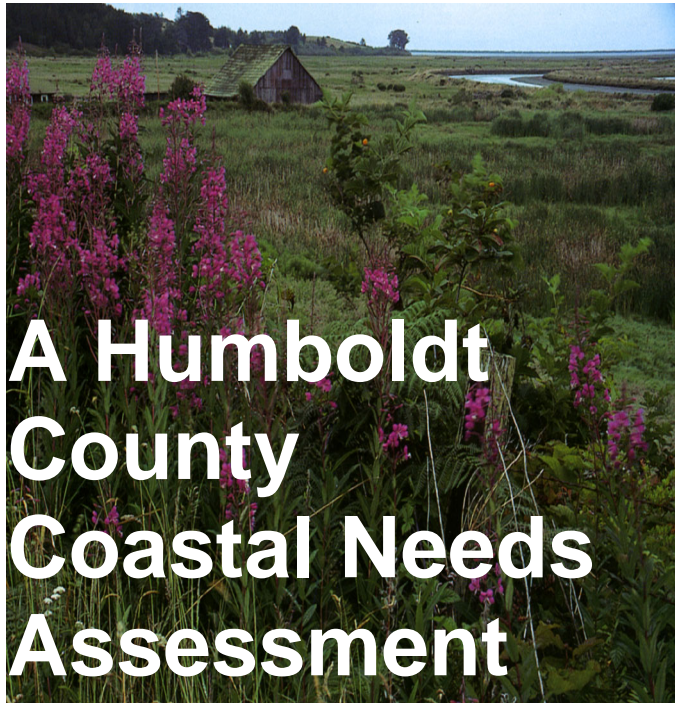


Linking Land and Sea

Appendix K



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HSU Natural Resources Planning
Senior Practicum 2006

Appendix K
HSU Senior Practicum Project Final Report
“A Humboldt County Coastal Needs Assessment”

Mission Statement:

“California’s North Coast is home to some of the richest and most diverse terrestrial and marine habitats in the world. As the Humboldt County Local Coastal Program (LCP) is being updated to reflect changes in land use, resource management, community needs, and community values, we will work to obtain feedback from key county staff members and other stakeholders in an open and collaborative way to assist in The Linking Land and Sea project that seeks to answer the question, ‘What do the people and organizations that are involved in marine or terrestrial coastal conservation need to successfully carry out their missions and implement their programs and projects?’”

Executive Summary.....	pg. 7
1. Introduction.....	pg. 9
2. Context / Background.....	pg. 13
2.1. Humboldt County’s Coastal Environment.....	pg. 13
2.2. The Coastal Zone Management Act.....	pg. 13
2.3. The California Coastal Commission.....	pg. 14
2.4. The California Coastal Act.....	pg. 16
2.5. The California Coastal Conservancy.....	pg.18
3. Methods.....	pg. 19
3.1. Review of Humboldt County’s Local Coastal Program.....	pg. 19
3.2. Review of other LCPs.....	pg. 19
3.3. Interviews.....	pg. 19
3.4. Data Compilation	pg. 20
4. Results.....	pg. 22
4.1. Issues in Humboldt County’s Current Local Coastal Plan.....	pg. 22
4.2. Topics for Discussion in Updating LCP.....	pg. 24
4.2.1. Access Issues: General.....	pg. 25
4.2.2. Access Issues: Specific.....	pg. 26
4.2.3. Recreational Issues: General.....	pg. 29
4.2.4. Recreational Issues: Specific.....	pg. 29
4.2.5. Water and Marine Resource Issues: General.....	pg. 32
4.2.6. Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas Issues: General.....	pg. 33
4.2.7. Agricultural Issues: General.....	pg. 34
4.2.8. Agricultural Issues: Specific.....	pg. 35
4.2.9. Natural Hazard Issues: General.....	pg. 36
4.2.10. Visual Resource Issues: General.....	pg. 37
4.2.11. Industrial and Energy Resource Issues: General.....	pg. 38
4.2.12. Industrial and Energy Resource Issues: Specific.....	pg. 38

4.2.13. Public Works Issues: General.....	pg. 39
4.2.14. Public Works Issues: Specific.....	pg. 39
4.2.15. Housing and Development Issues: General.....	pg. 40
4.2.16. Humboldt County’s LCP Summary.....	pg. 41
4.3. Additional LCP’s along the California Coastal Zone.....	pg. 41
4.4. Interviews.....	pg. 46
5. Discussion.....	pg. 51
5.1. Strengths.....	pg. 51
5.2. Weaknesses.....	pg. 51
6. Conclusion.....	pg. 52
6.1. Needs Identified.....	pg. 52
6.2. Valuable References.....	pg. 55
6.3. Recommendations.....	pg. 56
Acknowledgements.....	pg. 58
References.....	pg. 59
Acronyms.....	pg. 61
Appendices.....	pg. 62

Executive Summary

The main objective the California Coastal Act of 1976 is protection of the California's coastline. Secondly it facilitates partnerships between state and local governments, providing local governments with the necessary authority and understanding to manage and regulate their coastal resources. Coastal Act policies are accomplished through Local Coastal Programs (LCP) which are completed by each of the 15 counties and 59 cities located in whole or in part in the coastal zone.

Humboldt County's LCP was developed, covering six geographic sub-units, in the early 1980's with implementing regulations approved in 1985. To date, no comprehensive updates have been undertaken. Humboldt County is currently in the process of revising the General Plan and the LCP.

The Linking Land & Sea Project is being completed by the Redwood Community Action Agency (RCAA) to assess the needs of conservation organizations in Humboldt, Mendocino, and Del Norte Counties for regional strategic coastal conservation planning and implementation.

In cooperation with the Linking Land and Sea Project, we are a group of Humboldt State University students that have developed a needs assessment for Humboldt County to help with the updating process of the LCP. In our research, we analyzed what did and did not work in the county's current six LCPs. We examined other LCPs for relevant forward thinking ideas in coastal conservation planning to act as a model for Humboldt and interviewed key people who could provide valuable information. We hope that our recommendations can be incorporated into the Humboldt County LCP update.

Through this process we determined that overall the lack of staff to implement and enforce the LCP is a problem. Further, the county needs to update soil/vegetation and wetland maps of the County. The County has improved its GIS capacity but some of the municipalities do not have good spatial analysis capabilities. The permitting process for dike maintenance needs to be updated. Updated water quality policies need to be included with language connecting the coastal zone and drainages. This could ultimately create a connection between marine and terrestrial resources – the goal of the Linking Land and Sea Project.

1. Introduction

The state of California enacted the California Coastal Act in 1976 with the main objective of protecting the state's coastline. In addition, the state wanted to see partnerships linking state and local governments. Through this link, local governments would gain the authority and understanding to manage and regulate their individual local coastal resources. Implementation of Coastal Act of 1976 policies is accomplished primarily through the preparation of LCPs that are required to be completed by each of the 15 counties and 59 cities located in whole or in part in the coastal zone.

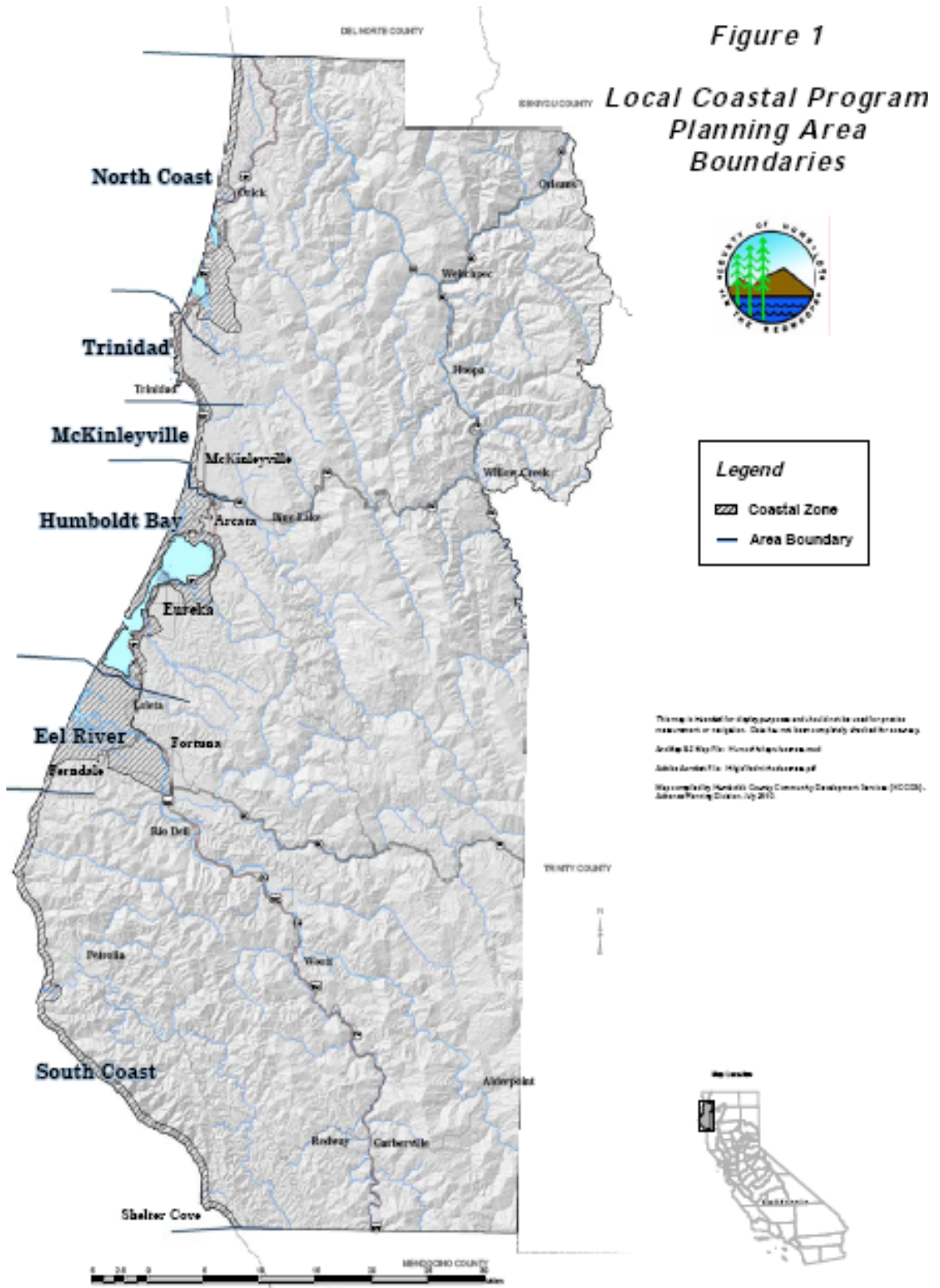
California's coastal management program is carried out through a partnership between state and local governments resulting from the California Coastal Act (CCA). Completed LCPs must be submitted to the CA Coastal Commission (Commission) for review and approval. An LCP includes a land use plan (LUP) which may be the relevant portion of the local general plan, including any maps necessary to administer it, the zoning ordinances, zoning district maps, and other legal instruments necessary to implement the land use plan. Coastal Act policies are the standards by which the Commission evaluates the adequacy of LCPs. Amendments to certified LUPs and LCPs only become effective after approval by the Commission. To ensure that coastal resources are effectively protected in light of changing circumstances, such as new information and changing development pressures and impacts, the Commission is required to review each certified LCP at least once every five years. (CCC 2006)

