104.1(a)(2)(D)
6. Timber operations may be conducted during the winter period. Tractor operations in the winter period are allowed under any of the conditions described in 14 CCR § 1104.1(a)(2)(E)(1-3)
7. No timber operations are allowed within a watercourse and lake protection zone unless specifically approved by local permit (e.g., county, city). 14 CCR § 1104.1(a)(2)(F)
8. No timber operations shall be conducted until CAL FIRE's notice of acceptance is received and a valid copy of this notice and CAL FIRE's acceptance shall be kept on site during timber operations.
9. Before beginning Timber Operations, the Timber Operator shall notify the Department of the actual commencement date of operations. The notification, by telephone, mail, or email, shall be directed to the appropriate CAL FIRE Unit Headquarters, Forest Practice Inspector or other designated personnel. If the notification is provided by mail, Timber Operations may not commence until three (3) days after the postmark date of notification. 14 CCR § 1104.1(a)(2)(K)
10. Operations conducted under a notice of exemption are NOT permitted in known sites of rare, candidate, threatened or endangered plants and animals if the sites will be disturbed or damaged. NO timber operations may occur within a buffer zone of a listed, or sensitive species defined by 14 CCR § 895.1
11. If any activities related to timber operations, as defined by PRC 4527, are to include any of the following activities in any river, stream or lake, including episodic and perennial waterways, a notification to the California Department Fish and Wildlife is required pursuant to Fish and Game Code §1602: 1) A substantial alteration of the bed, bank, or channel; 2) A substantial diversion (i.e. water drafting) or obstruction of the natural flow; or 3) Use of material from or deposit of material into the watercourse. Information on the Lake and Streambed Alteration Program, as well as notification forms, may be found at the following link: <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/conservation/lisa>.
12. No timber operations are allowed on significant historical or archeological sites. See question #12 Above. Exception can be made if site is preserved and written concurrence is received, at time of submission of the Notice, from the Department Archeologist. 14 CCR § 1104.1(a)(2)(1)(1)(a-b)
13. A violation of the conversion exemption, including a conversion applied for in the name of someone other than the person or entity implementing the conversion in bona fide good faith, are violations of the Forest Practice Act and penalties may accrue up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for each violation pursuant to Article 8 (commencing with Section 4601).
14. Within one month of the completion of timber operations including slash disposal the landowner shall submit to CAL FIRE a RM-71 Completion and Stocking report. Per PRC 4585 and PRC 4587.
15. Timber operations conducted under this notice shall comply with all operational provisions of the Forest Practice Act and District Forest Practice Rules applicable to "Timber Harvesting Plan," "THP," and "plan." Timber operations must conform to applicable city or county general plans, city or county implementing ordinances, and city or county zoning ordinances within which the exemption is located.

The following suggestions may help ensure your compliance with the Forest Practice Rules:

1. Timber Owners, Timberland Owners and Timber Operators should obtain and review copies of the Forest Practice Rules pertaining to the Notice of Exemption. Copies may be obtained from BARCLAYS LAW PUBLISHERS, P.O. BOX 3066, SO. SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 94080. or from CAL FIRE, Forest Practice Section, P.O. BOX 944246, Sacramento, CA 94244-2460; or from CAL FIRE's Web Page on the Internet at <http://www.fire.ca.gov>.
2. Contact the CAL FIRE office listed below for questions regarding the use of this notice.

FILE THIS NOTICE WITH THE CAL FIRE OFFICE BELOW FOR THE COUNTY IN WHICH THE OPERATION WILL OCCUR:

Alameda, Colusa, Contra Costa, Del Norte Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Napa, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Sonoma, western Trinity and Yolo Counties.	⇒ ⇒	Forest Practice Program Manager CAL FIRE 135 Ridgway Avenue Santa Rosa, CA 95401
Butte, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Sutter, Tehama, eastern Trinity and Yuba Counties.	⇒ ⇒	Forest Practice Program Manager CAL FIRE 6105 Airport Road Redding, CA 96002
Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Fresno, Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Los Angeles, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Mono, Monterey, Orange, Riverside, San Benito, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Stanislaus, Tuolumne, Tulare, and Ventura Counties.	⇒ ⇒ ⇒	Forest Practice Program Manager CAL FIRE 1234 East Shaw Avenue Fresno, CA 93710