Humboldt County's LCP was developed, covering six geographic sub-units, in the early 1980's with implementing regulations approved in 1985 (Figure 1). To date, no comprehensive updates have been undertaken. The County is currently in the process of revising the General Plan. During this revision the LCP will be updated as well. The Board of Supervisors for Humboldt County and the Commission agreed in 2003 that the time was "ripe" for integration of the six area coastal plans in the update of the County General Plan. (LCPWN, 2003)

A Linking Land & Sea Needs Assessment is being conducted by the Redwood Community Action Agency (RCAA) and Pacific Marine Conservation Council (PMCC) to assess and document the needs of conservation organizations in Humboldt, Mendocino, and Del Norte Counties for regional strategic coastal conservation planning and implementation. The Linking Land and Sea project seeks to answer the question, "What do the people and organizations that are involved in marine or terrestrial coastal conservation need to successfully carry out their missions and implement their programs and projects?" The Linking Land and Sea project is an opportunity for the Northern California coastal conservation organizations to collectively communicate what their needs are in regard to resources and support. In cooperation with - Linking Land and Sea, we are a group of Humboldt State Students that have developed a needs assessment for Humboldt County to help with the updating process of the LCP. In our research, we analyzed what did and did not work in the county's current six LCPs and who the stakeholders are that will be affected by the final plan.

We examined other LCPs for relevant forward thinking ideas in coastal conservation planning to act as a model for Humboldt; we interviewed local experts in coastal planning, and identified what is missing from Humboldt Counties current LCP to better plan for marine and terrestrial resources collectively in future land use planning. We hope that our recommendations can be incorporated into the Humboldt County LCP.

Figure 1: (HCDCDS 2003)



2. Context / Background

2.1. Humboldt County's Coastal Environment

Humboldt County's coastal zone is part of the southern extension of the Pacific Northwest's temperate coastal rain forests. Humboldt County "harbors rich coastal ecosystems such as coastal terrace prairies, dunes, estuaries, salt marshes, and redwood and Douglas fir – tan oak forests. Inland, the eco-region is dominated by Douglas fir – tan oak forests, oak woodlands, annual grasslands, and mixed evergreen forests. It is home to keystone species such as the northern spotted owl, marbled murrelet, mountain lion, salmon, and steelhead, as well as the iconic coastal redwood forests" (CPNC 2005).

2.2. The Coastal Zone Management Act

In October 1972, the United States Congress passed Title 16 U.S.C. 1451-1464, which established a federal coastal zone management policy and created a federal coastal zone. With this legislation, the Congress declared a national interest in the effective management, beneficial use, protection and development of the coastal zone in order to balance the nation's natural, environmental and aesthetic resource needs with commercial-economic growth. The Congress defined national policy "to encourage and assist the states to exercise effectively their responsibilities in the coastal zone through the development and implementation of management programs to achieve wise use of the land and water resources of the coastal zone giving full consideration to ecological, cultural, historic, and aesthetic values as well as to the need for economic development

(16 U.S.C. 1452.2). As a result of that federal enactment, coastal states were provided with both policy guidelines and a source of funding for the implementation of federal goals. (OCRM 2006)

The California Coastal Zone Conservation Act of 1972 (Proposition 20) was a temporary measure passed by the voters of the state as a ballot initiative. It set up temporary regional coastal -commissions with permit authority and a directive to prepare a comprehensive coastal plan. The Coastal Commission, under Proposition 20, lacked the authority to implement the Coastal Plan but was required to submit the Plan to the legislature for “adoption and implementation.” The California Coastal Act was approved by the State legislature in 1976. The Coastal Act established a different set of policies, a different boundary line, and different permitting procedures than Proposition 20. Further, it provided for the transfer of permitting authority, with certain limitations reserved for the State, to local governments through adoption and certification of Local Coastal Programs (LCP) by the Coastal Commission (CMLCPLUP).

2.3. The California Coastal Commission

The California Coastal Commission (Commission) was established by voter initiative in 1972 (Proposition 20) and later made permanent by the Legislature through adoption of the California Coastal Act (CCA) of 1976. The Commission is an independent, quasi-judicial state agency that was formed to protect coastlines and create regulatory processes while creating a connection between state and local planners and governments who manage the coast. It is composed of twelve voting members,

appointed equally (four each) by the Governor, the Senate Rules Committee, and the Speaker of the Assembly. Six of the voting commissioners are locally elected officials and six are appointed from the public at large. Four ex officio (non-voting) members represent the Resources Agency, the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, the Trade and Commerce Agency, and the State Lands Commission. The Commission's mission statement is: "Protect, conserve, restore, and enhance environmental and human-based resources of the California coast and ocean for environmentally sustainable and prudent use by current and future generations" (CCC2006).

To carry out these goals the Commission works with coastal cities and counties to plan and regulate the use of land and water in the coastal zone. Development activities, such as construction of buildings, division of land, and activities that change the intensity of use of land or public access to coastal waters generally require a coastal permit from either the Commission or the local government. Development within the coastal zone may not commence until a coastal development permit has been issued by either the Commission or a local government that has a commission-certified LCP. After certification of an LCP, coastal development permit authority is delegated to the appropriate local government, but the Commission retains original permit jurisdiction over certain specified lands (such as tidelands and public trust lands). The Commission also has appellate authority over development approved by local governments in specified geographic areas as well as certain other developments. (CCC 2006)

2.4. The California Coastal Act

The CCA of 1976 (Division 20 of the Public Resources Code), as stated previously, requires Humboldt County to plan and regulate the conservation and development of coastal resources in their LCP. The main goals and policies that the state legislature wanted pursued in the Coastal Zone by enacting the Coastal Act of 1976, have been identified as; (a) Protect, maintain and, where feasible, enhance and restore the overall quality of the coastal zone environment and its natural and manmade resources, (b) Assure orderly, balanced utilization and conservation of coastal zone resources, taking into account the social and economic needs of the people of the state, (c) Maximize public access to and along the coast and maximize public recreational opportunities in the coastal zone consistent with sound resource conservation principles and constitutionally protected rights of private property owners, (d) Assure priority for coastal-dependent development over other development on the coast and (e) Encourage state and local initiatives and cooperation in preparing procedures to implement coordinated planning and development for mutually beneficial uses, including educational uses, in the coastal zone. (OCRM 2006)

The standards the Commission used to review coastal development permits and LCPs are contained in Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act. This chapter is important because it provides regulations concerning many frequently used and often contentious subjects including, development, public access and recreation, marine environments, and land resources. Chapter 3 provides the requirements by which local governments will construct their LCPs.

The chapter is broken into seven articles which regulate development on the Coast. Among other things, these sections maintain protection of public access, recreational opportunities, and marine and land resources. Article 1 states that Chapter 3 shall be used as the standard against which the legality of LCPs and development permits will be measured. Article 2 mandates that development shall not interfere with the public's right to access the (sea including dry sand beach) beach.

Article 3 covers recreation, placing a priority on coastal dependent public and private recreation over residential development. Article 4 deals with protection of the marine environment, including water quality issues, wetlands protections and coastal armoring. Article 5 includes protections for environmentally sensitive habitat, agriculture and archeological resources. Article 6 deals with development and issues such as protection of coastal views, limitations on coastal armoring and landform alteration, and geologic hazards. Article 7 covers industrial development (CACA 2006).

In addition, the Coastal Act has specific policies that address issues such as shoreline public access and recreation, lower cost visitor accommodations, terrestrial and marine habitat protection, visual resources, landform alteration, agricultural lands, commercial fisheries, industrial uses, water quality, offshore oil and gas development, transportation, development design, power plants, ports, and public works. The policies of the Coastal Act constitute the statutory standards applied to planning and regulatory decisions made by the Commission and by local governments, pursuant to the Coastal Act. (CCC 2006)

2.5. The California Coastal Conservancy

The California Coastal Conservancy (Conservancy), established in 1976 during the same time as the Coastal Act, is a state agency that uses entrepreneurial techniques to purchase, protect, restore, and enhance coastal resources along with providing access to the shore. They too work in partnership with local governments, other public agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private land owners on various projects along the coastline. These projects include: the construction of trails and public access facilities, restoration and enhancement of wetlands and wildlife habitat, restoration of public piers and urban waterfronts, preservation of farmland, and other projects in line with the goals of the Coastal Act. (CC 2006)

To date, the Conservancy has undertaken more than 950 projects along the 1,100 miles of California coastline. They have a staff of 65 and a current annual budget of over \$185 million. Since 1976, the Conservancy has used well over \$500 million to complete its projects and has been funded primarily by the state's general fund and state general obligation bonds. The - Conservancy's non-regulatory, problem-solving approach compliments the work of the Commission. (CC 2006)

3. Methods

3.1 Review of Humboldt County's Local Coastal Program

Our group's initial objective was to identify what worked and what did not work in the current Humboldt County LCP. In order to accomplish this goal we reviewed the six area plans of Humboldt County's existing LCP and the county's Local Coastal Plan Issue Identification Report of 2003. We spoke with the RCAA and participated in the Humboldt County Linking Land and Sea Needs Assessment workshop to learn who the stakeholders are, what issues are of concern, and to also see how needs are identified (meeting notes- Appendix #3).

3.2 Review of other LCPs

We were also interested in recognizing information from additional California LCPs that could prove valuable to the Humboldt County LCP. We identified, with the help of a member of the Commission, "model" LCPs from other California counties and cities and reviewed them for ideas pertinent to Humboldt County's LCP update. The plans include: The City of Malibu, The City of Carmel, The City of Newport Beach, The City of Laguna Beach, The City of Santa Cruz and The City of Carpinteria.

3.3 Interviews

In addition we interviewed relevant county planning department staff and local stakeholders for their opinions regarding the LCP asking the following questions:

- 1) How familiar are you with the (Local Coastal Program) LCP? How does the LCP influence / relate to your work?
- 2) Are the current LCP goals being achieved? If so, what are the strengths of the LCP? If not, what are the weaknesses?
- 3) Do you think the LCP addresses marine and terrestrial connectivity? If yes, how? If no, do you have any suggestions? Do you know of another city or county that has an exceptional plan for addressing this?
- 4) For the many regulatory requirements in coastal conservation, are you aware of any incentives for county level conservation?
- 5) As the LCP is being updated, do you think that the existing regulations or ordinances need to be rewritten, added to or better enforced?
- 6) In your opinion what are the most crucial resource needs of the county with regard to coastal conservation?
- 7) Regarding this needs assessment in county level coastal conservation planning, is there anyone you can suggest whom we should contact?

3.4. Data Compilation

We compiled our notes from the Linking Land and Sea workshop, individual interviews and project details and background research. The Linking Land and Sea workshop in Humboldt County also presented an opportunity for us to act as table discussion recorders and we reported our workshop findings to the RCAA. Then with the development of a project Purpose, Strategy, Values (Appendix #1), Mission Statement (page 2) and Scope of Work Document (SOW) we defined the project (Appendix #2).

The draft report was submitted to the RCAA. From here we prepared the final report with comments incorporated regarding the findings on Humboldt County Planning Department needs for LCP and recommendations for the future LCP to RCAA and other interested parties. All recommendations are to be in compliance with the CCA and General Plan requirements.

4. Results

4.1. Issues in Humboldt County's Current Local Coastal Plan

The plan is being updated to reflect needed changes in land use, resource management, community needs, and community values. The current Humboldt County LCP is divided into six area plans; 1) North Coast Area, 2) South Coast Area, 3) McKinleyville Area, 4) Trinidad Area, 5) Humboldt Bay Area, and 6) Eel River Area. Each area has been examined and reviewed for issues that will help guide the County in updating the LCP, with emphasis on linking marine and terrestrial resources. The key issues have been documented in the Humboldt County Department of Community Development Services *Local Coastal Plans IIR: A Discussion Paper for Community Workshops* released in September 2006. Within this document County staff reviewed the six area plans and coastal zoning regulations and came up with potential updates that were necessary and identified amendment issues. The 14 Coastal Act policy groups in the Commission's LCP Manual were utilized as a guide for policy review, as well as other relevant Commission publications and policy rulings.

Fourteen issues were identified in the IIR: Access inventories, OTDs (offers to dedicate), visitor serving uses, non-point source regulations, federal coastal monument regulations, wetland use types, agricultural land conversions, shoreline erosion, visual resource and community character, industrial and energy resource, new biological information and species listings, public services information, housing issues and vacant, unconstrained developable lands. More specifically:

1. Each plan needs to update access inventories to reflect physical changes to the shoreline, implemented improvements, changes in State and federal land management, and changes in land use.
2. A systematic program for accepting OTDs (offers to dedicate) of coastal accessways needs to be developed.
3. Visitor serving uses and policies need to be updated to reflect recent changes in State and federal land ownership and management policies.
4. Review and determination of the consistency with the new non-point source regulations and of Coastal Act regulations regarding water quality is required.
5. New federal coastal monument regulations needs be made consistent with plan policies.
6. Wetland use types and definitions need to be revised and made consistent with the State's interpretation of Coastal Act regulations.
7. The review of Agricultural land conversions is required to determine if these conversions have been consistent with Coastal Act policies and all compatible uses need to be reviewed to determine if plan amendments are desirable.
8. Shoreline erosion issues need to be addressed, in particular, the Shelter Cove and Big Lagoon uncertified area.
9. Visual resource and community character policies need to be updated to reflect new public acquisitions. Amortization of billboards will also be considered.
10. Industrial and energy resource policies need revision to reflect recent changes (in particular, the need for a referendum vote for any onshore support facilities for offshore oil & gas development).

11. New biological information and species listings (such as snowy plover) must be reviewed and compared with current policies. Vegetated dune policies need revision.
12. Public services information (in particular, water and sewer) must be updated in order to determine if urban limit lines and urban reserve areas are adequate.
13. Housing issues identified in the 1998 and Draft 2003 Housing Elements should be reviewed and programs implemented to meet State mandated housing goals.
14. A Review of vacant, unconstrained developable lands should be conducted to determine if adequate supplies exist to meet the anticipated demand for new development. (HCDCDS 2003 p. 4-5)

4.2. Topics for Discussion in Updating LCP

The Issue Identification report described the 14 issues needing to be addressed in Humboldt County then re-categorized those issues into ten topics for detailed discussion. These topics included: access, recreation, water and marine resources, environmentally sensitive habitat areas (including wetlands), agricultural resources, hazards, visual resources, industrial and energy resources, available public services and housing and new development. The following are lists of general issues and specific issues identified in each area plan as they are stated in the IIR.

4.2.1. Access Issues: General

1. Update access inventories for each local coastal plan to reflect changes based on physical changes to shoreline, implemented improvements and changes in land management, ownership and land use.
2. Establish a program for acceptance of offers to dedicate (OTD). Prioritize acceptance of outstanding OTDs.
3. Review access policies with respect to new information about snowy plover nesting and recovery program. Access to dune areas along the south spit and gravel bars along the Eel River may require closure if snowy plover is listed as endangered.
4. Coordinate development of the Coastal Trail for the undeveloped areas within the County. Identify the existing trail and improvements and detail recommended improvements. Identify possible alternative routes and spurs connecting to existing trails or access ways. Explore possibilities of utilizing railroad right-of-ways (ROWS).
5. Increase access opportunities for people with disabilities.
6. Update plans regarding use of access points for commercial and recreational off-road vehicle use.
7. The County is currently preparing a Master Plan for management of the Moonstone and Clam Beach areas. Policy review is warranted to determine consistency with Coastal Act policies prior to adoption.
8. Incorporate the Hammond Trail improvements into the Coastal Trail access inventory, (MKAP and HBAP).

4.2.2. Access Issues: Specific

Humboldt County LCP Areas Plans	Specific Access Issues Identified
McKinleyville Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate the Hammond Trail improvements into the Coastal Trail access information. Coordinate with the County Public Works Department for proposed development plans for the Hammond Trail (Coastal Trail), in particular, the Widow White Creek segment of the Hammond Trail. • Add Mad River Bluffs Recreation Area (McKinleyville Land Trust acquisition) to access inventory. • Add Hiller Park (McKinleyville Community Services District) to the access inventory. • Delete Clam Beach Ponds (Humboldt State University) from access inventory as they are no longer open to the public.
South Coast Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add Lost Coast Headlands Recreation Area (Bureau of Land Management acquisition) to the access inventory. • The four vertical access points deeded by the Zanone family in a 1978 out of court settlement between Singley Creek and McNutt Gulch are difficult to locate. The property owner has had numerous problems with trespass and has recently fenced the area and posted “No Trespassing” signs along the roadway. The plaintiffs in the 1978 agreement were responsible for posting geographical signs at each of the access ways. This has not occurred to date. In order to prevent further altercations between the public and the landowner, the access ways should be identified and posted. Update improvement recommendations contained in the plan. • The Bureau of Land Management has acquired properties in the Shelter Cove area for public access to the beach, and improved many of the existing access points. The access inventory should be amended to reflect these changes. • The trail to the beach at Chemise Creek no longer exists due to hazardous geologic conditions. An alternate trail has been developed by the BLM from Wailaki Lost Coast Trail which links south to Sinkyone