Additional Information

14 CCR 1104.1(a)(6): Conversion feasibility

- (A) The extent of the vegetation removal and site preparation required for the conversion includes the removal of approximately 16-25 mbf of trees. Ground vegetation that will be removed includes cascara, ferns, huckleberry, grass, and brush. Equipment used for tree and brush removal includes tractors, excavators and chippers.
- (B) The parcel along with the surrounding topography has moderate slopes, ranging from 0 to 10% and a generally west aspect. Microclimate is influenced by coastal conditions and appears suitable for the stated non-timber. The soils are suitable for the stated use as seen by surrounding conditions and properties.

14CCR 1104.1(a)(2)(H) - Rare, threatened or endangered plants or animals

A search of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) for sensitive species was conducted on April 15, 2021. There are no known rare, threatened or endangered species identified within the project area.

14CCR 1104.1(a)(2)(F) - Watercourse protection

The conversion area and adjacent areas were evaluated for the presence of watercourses. Class II and III watercourses are found within the ownership and have been provided protection buffers per CA Forest Practice Rules. The conversion area is not located within a WLPZ.

14CCR 1104.1(a)(2)(E) - Winter Period operations

Timber operations may be conducted during the winter period. Tractor operations in the Winter Period are allowed under any of the following conditions:

1. During dry, rainless periods but shall not be conducted on saturated soil conditions that may produce significant sediment discharge. Erosion control structures shall be installed on all constructed skid trails and tractor roads prior to sunset if the National Weather Service forecast is a "chance" (30% or more) of rain within the next 24 hours.
2. When ground conditions in the conversion exemption area and appurtenant roads satisfy the "hard frozen" definition in 14 CCR 895.1.
3. Over-snow operations where no soil disturbance occurs.

14CCR 1104.1(a)(2)(D) - Treatment of slash and woody debris

The timber operator shall be the responsible party for the treatment of logging slash and woody debris.

- (1) Unless otherwise required, slash greater than one inch in diameter and greater than two feet long, and woody debris, except pine, shall receive full treatment no later than April 1 of the year following its creation, or within one year from the date of acceptance of the conversion exemption by the Director, whichever comes first.
- (2) All pine slash three inches and greater in diameter and longer than four feet must receive initial treatment if it is still on the parcel, within seven (7) days of its creation.
- (3) All pine woody debris longer than four feet must receive an initial treatment prior to full treatment.
- (4) Initial treatment shall include limbing woody debris and cutting slash and woody debris into lengths of less than four feet, and leaving the pieces exposed to solar radiation to aid in rapid drying.
- (5) Full treatment of all pine slash and woody debris must be completed by March 1 of the year following its creation, or within one year from the date of acceptance of the conversion exemption by the Director, whichever comes first.
- (6) Full slash and woody debris treatment may include any of the following:
 - a. burying;
 - b. chipping and spreading;
 - c. piling and burning; or
 - d. removing slash and woody debris from the site for treatment in compliance with (a)-(b).

Slash and woody debris may not be burned by open outdoor fires except under permit from the appropriate fire protection agency, if required, the local air pollution control district or air quality management district. The burning must occur on the property where the slash and woody debris originated.

- (7) Slash and woody debris, except for pine, which is cut up for firewood shall be cut to lengths 24 inches or less and set aside for drying by April 1 of the year following its creation. Pine slash and woody debris which is cut up for firewood shall be cut to lengths 24 inches or less and set aside for drying within seven (7) days of its creation. All treatment work must be completed prior to the expiration date for the conversion exemption.
- (8) Any treatment which involves burning of slash or woody debris shall comply with all state and local fire and air quality rules.
- (9) This section does not supersede more restrictive treatments or time frames within a Forest district or subdistrict.