	<p>Wilderness State Park meets the ocean at Whale Gulch Creek.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BLM acted to close the Black Sands Beach area (and areas north) to vehicular use. The Coastal Commission affirmed the action with a consistency determination. Consider deleting vehicle use description for this area.
North Coast Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the NCAP access inventory and recommended improvements to reflect policy decisions established by the Redwood National Park General Management Plan. Identify areas where policy conflicts may occur. • Recreational off-road vehicles (as well as wood removal) are no longer allowed on the beach in RNSP. Commercial fisheries with direct access onto the beach is proposed to be phased out over time. Policy review is warranted. • Freshwater Lagoon Vista Point is currently located in RNSP boundaries, but it is unclear who actually owns this land or maintains it. The turnoff from Highway 101 poses substantial danger to those vehicles attempting to enter or exit the highway. Update improvement recommendations contained in the plan. • Identify possible improvements to the Coastal Trail along the levee or Hufford Road at Orick.
Trinidad Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address the access issues of the Trinidad geographically disapproved area. • Parking along Scenic Drive south of Trinidad has improved significantly; however, public access areas are poorly signed and need improving. Update improvement recommendations contained in the plan. • The 6th Avenue Trail is difficult to locate and utilize. Update improvement recommendations contained in the plan.
Humboldt Bay Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add Lanphere Dunes Unit of the Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge to the access inventory. • Add Mad River Slough Wildlife Area, Fay Slough Wildlife Area, Elk River Wildlife Area, and Eel River Delta Wildlife Area, Ocean Ranch Unit (Department of Fish and Game acquisitions) to the access inventory.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise access maps to reflect recent purchase of the “Buggy Club” property by a public agency. • Review improvement recommendations for the access at the mouth of Jacoby Creek (Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge). Extremely hazardous ingress/egress conditions exist off of Highway 101. • Review improvement recommendations for the Bracut wetland restoration site (Coastal Conservancy). Deeded access through an industrial yard (which is closed on Sundays) services the site, and is very problematic. • Add Buhne Drive recreation area in King Salmon to the access inventory. • Add the visitor center and the boat launch at Hookton Slough (USFWS acquisition) at the Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge to the access inventory. • The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has recently agreed to manage the Table Bluff Park and spit area. Policy review of interim management plan is warranted to ensure conformance with recent actions.
Eel River Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add Eel River Delta Wildlife Area, Cock Robin Island Unit, (Department of Fish and Game acquisition) to the access inventory. • Recreational off-road vehicles are permitted on the waveslope area only on the North Spit of the Eel River. Commercial wood removal is by permit only from DFG. Access areas are closed during snowy plover nesting season. Review for closure of ORV access to allow for snowy. • River conditions at the Singley Hole access area have changed. Improvement recommendations should be consistent with current conditions and evidence of public use. • Explore the possibility of deleting the public access on the north side of Fernbridge at the County gravel yard, as the use conflicts with the removal of gravel from the site. • Consider the deletion of the public access site at Barber Creek as this undeveloped access poses extreme conflicts with agriculture.

4.2.3. Recreational Issues: General

1. Assess the need to provide addition recreationally zoned land for support services.
2. Review the Recreation Element of the existing General Plan and the Background Studies for the proposed General Plan Update to access the future needs for local and regional parks.
3. Investigate the institution of “homestays” as a compatible recreational use in the areas planned for Agriculture Exclusive.

4.2.4. Recreational Issues: Specific

Humboldt County LCP Areas Plans	Specific Recreation Issues Identified
McKinleyville Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-evaluate the Parkland Dedication requirement for subdivision activities. • Update MKAP to reflect the acquisition of the Mad River Bluffs and improvements to Hiller Park. Coordinate with the McKinleyville Land Trust during the preparation of the Mad River Bluffs Management Plan to ensure consistency with the MKAP. • Evaluate the land area designated “Commercial Recreation” to determine adequacy for future needs. • Update the MKAP to reflect policy changes for the Little River State Park. • Review impacts of Hammond Trail to determine if support services are needed.
South Coast Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The BLM is currently preparing a Master Plan for management of the Kings Range National Conservation area. Policy review is warranted to determine consistency with Coastal Act policies prior to adoption. • Review recreational needs of the Shelter Cove area in

	<p>relation to geologic stability of the area and planned land use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the SCAP to reflect recreational facilities provided by the BLM in the Shelter Cove area. • Update the SCAP to reflect acquisition of the Lost Coast Headlands by the BLM and recreational facilities provided. • Review service capabilities for the Shelter Cove Community Service District and determine compliance with visitor serving policies of the SCAP.
North Coast Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the NCAP to reflect policy decisions established by the Redwood National Park General Management Plan regarding recreation facilities and demand for services. Identify areas where policy conflicts may occur. • Update the NCAP to reflect policy changes for the Humboldt Lagoons State Park (formerly Stone Lagoon State Park). • Update NCAP to reflect changes in private visitor-serving recreational facilities, in particular, the Redwood Trails RV park south of Orick. • Update the NCAP to reflect the ownership changes of the Redwood Creek Picnic Area and Freshwater spit. • Update the NCAP regarding improvements to Big Lagoon County Park. • Consider additional areas zoned for Commercial Recreation in the Orick area to provide overnight facilities for users of Redwood National Park. • Consider economic incentives to private developers of Commercial Recreation facilities in and around Orick. • Consider additional areas for commercial recreation in the Big Lagoon area.
Trinidad Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the TAP to reflect ownership changes to Trinidad Head. Discuss management options. • Update the TAP to reflect policy changes and infrastructure improvements for the Patrick's Point and Trinidad State Parks.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-evaluate maintenance requirements and jurisdictional responsibilities of Patrick’s Point Drive and Stagecoach Drive. • Re-evaluate policy 2.13 regarding commercial recreation facilities within Urban Limit Lines. • The County is currently preparing a Master Plan for management of the Moonstone Beach area. Policy review is warranted to determine consistency with Coastal Act policies prior to adoption. Strong support for bathroom facilities at Moonstone Beach is warranted.
Humboldt Bay Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update HBAP to reflect the acquisition of Mad River Slough, Fay Slough and the Elk River Wildlife Areas by the Department of Fish and Game. • Review impacts of the proposed Samoa Town Master Plan on recreational facilities. • Update the HBAP to reflect the management and ownership changes of the Manila Community Center (formerly Redwoods United). Consider revising land use designation to reflect proposed recreational uses. • Update the HBAP to reflect the management and ownership changes of the BLM Recreational Area, including information regarding Coast Guard station. Consider revising land use designation to reflect proposed recreational uses. • Update the HBAP to reflect the management and ownership changes of the Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Area. Consider revising land use designation to reflect proposed recreational uses. • Revise the HBAP to support visitor-serving uses in the King Salmon/Fields Landing area. • Update the HBAP to support the development of a water trails system in and around Humboldt Bay.
Eel River Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review areas designated Commercial Recreation within the ERAP to determine adequacy of total land area. Identify areas where policy conflicts may occur. • Update ERAP to reflect the acquisition of Cock Robin Island and the Eel River Delta and Elk River Wildlife

	<p>Areas by the Department of Fish and Game. Policy review is warranted to determine consistency with Coastal Act policies prior to adoption.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate the institution of “homestays” as a compatible recreational use in the areas planned for Agriculture Exclusive. • Investigate the establishment of “water trails” within the Eel River Delta.
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4.2.5. Water and Marine Resource Issues: General

1. Update the Local Coastal Plans to include new non-point source pollution issues. This will include:

- a. Compare each plan for similarity and differences, and unify into one set of regulations. Maintain special protection sections for each plan.
- b. Compare the protection measures provided in each plan and incorporate the May 2002 Erosion Control Ordinance revisions. Determine if adequate protection exists with the merger of these regulations.
- c. Incorporate the County Road Maintenance Plan by reference into the LCPs.

2. Incorporate Natural Resources and Hazards Report, Volume II (“Detailed Watershed Characteristics and Regulatory Framework Analysis”) into the LCPs regarding water resources analysis. Review policy recommendations provided in the Report.

3. Review new coastal monument regulations regarding off-shore rocks and determine consistency with LCP policies.

4.2.6. Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas Issues: General

1. Review Local Coastal Plan Policies for compliance with recent decisions and listings of threatened and endangered species.

2. Update Resource Protection Maps to reflect changes in the listing of threatened and endangered species and protected habitat areas including but not limited to: snowy plover, vegetated dunes and other listed plant species.

b. Review vegetative dunes as an ESHA to possibly distinguish between native and non-native habitats.

3. Review Wetland Resource Protection Maps for compliance with jurisdictional wetlands map. Update the Local Coastal Plan Maps and policies to reflect changes.

4. Review “Pocket Marsh Policies” included in the HBAP to determine applicability with other Plans. Review the most recent Coastal Commission wetland guidelines for compliance.

5. Update wetland buffer policies for conformance with recent actions by the Coastal Commission.

6. Update plans to include definitions of wetland types (such as “estuarine” and “riverine”) and provide policies for protection.

7. Review Transitional Agricultural policies and definitions found in the NCAP, MKAP, HBAP and ERAP. Determine applicability for the SCAP and the TAP.

4.2.7. Agricultural Issues: General

1. Review Plan designations to reflect new mapping information regarding soils information collected by the Natural Resources Conservation Service.
2. Review conversion of agricultural areas located in the Coastal Zone Boundaries and determine cause. Review policies to determine if adequate protection measures are available to ensure conformance with the Coastal Act.
3. Review recent public acquisitions and possible effects on overall agricultural production. Review ERAP Policy 3.34(D) for possible inclusion in other LCPs containing large agricultural areas.
4. Review compatible uses in agricultural areas to determine if this section needs to be updated with new industries compatible with agricultural production (i.e. homestays, cottage industries, portable timber processing equipment, etc.).
5. Investigate the possibilities of establishing intensive agricultural operations on reduced parcel sizes on prime ag lands within the coastal zone.
6. Review current urban limit lines to determine if adequate areas have been set aside for future urban development. "Buffer areas" may also be inadequate to protect viability of surrounding agricultural areas.
7. Investigate the use of conservation easements and policies to support the use of easements as a method of protecting agricultural lands.
8. Coordinate LCP Policy Updates with the General Plan Update to help eliminate conflicting or confusing agricultural policies that lead to leapfrog development.

9. Investigate the promotion of the Williamson Act program for agricultural operators within the coastal zone, particularly those in prime agricultural areas, and determine if policy revisions are necessary in the LCPs.

4.2.8. Agricultural Issues: Specific

Humboldt County LCP Areas Plans	Specific AGRICULTURAL Issues Identified
McKinleyville Area Plan	None
South Coast Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The BLM is currently preparing a Master Plan for management of the Kings Range National Conservation area. Coordinated effort with the BLM is needed to determine consistency with Coastal Act policies prior to adoption. • Review public acquisitions of agricultural lands and determine if additional protection policies are needed.
North Coast Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review current urban limit line serving the Orick community to determine if adequate areas have been set aside for future urban development.
Trinidad Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review potential agricultural lands in the Trinidad area identified in the background studies for the general plan update to determine if agricultural protection policies need to be included in the TAP.
Humboldt Bay Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update HBAP resource maps to reflect new soils survey. Review urban limit lines and buffer areas and coordinate with General Plan Update policy revisions to prevent conflicting policies. • Review Table Bluff land division policies to determine adequate protection of resource lands.
Eel River Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review new regulations for the construction of manure ponds for water quality purposes on dairies. Identify areas where policy conflicts may occur. • Review Table Bluff land division policies to determine adequate protection of resource lands. • Review requests for lot divisions in the Loleta area.

4.2.9. Natural Hazard Issues: General

1. Review and revise land use designation to reflect the unstable coastline conditions along the Big Lagoon subdivision non-certified areas.
2. Update LCPs to incorporate newly approved erosion control policies regarding geologic hazards. Review policies to determine if adequate protection measures are available to ensure conformance with the Coastal Act.
3. Determine conformance within the LCPs to the Department of Public Works newly developed Best Management Practices for the construction and maintenance of county roads.
4. Review geologic hazards maps for accuracy. Include recently revised ground shaking information into the plans.
5. Update the plans with new information regarding seismic safety. The seismic safety zones within the UBC should be clarified.
6. Review new information developed for tsunami hazard areas regarding the maximum credible event re-occurrence interval, and revise plans accordingly. Update the hazards maps to reflect new information regarding tsunami run up zones.
7. Review the high coastal wave hazard inundation areas (in particular, the HBAP) and revise plans accordingly.
8. Update the plan policies regarding revisions to fire codes and reference new UBC regulations.
9. Consider the development of uniform hazard maps within the plans utilizing the same information and scale of maps.

10. Airport Safety Review designations have been developed as a result of the revision to the recently adopted Airport Plan. Review Section 3.28.G of the MKAP policies for consistency.

11. Update NCAP with new information concerning the proposed improvements on the levee in Orick and possible policies regarding maintenance area.

4.2.10. Visual Resource Issues: General

1. Consider the development of a billboard amortization program for existing billboards along Highway 101 (Review amortization program developed for the PGE billboard). Review sign policies in HBAP to determine applicability to other plans with Coastal View Policies.

2. Consider standardizing the visual protection policies for each plan for a more unified approach. Review Design Assistance Committee policies to determine continued applicability.

3. Review recent public acquisitions for consistency with public land resource buffer policies.

4. Review Natural Features and the Natural Landform protection policies and update as necessary.

5. The General Plan Update reports have identified additional visual protection policies that should be reviewed for incorporation into the LCP's.

6. Review Section 3.40(B)(6) (Transfer of Development Credit) of the Trinidad Area Plan for applicability.

4.2.11. Industrial and Energy Resource Issues: General

1. Update Industrial Site Analysis for the Coastal Zone to determine status of current conditions and potential land needs.
2. Review recent Industrial Siting Surveys conducted by the Harbor District and the County to determine if revisions to current land use designation and plan polices are warranted.
3. Review changes in Coastal Act policies regarding off shore oil drilling policies to determine conformance within the LCPs.
4. Update the Plans to include a reference that any on-shore support facilities for oil drilling operations must be approved by a referendum vote.

4.2.12. Industrial and Energy Resource Issues: Specific

Humboldt County LCP Areas Plans	Specific INDUSTRIAL AND ENERGY RESOURCE Issues Identified
McKinleyville Area Plan	None
South Coast Area Plan	None
North Coast Area Plan	None
Trinidad Area Plan	None
Humboldt Bay Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review industrial designation of the airstrip on the North Spit. Consider possible re-designation to recreation/open space. • The County has received a re-development plan for the Town of Samoa that would change available industrial capacity and amend industrial land use designations within the HBAP. Review the proposed plan and adjust accordingly.
Eel River Area Plan	None

4.2.13. Public Works Issues: General

1. Update Master Service Elements for service providers in the Coastal Zone to determine status of current conditions and needed upgrades.
2. Review updated public services data to determine if revisions to urban limit lines, urban reserve, current land use designation and plan polices are warranted.

4.2.14. Public Works Issues: Specific

Humboldt County LCP Areas Plans	Specific PUBLIC WORKS Issues Identified
McKinleyville Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the Plan to reflect construction of the wastewater treatment facility in McKinleyville. • Revise the Plan to include services provided by the Patrick Creek Subdivision CSD. • Review policies in newly adopted McKinleyville Community Plan to ensure compatibility for public works facilities. • Review ULL and Urban Reserve with current growth patterns and revise as necessary the extension of services.
South Coast Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update water connections cap for the RID#1. Review plan policies for possible revisions for CDP allocation process and capacity reserve requirement for coastal dependent developments. • Review sewer system capacity and allocated service connections for RID# and update existing plan policies if necessary.
North Coast Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the plan to illustrate the new district boundaries for the Orick CSD (currently extending to RNP Headquarters). Also, Section 4.32 of the NCAP needs revision concerning the discussion of Urban Limit Lines. • Review and update the service area for the Big Lagoon estates (revise ULL as necessary).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review current service connections for Big Lagoon Park to reflect recent acquisitions by the County of bluff properties. Determine status of certification with Coastal Commission for this area as a result of these recent acquisitions.
Trinidad Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and update the water connection status for the Trinidad area regarding hookups outside the city limits (will these connections change the current ULL?) Update the Plan to include Westhaven CSD information.
Humboldt Bay Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple service providers operate within the HBAP planning area, often with overlapping service boundaries. Update the description of services provided/ district boundaries of the CSD's, and determine if the urban reserve boundaries and policy revisions are warranted. Review sewer capabilities in Manila to determine future development capacity. Review and revise as necessary "Public Services – Rural" section for expansion of services to the rural areas around Mitchell Heights.
Eel River Area Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update services provided to Arlynda Corners and review plan policies for necessary revisions. Review and update the serviceable areas outside the Ferndale City limits and determine if plan policies are required.

4.2.15. Housing and Development Issues: General

1. Review 1998 Housing Element policy recommendations and incorporate into the LCP Amendments.
2. Review 2003 Draft Housing Element identified housing needs and proposed ordinance revisions and incorporate into the LCP Amendments.
3. Review findings for vacant lands survey for LCP areas and revise accordingly.
4. Review nomadic housing issues and revise LCPs accordingly.

4.2.16. Humboldt County's LCP Summary

There are several issues concerning Humboldt County's Current LCP. Updates are needed to reflect changes in land use, resource management, community needs, and community values. The Humboldt County Department of Community Development has identified key issues and necessary updates within the six area plans in the IIR. The IIR is comprehensive and consistent according to the issues identified by our group concerning the Humboldt County LCP. According to the IIR, items to focus on during the update are as follows: access inventories, OTDs (offers to dedicate), visitor serving uses, non-point pollution source regulations, federal coastal monument regulations, wetland use types, agricultural land conversions, shoreline erosion, visual resource and community character, industrial and energy resource, new biological information and species listings, public services information, housing issues and vacant, and unconstrained developable lands. The IIR also recognizes ten generalized topics for the county to consider including, access, recreation, water and marine resources, environmentally sensitive habitat areas (ESHAs) (including wetlands), agricultural resources, hazards, visual resources, industrial and energy resources, available public services and housing and new development. (HCDCDS 2003)

4.3. Additional Local Coastal Programs along the California Coastal Zone

Various City LCPs were examined for ideas that could be incorporated into Humboldt Counties updated LCP. The following table was constructed to offer clearer understanding of what others are doing to protect their coastal resources.

Useful Ref. or Not	References: LCPs	Valuable sections in LCPs
Possibly	San Mateo County	San Mateo County emphasizes protection of agricultural lands, open space, and other “scenic resources”. Even though it is a mandate of the Coastal Act, San Mateo County focuses on promoting new development that is compatible and located within areas that are already developed thus saving the “authentic character” of some of their villages like Pescadero and San Gregorio.
Possibly	Sonoma County	Sonoma County integrates their coastal resource protection policies into their General Plan, having policies and standards for things like riparian and creek protection applying countywide.
Yes	City of Carmel	<p>The City of Carmel’s LCP has strict policies regarding the protection of its coastal resources and Humboldt County could use some of these concepts to develop and implement a LCP that is similar in concept. The City of Carmel is unique in term of State coastal regulation. Under Proposition 20, the City was granted a “categorical exclusion” that exempted the City (except for the first line of lots inland from the ocean) from the Regional Coastal Commission’s permit authority. This exemption was granted in recognition of Carmel’s local ordinances and practices, with few exceptions, that were already consistent with the Coastal Act. However, the City was not exempt from preparing a Local Coastal Program which was certified in 2002. The preservation of the renowned scenic environment surrounding Carmel, the beautiful coastline and adjacent ridge of wooded hills, is imperative to the character and biological productivity of the City and surrounding area. The LCP for the City includes policies for protection of the Carmel’s coastal environmental resources including the character of its forest, beach and bluffs, water quality and Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHAs). (Carmel LCP p 5-1)</p> <p>The overriding policies of the Coastal Act that were recognized as relevant to Carmel and the protection of its unique marine and terrestrial resources require the City to protect, maintain, and where feasible, enhance and restore the overall quality of the coastal zone environment and its natural and man-made resources. Carmel</p>