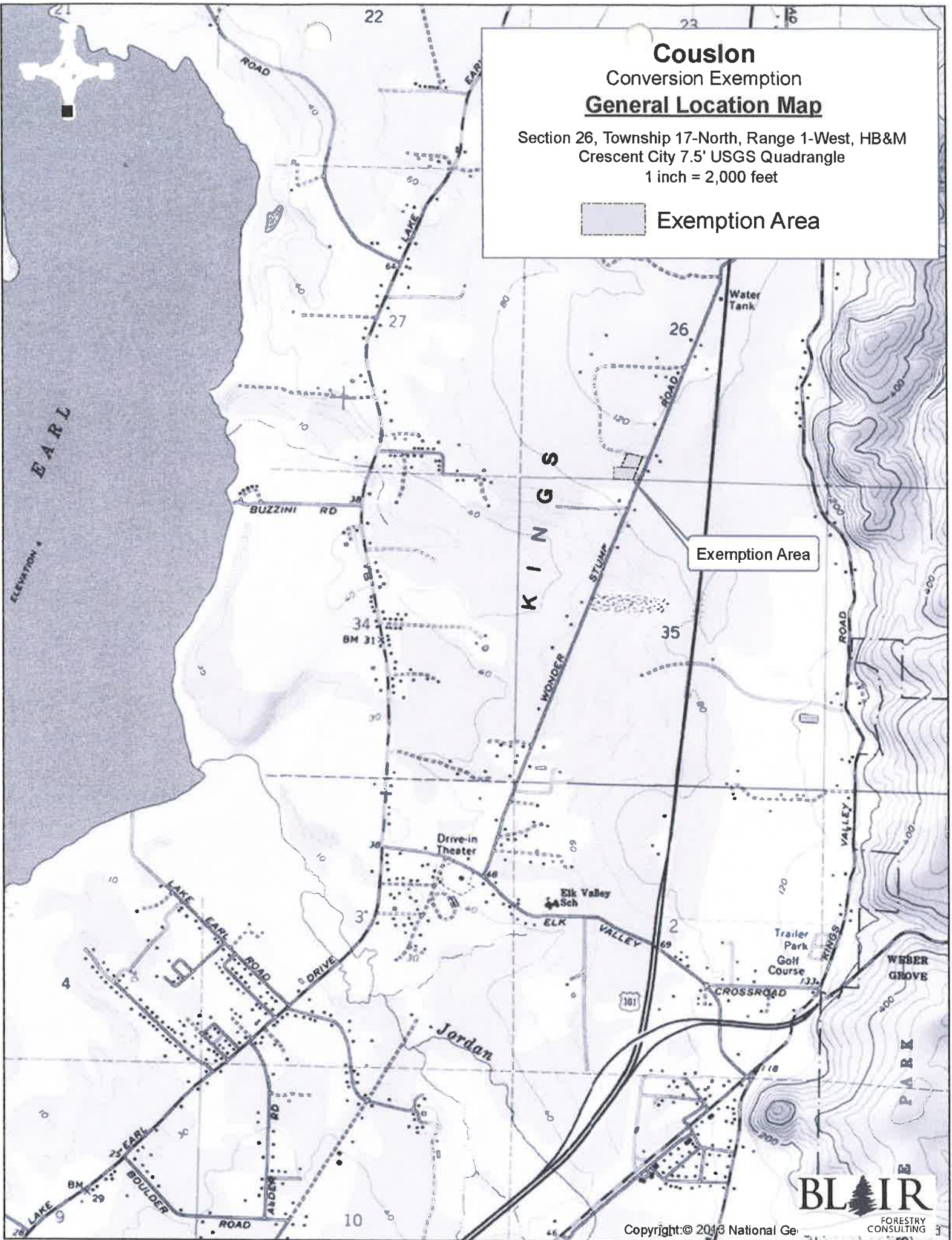
Couslon

Conversion Exemption

General Location Map

Section 26, Township 17-North, Range 1-West, HB&M
Crescent City 7.5' USGS Quadrangle
1 inch = 2,000 feet

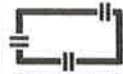


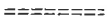






 Exemption Area





Couslon Conversion Exemption Operations Map

Section 26, Township 17-North, Range 1-West, HB&M
Crescent City 7.5' USGS Quadrangle
1 inch = 100 feet

-  Exemption Area
-  Permanent Road
-  Ownership Parcels
-  Seasonal Road
-  County Parcels
-  Class II Watercourse
-  Structure
-  Class III Watercourse
-  Power Lines
-  Landing