		<p>must assure orderly, balanced utilization and conservation of coastal zone resources, taking into account the social and economic need of the people of the state. It must maximize public access to and along the coast and maximize public recreational opportunities in the coastal zone consistent with sound resource conservation principles and constitutionally and Coastal Act protected rights of private property owners. Carmel is to encourage state and local initiative and cooperation in preparing procedures to implement coordinated planning and development for mutually beneficial uses, including educational uses, in the coastal zone. (Carmel LCP p1-8)</p>
Yes	County of Monterey	<p>The Monterey County LCP is not certified by the CCC, but the county is adamant that they take a comprehensive approach to resource protection. The people of Monterey, like many other areas, are especially concerned regarding public access, protection of scenic and visual resources and landform alteration, and protection of ESHAs.</p>
Yes	Santa Cruz County	<p>Santa Cruz County's LCP emphasizes coastal zone visual resources with a focus on view-sheds from public roads (Route1). Santa Cruz has a strong water quality section outlining many best management practices (BMPs) and treatment of runoff. This can be found in Objective 5.4.</p>
Possibly	City of Santa Cruz	<p>The City of Santa Cruz's guiding principles for their LCP includes strong language to "highlight and protect [the City's] unique setting, natural and established open spaces, and the sustainable use of [their] precious resources" (SC 2025). The city's LCP includes rigorous ordinances and codes directing coastal planning and permitting for issues relating to: marine resources, coastal water quality, coastal habitat and sensitive species, agriculture and grazing, visual resources and special communities and neighborhood, orderly and balanced development, coastal hazard area, dredging, filling and shoreline structures, shoreline access, recreational and visitor-serving uses, industrial development, and energy. (Santa Cruz LCP).</p>
yes	City of Newport Beach	<p>There is a distinction between altered and unaltered coastal bluffs in the City of Newport Beach LCP. Local people here are apprehensive of decreasing protection of altered bluffs. A concrete definition of "altered" is not the LCPs strong point. Some are nervous this will limit what areas are protected because of their "altered"</p>

		<p>status. (Banning Ranch)</p> <p>The City of Newport Beach LCP also identifies many areas, including the Upper Newport Bay Ecological Reserve, as environmentally sensitive habitat areas (ESHAs). Because of this distinction the areas have certain protections. ESHAs are safeguarded against significant disruption of habitat values thus limiting activities in the vicinity of ESHAs. ESHA distinction limits what type of development may happen in the areas. Therefore prospective builders are unhappy with “developable” plots being designated as ESHA lands. The California Coastal Commission advises City staff to designate these areas cautiously due to the development limitations (Section 30240(a)).</p> <p>Often it is feared that ESHA lands are mislabeled. Rightly or not, about 70% of the City of Malibu's land has been declared an ESHA. This increases suspicion of lands truly deserving of the title of ESHA. In order to avoid confusion, and possibly appease city residents, succeeding drafts of the LCP now limit lands which aren't altogether deserving of distinction as ESHAs to “environmental study areas” (ESAs). This is a strong point of the LCP, in the eyes of some.</p>
No	City of Laguna Beach	Both Laguna Beach and Newport Beach have been criticized, during development projects in the Coastal Zone, of being inconsistent with the Coastal Act due to a lack of affordable housing. In its proposed changes to its LCP, the county proposes to make it even easier to develop substandard lots.
Yes	City of Point Arena	This city very recently adopted exceptional water quality policies to be included in their LCP. Point Arena's LCP has been recommended due to its strong points regarding policies aimed at water quality protection through BMPs as well as policies restricting discharge of damaging pollutants or untreated runoff.
No	City of Malibu	The entire city of Malibu is within the coastal zone and has many lengthy amendments that attempt to maintain the beautiful coastline amidst the continuous proposals for development projects.
Possibly	City of Eureka	Coastal policies are also integrated throughout the General Plan for Eureka, CA and are designated with a coastal symbol
No	City of Carpinteria	Has submitted a comprehensive update to their LCP from 1982 that has not been certified yet. It

		includes a Creeks Preservation Program under a LCP grant.
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Some LCP models that may be beneficial to consider in updating Humboldt County’s LCP include, San Mateo County which emphasizes protection of agricultural lands, open space, and other “scenic resources”. It has a strong focus on promoting new development that is compatible and located within areas that are already developed, thus preserving the “authentic character” of their villages. Sonoma County and the City of Eureka proficiently integrate coastal resource protection policies into their General Plans. Sonoma County has excellent policies and standards for riparian and creek protection. The City of Carmel’s LCP has strict policies regarding the protection of its coastal resources and Humboldt County could use some of these concepts to develop and implement a LCP that is similar in concept. The City of Santa Cruz’s guiding principles for their LCP includes strong language to preserve open spaces. The City of Newport Beach has had problems concerning ESHAs and through working them out created intelligent ways to manage the creation of ESHAs in their LCP.

Santa Cruz County’s LCP emphasizes coastal zone visual resources with a focus on view-sheds from public roads (Route1). Santa Cruz has a strong water quality section outlining many best management practices (BMPs) and treatment of runoff; this can be found in Objective 5.4 of their LCP. The Monterey County LCP is not certified yet by the Commission, but the county is adamant that they take a comprehensive approach to resource protection. The people of Monterey, like many other areas, are especially concerned regarding public access, protection of scenic

and visual resources and landform alteration, and protection of ESHAs. Point Arena's LCP has been recommended due to its strong points regarding policies aimed at water quality protection through BMPs as well as policies restricting discharge of damaging pollutants or untreated runoff.

4.4. Interviews

All six interviewees were very familiar with County's LCP. Two interviewees were involved in developing the County's original LCP, three are currently involved in the LCP updating process, and the LCP directly influences one interviewee's private line of work.

The following is a summary of the interviews that were conducted. The goals of the Humboldt County LCP are seen as being adequately achieved due to the comprehensiveness of Coastal Act and Coastal Commission policies, but all interviewees believe there are weaknesses in all six LCP's that need to be addressed. All six LCPs needs more policies that address water quality. When the original LCP was drafted there was no focus on water quality issues. Pollution issues from failing septic systems are rising in the County and need to be addressed. Regulations should be re-written to allow for flexibility to accommodate new technology, such as, on-site-sewage treatment polices and urban runoff policies. Point Arena in Mendocino County has exceptional model water quality policies that Humboldt could use as a guide.

There is a great need to define where urban development will occur and what kinds of projects are acceptable where in order to prepare for projected population increases

within the coastal zone. There has been progress in the implementation of access-ways but dozens still need to be realized. More evidence of historic uses need to be provided.

The County permitting process for maintenance projects is very cumbersome, costly and outdated. Therefore violations result, or needed maintenance work never occurs resulting in possible infrastructure and dike failures. Currently the Commission only approves permits for one year and the LCP limits when maintenance occurs. When a maintenance project is postponed due to bad weather, a great amount of time and money is wasted when the whole permitting process has to take place again the following year. Santa Cruz County grants five year permits; some stakeholders would like to extend maintenance permits in Humboldt County to this length. Policy definition for historic agricultural land protection needs also to be reexamined and updated. Wetlands behind and in front of dikes need to be differentiated to increase the efficiency of historical agricultural maintenance operations. Current regulations for the ocean or bay side of dikes are very stern and often with good reason. However, these rules also equally apply to the inland side of the dikes which have different characteristics. Because of the equal treatment of both sides, regulations are often seen as unneeded or draconian by land owners. Agriculture is very culturally important in Humboldt County. Currently, the Commission will not approve historical agricultural maintenance operations without mitigations and this can lead to heavy financial burdens that many farmers cannot afford. This situation could be aided by grant money, tax relief, or policy changes making routine maintenance less burdensome.

Humboldt County's LCP does not specifically identify connections between marine and terrestrial resources but it does use Coastal Act guidelines. The State mandates the protection of marine resources through land use planning and water quality in sections 30240 and 30241 of the Coastal Act. A component of the Coastal Act allows for the regulation of coastal zones and upstream resources because of their proven connectivity but its use has been discouraged because of lack of knowledge on its significance.. The updated LCP should use this component and include language describing the importance of marine and terrestrial connectivity. The City of Trinidad, although not certified yet, addresses this connectivity in their LCP. Trinidad integrated areas of special biological significance, offshore rocks and tidal areas into their LCP requiring evidence of substantial findings before approving a project.

Better coordination between other agencies should be encouraged because of overlapping jurisdictions. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has a Coastal Monument Plan resulting in the conservation of some marine resources and The North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (NCRWQB) addresses water quality issues. The updated LCPs should/will address both areas.

Land Trusts in the county provide the largest incentive for coastal conservation but the county does not actively support them. The Williamson Act is also a strong tool for coastal conservation through the protection of agricultural lands which is culturally important to most of residents. The County administers a conservation easement program but it is seen as being too small; the framework needs to be expanded. Grant

funding from the California Coastal Conservancy is also an important means for county level coastal conservation projects.

All interviewees conveyed that the new LCP needed to be more user-friendly. No comprehensive reviews have been performed on ordinance impacts. Existing regulations and ordinances between the current 6 LCPs need to be rewritten to reflect current environmental, economic and social conditions and consolidated to decrease redundancy in the formats. The County and the Commission need better enforcement of ordinances; there are - and have been - countless violations (i.e. violations for routine maintenance of dikes and wetlands). The updated LCP should include water quality policies with language addressing marine protection and urban sprawl.

The biggest need of the county with regards to coastal conservation is fiscal resources and additional staffing. Since proposition 13 cut the county's funding, the local tax base has been eroding and there hasn't been a replacement for the lost revenue. Most current funding goes to new acquisitions and improvements but doesn't provide funding for maintenance of existing facilities which is equally if not more important. Lack of funds for maintenance needs are seen as the Achilles heel to conservation programs. The County is unable or unwilling to take on additional fiscal responsibility for operations and maintenance. More staff could make better use of Coastal Conservancy Bond measures for coastal conservation. There are state grant funds available for improvements but not operations and maintenance. One of the most crucial needs of the county with regards to coastal conservation is the need to get consensus between

federal, state and local governments on how they want conservation to proceed. By creating a consensus policy, everyone is on the same page with regards to coastal conservation so projects don't overlap and inhibit one another.

Overall, lack of staff to implement and enforce LCP is a problem. Essentially the county needs someone to do small or mundane tasks, write grants, provide write-ups, and execute plan policies. The county needs to update soil, vegetation, and wetland maps of the County. The County has improved its GIS component but many municipalities have not yet. The permitting process for dike maintenance needs to be updated.

Updated water quality policies need to be included with language connecting the coastal zone and drainages (ultimately creating a connection between marine and terrestrial resources).

5. Discussion

5.1. Strengths of Current County LCP

Humboldt County has been at the fore front in conservation efforts for some time now. The county's current six LCPs (NCAP, SCAP, ERAP, HBAP, MCKAP and TAP) have provided solid framework for directing land-use planning and development in the coastal zone according to the policies and goals provided in the Coastal Act. Thus the LCP has done its job in relating Coastal Act policies and goals to land use planning and development projects in the coastal zone.

5.2. Weaknesses of Current County LCP

No comprehensive reviews have been undertaken since the county's LCPs were developed in the early 1980's with implementing regulations approved in 1985. Only the McKinleyville, Humboldt Bay and Eel River Plans were reviewed and partially updated during the preparation of the 1992 Beaches and Dunes Management Plan. This is a huge weakness because how can the county know the validity of its policies and ordinances. Many existing policies and ordinances are outdated and need to be updated; such as, access inventories, OTDs (offers to dedicate), visitor serving uses, non-point pollution source regulations, federal coastal monument regulations, wetland use types, agricultural land conversions, shoreline erosion, visual resource and community character, industrial and energy resource, new biological information and species listings, public services information, housing issues and vacant, and unconstrained developable lands.

6. Conclusions

6.1. Needs Identified

Additional fiscal resources and staffing are needed to better implement and enforce the LCP. A huge issue that was identified is the need for funding for maintenance after initial conservation projects are implemented. There is little money available to organizations to take on additional fiscal responsibilities.

The county needs to update soil/vegetation and wetland maps. The permitting process for dike maintenance needs to be updated to make the process, specifically the application process, more efficient and appropriate for the conservation measures desired. Water quality policies need to include language that directly connects the coastal zone and drainages for terrestrial and marine resources.

The following is a summary table comparing issues identified in the IIR with interview comments and possible LCP reference models to address similar issues:

	Issue identified In IIR	Interviewees agreed	Comments by interviewee	Possible reference model that address similar issues
1.	Each plan needs to update access inventories to reflect physical changes to the shoreline, implemented improvements, changes in State and federal land management, and changes in land use.	1	There has been progress in the implementation of access-ways but dozens still need to be realized. More evidence of historic uses needs to be provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Mateo County
2.	A systematic program for accepting OTDs (offers to dedicate) of coastal access-ways needs to be developed		Since proposition 13 cut the county's funding, the local tax base has been eroding and there hasn't been a replacement for lost revenue.	

3.	Visitor serving uses and policies need to be updated to reflect recent changes in State and federal land ownership and management policies.			
4.	Review and determination of the consistency with the new non-point source regulations and of Coastal Act regulations regarding water quality is required.	1	Water quality issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Point Arena • Santa Cruz County • Monterey County • City of Santa Cruz
5.	New federal coastal monument regulations needs be made consistent with plan policies.	2	The City of Trinidad, although not certified yet, addresses this connectivity in their LCP. Trinidad integrated areas of special biological significance, offshore rocks and tidal areas into their LCP requiring evidence of substantial findings before approving a project.	
6.	Wetland use types and definitions need to be revised and made consistent with the State's interpretation of Coastal Act regulations.	3	Wetlands behind and in front of dikes need to be differentiated to increase the efficiency of historical agricultural maintenance operations. The county needs to update wetland maps of the County.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Santa Cruz County
7.	The review of Agricultural land conversions is required to determine if these conversions have been consistent with Coastal Act policies and all compatible uses need to be reviewed to determine if plan amendments are desirable.	1	Policy definition for historic agricultural land protection needs also to be reexamined and updated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Mateo County
8.	Shoreline erosion issues need to be addressed, in particular, the Shelter Cove and Big Lagoon uncertified area.		Can relate to water quality issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Point Arena • Santa Cruz County • Monterey County • City of Santa Cruz
9.	Visual resource and			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Santa

	community character policies need to be updated to reflect new public acquisitions. Amortization of billboards will also be considered.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cruz • Santa Cruz County • San Mateo County
10.	Industrial and energy resource policies need revision to reflect recent changes (in particular, the need for a referendum vote for any onshore support facilities for offshore oil & gas development).	mentioned		
11.	New biological information and species listings (such as snowy plover) must be reviewed and compared with current policies. Vegetated dune policies need revision.	1	Trinidad integrated areas of special biological significance into their LCP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County of Monterey • City of Trinidad
12.	Public services information (in particular, water and sewer) must be updated in order to determine if urban limit lines and urban reserve areas are adequate.		Can relate to water quality policy issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Point Arena
13.	Housing issues identified in the 1998 and Draft 2003 Housing Elements should be reviewed and programs implemented to meet State mandated housing goals.	1	There is a great need to define where urban development will occur and what kinds of projects are acceptable where in order to prepare for projected population increases within the coastal zone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Mateo County
14.	A Review of vacant, unconstrained developable lands should be conducted to determine if adequate supplies exist to meet the anticipated demand for new development.	1	There is a great need to define where urban development will occur and what kinds of projects are acceptable where in order to prepare for projected population increases within the coastal zone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Mateo County

(HCDCDS 2003 p4-5)

6.2. Valuable References

Point Arena in Mendocino County has exceptional water quality policy language in their LCP that provides a great link between marine and terrestrial resources and helps with their conservation goals.

Sonoma County integrates their coastal resource protection policies into their General Plan having policies and standards for issues like riparian and creek protection that applies countywide.

Coastal policies are also integrated throughout the General Plan for Eureka, CA and are designated with a coastal symbol.

The City of Newport Beach has created intelligent ways to manage the creation of ESHAs in their LCP.

The City of Santa Cruz's guiding principles for their LCP includes strong language to "highlight and protect [the City's] unique setting, natural and established open spaces, and the sustainable use of [their] precious resources" (SC 2025). The city's LCP also includes rigorous ordinances and codes directing coastal planning and permitting for issues relating to: marine resources, coastal water quality, coastal habitat and sensitive species, agriculture and grazing, visual resources and special communities and neighborhood, orderly and balanced development, coastal hazard area, dredging, filling and shoreline structures, shoreline access, recreational and visitor-serving uses, industrial development, and energy. (CSC 2006)

San Mateo County emphasizes the protection of agricultural lands, open space, and other “scenic resources”. It has a strong focus on promoting new development that is compatible and located within areas that are already developed, thus preserving the “authentic character” of their villages.

The City of Carmel’s LCP has strict policies regarding the protection of its coastal resources and Humboldt County could use some of these concepts to develop and implement a LCP that is similar in concept.

6.3. Recommendations

The LCP reflects very genuine intentions of protecting terrestrial and marine resources but may need some additional language reinforcing the CCA sections 30223 and 30231 inclusion of language to protect upstream resources.

“30223. Upland areas necessary to support coastal recreational uses shall be reserved for such uses, where feasible. 30231. The biological productivity and the quality of coastal waters, streams, wetlands, estuaries, and lakes appropriate to maintain optimum populations of marine organisms and for the protection of human health shall be maintained and, where feasible, restored through, among other means, minimizing adverse effects of wastes water discharges and entrainment, controlling runoff, preventing depletion of groundwater supplies and substantial interference with surface waterflow, encouraging waste water reclamation, maintaining natural vegetation buffer areas that protect riparian habitats, and minimizing alteration of natural streams. (SC 2005)”

The new LCP may be more user-friendly by integrating the LCP with the General Plan as done in Sonoma County and by the City of Eureka and consolidating the current six

LCPs into one coherent document to eliminate the redundancies present in the current LCPs. It would be valuable to examine the feasibility of extending maintenance permits to five years; especially for conservation projects. Water quality policies should be updated and included language connecting the coastal zone and drainages. This could ultimately create the best connection between marine and terrestrial resources for conservation purposes – the goal of the Linking Land and Sea Project.

Acknowledgements

The writers of this report would like to thank Mark Lovelace, Martha Spencer; Senior Planners, Vanessa Metz and Liz Fuchs of the California Coastal Commission, Tom Conlon; Planning Director-Arcata, CA, Tom Hofweber of LAFCO, Marty McClennan of Oscar Larson and Associates

The group would also like to thank Ruth Blyther and Morguine Flynn-Sousa of RCAA and our instructor, Yvonne Everett for providing their time and assistance toward the preparation of this project.

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Cover Picture References

Sunset: Carey Thompson. <http://www.galactivation.com/gallery.php>
Humboldt Bay, USFWS
<http://pacific.fws.gov/ecoservices/envicon/pim/reports/Sacramento/SacramentoImages>

Humboldt Bay with boat: Trails trust of Humboldt County.
<http://www.trailstrust.org/projects.htm>

Salt marsh:
http://www.geog.ucsb.edu/~joel/g148_f05/lecture_notes/klamath_mtns/humboldt_marsh

Dunes:http://www.geog.ucsb.edu/~joel/g148_f05/lecture_notes/klamath_mtns/humboldt_marsh_web.jpg&imgrefurl

Cormorant picture: Peter Wallack.<http://birdsofsanibel.free.fr/Images/2004/Great%20Egret.jpg>

Acronyms

BMP – Best Management Practice

CCA – California Coastal Act

CCC – California Coastal Commission

CCZMA – California Coastal Zone Management Act

ERAP – Eel River Area Plan

HBAP – Humboldt Bay Area Plan

IIR – Local Coastal Plans Issue Identification Report

LCP – Local Coastal Program

LUP – Land Use Plan

MCKAP – McKinleyville Area Plan

NCAP – North Coast Area Plan

RCAA – Redwood Community Action Agency

SCAP – South Coast Area Plan

TAP – Trinidad Area Plan

Appendices

Appendix #1 – Project Purpose, Strategy and Values

Project Purpose:

- To identify, assess and document the specific needs of Humboldt County to implement a successful coastal conservation plan.

Brief Background:

Humboldt County is in the process of updating our Local Coastal Program (LCP). Ruth Blyther from Redwood Community Action Agency in Eureka, CA is working with the Coastal Commission and NOAA on an effort to assess Coastal Conservation Organization needs. That effort is called the *Linking Land and Sea Program*. In cooperation with Ruth, we are using a similar methodology for a needs assessment for Humboldt County.

Strategy:

- Review the current LCP (actually 6 geographically defined programs) to assess what the county has been able to achieve, and what not, and why.
- Identify exceptional coastal plans that are forward thinking and have successful implementation methods that can assist Humboldt County in the updating of their Local Conservation Plan
- Seek to identify what the county needs might be as it moves into developing the new LCP (the new draft combines the 6 regional LCPs) by working with the local county planning staff and through interviews and an open dialogue between the stakeholders within the community and county government officials assess how the needs can be met
- Attend public meetings and private interviews.
- Provide our results and making suggestions in a report to Hum Co and to RCAA.

Values:

- Strong emphasis on both Federal and State Coastal Plans
- Uphold Coastal Commission's ethic and judgment on coastal resource use
- Address the positions of all the stakeholders

Appendix #2 – Statement of Work (SOW) Document

DATE: 02/24/06

Draft 1

Prepared by:

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Section 1, Introduction

1.1 Background

The Humboldt County Local Coastal Program (LCP) is being updated to reflect changes in land use, resource management, community needs, and community values. Our project is part of the Linking Land & Sea project, facilitated by Ruth Blyther and the Redwood Coast Action Agency (RCAA), which seeks to assess and document the needs of conservation organizations in Humboldt, Mendocino and Del Norte Counties for regional strategic coastal conservation planning and implementation. The Linking Land and Sea project seeks to answer the central question, “What do the people and organizations that are involved in marine or terrestrial coastal conservation need to successfully carry out their missions and implement their programs and projects?”

The Linking Land and Sea project is an opportunity for the northern California coastal conservation community to collectively communicate their needs to regional, state, and federal organizations who may be able to provide resources and support. By synthesizing existing plans and gathering information for a diversity of coastal conservation organizations they seek to identify priority needs (planning, institutional, technical, resource, economic, socio-political) that can be fulfilled by any number of entities and/or collaborative efforts. In addition to the Linking Land and Sea project, we seek to develop a needs assessment document for the Humboldt County Planning Department’s Local Coastal Program.

1.2 Scope of Work

Mission Statement:

“California’s North Coast is home to some of the richest and most diverse terrestrial and marine habitats in the world. Humboldt County’s coastal areas can be assessed and included in Humboldt County’s Local Coastal Program. We are assisting in the planning process for a county conservation needs assessment that includes the voices of all conservation organization and addresses their concerns and needs of the ecological biodiversity of the area. We will work with county staff and other stakeholders in an open and collaborative way”

Goal:

We seek to contribute to Humboldt County's Local Coastal Conservation Program development process by helping to assess county level implementation needs for a successful conservation program.

Identify: what did and didn't work in the county's current LCP, who will be affected by the final plan (stakeholders), what county has an exceptional coastal plan that can be a reference, and what information is missing to better plan for marine and terrestrial resources.

Develop sound recommendations final LCP can be implementable and successful.

1.3 Objectives

By May 2006 we seek to:

1. Identify what did and didn't work in the current Humboldt County LCP.
2. Identify who will be affected by the proposed LCP.
3. Identify information from other California LCPs that could be valuable to the Humboldt County LCP.
4. Develop recommendations on Humboldt County Local Coastal Program needs.

Section 2, References

The Conservation Fund. 2005. *Conservation Prospects for the North Coast: A Review and Analysis of Existing Conservation Plans, Land Use Trends and Strategies for Conservation on the North Coast of California.*

<http://www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov/Programs/NorthCoast/CF%20book-web.pdf>.

The County's current *Framework General Plan* was completed in 1984:
Volumes 1-6

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Section 3, Requirements

3.1 Tasks /Activities

- Objective 1: Identify what did and didn't work in the current Humboldt County LCP.
- 1.1 - Review Humboldt Counties six existing LCPs and the counties Local Coastal Plans Issue Identification Report 2003.
 - 1.2 - Interview relevant County Planning Department staff (Tom Hofweber, Martha Spencer...)
- Objective 2: Identify who will be affected by the proposed LCP.
- 2.1 - Participate in the Linking Land and Sea Workshops.
 - 2.2 - Interview relevant County Planning Department staff.
- Objective 3: Identify information from other California LCPs that could be valuable to the Humboldt County LCP.
- 3.1 - Identify "model" LCPs from other California counties and cities.
 - 3.2 - Review the LCPs for ideas that would be pertinent for Humboldt Counties LCP update.
- Objective 4: Develop recommendations on Humboldt County Local Coastal Program needs.
- 4.1 – Consider and combine information from objectives 1-3 into a clear and coherent needs assessment document that can aid in the LCP updating process.

3.1.1 Task Sequence by Date Phase

- Jan 24 – Feb 23: Project Purpose, Strategy, Values, Mission Statement and Project Scope Statement.
- Feb 24 – April 4: Organization of project details and background research.
- March 28 – April 4: Preparation of draft project report.
- April 4 – April 11: Draft due to Yvonne, make revisions and give to client; schedule final presentation with client.
- April 25 – May 12: Drafts returned by client; revise draft based on client comments; prepare presentation.
- May 2 – May 4: Final presentation in class.
- May 4 – May 12: Final presentation and report to client.

3.1.2 Task Sequence

1. Meet with RCAA.

2. Develop project purpose, strategy used to get to purpose, values, mission statement and project scope.
3. References & Research
 - Local Coastal Plans with exceptional conservation sections.
 - Humboldt Counties Local Coastal Issue Identification Report, the Counties' six current Local Coastal Plans.
 - The Conservation for Prospects for the North Coast Report.
4. Attend the Linking Land and Sea workshop in Humboldt County
 - Act as table discussion recorders.
 - Report workshops findings to Yvonne and submit to RCAA.
5. Prepare draft report which includes:
 - Describe what the role model counties did to develop and implement successful Local Coastal Plans.
 - Recommendations for planning methods that would enhance the coastal marine and terrestrial resource conservation plan.
 - Report sections in the conservation plan where planning did not address particular issues and how to mitigate.
6. After submission of draft report to Yvonne, then the RCAA, prepare final report with comments incorporated and schedule final presentation.
7. Final project presentation to RCAA and other interested parties.

3.2 End Results/Deliverables

Report of findings on Humboldt County Planning Department needs for LCP and recommendations for the future LCP.

Section 4, Progress/Compliance

The group will check in with the project manager (Yvonne) once a week and report project progress. All recommendations are to be in compliance with the CCA and General Plan requirements.

Appendix #3

Skateholders Meeting / Linking Land & Sea Workshop – Humboldt County

Overview of the initial concerns & problems regarding the needs of conservation organizations addressed in the beginning of the meeting:

- Community Outreach Related
 - Education
 - Need for reinvigorating the environmental ethic in the general public
- Information & Data Related
 - The lack of
 - Data & information
 - Quality data and data without variability
 - Seamless coverage of similar data and information available
 - Funding
 - Mapping available
 - GIS / spatial data utilization
 - Forecasting to see trends and consequences for education & to implement prevention measures & react to a disasters
 - Peer review
- Politics Related
 - Interferes with information getting to the public
 - Political “Will” to implement plans
- Plan Related
 - Time for reviewing & fully comprehending the plan/s related to an individuals job
 - Time for reviewing & fully comprehending the plan/s related to other organizations
 - Correlation of plans / Bibliography / KRIS (Klamath River Information System)
 - Both sides of: Time for more planning, implementation is happening *and* Time for more implementing, enough planning
- Implementation Related
 - Integration not segmentation/fragmentation of land and water

The summary from the discussion at Alyssa Grassi’s table:

Issues discussed:

- Getting into the arenas (getting money to get representatives to Sacramento, for example)
- How to address the limited effectiveness of representatives implementing a plan or see a project through due to short political terms
- Incentives to give people a sense of ownership in the process (this was stated by a group member but I am not sure of exactly what was meant by it, we didn’t get back to clarifying the statement)
- Jurisdiction restricting management / how can we reorganize state agencies (We discussed that places like New Zealand designate jurisdiction with watershed

parameters and how much more effective management could be if we could influence the way our infrastructure has been put in place)

- How do we get conservation issues known and people concerned / education on conservation / education on the connections between land and sea (this issue came up throughout the workshop & in the discussions at Caitlin and Yvonne's tables)
- Synthesis of data and information
- Funding
- Understanding between organizations of how different organizations fit into the picture, need for efforts to be brought together to increase support and increase funding

Identified highest Priorities:

- Data
- Outreach education
- Organization of information available
- Social & political support
- Collaboration & Symmetry regarding plan/s

Flow of importance to achieve what organizations need

1. Synthesis of Data/Info
2. Organization/ Implementation/ Education
3. Collaborating of all efforts between individuals, organizations, planners to gain support from society
4. Society's support will gain political support in votes that generate money for funding
5. Funding in turn enables the synthesis of data/info
6. Back to #1

In Addition:

- Implementation is needed category in the survey

The group discussion at Caitlin Camp's table:

- Regulatory help to increase implementation of restoration projects (i.e. speed up permitting processes)
- More focus on regional connection (this issue was raised at three different tables).
 - Find linkage between fine data and international politics; how to translate into political will
- Efforts should "blossom" into a global approach; promote stewardship and global awareness
- Use regulatory approaches to strengthen laws that decrease pollution & destructive behavior
- Constructive engagement (you can restore anything but break it faster in the process)
- Build consensus policy for how all can work together Socio-economics are disconnected from the environment; need financial incentives to practice conservation instead of extracting economic value (for residents and fishers to use conservation to equal the economic value)

The conversation at Yvonne Everret's table focused on building a regional voice

and getting the general public more involved:

- On the North Coast our focus has been on restoration and conservation. We need to move into the policy arena to ensure that our conservation needs show up on the state's (and federal) priority list. We need to create greater regional strength (a louder, more competitive regional voice). Power and influence on the N. Coast have an indirect correlation to distance from the Bay Area.
There was, for example, discussion of regional water exports (Eel to Sonoma/Russian River). Concerns were expressed about the way in which politicians from outside the area sell themselves and their capacity in Washington DC (e.g. Sonoma Co. Water Agency taking credit for Mattole Restoration efforts) in order to capture resources and influence that otherwise could belong to the North Coast.
- We identified the need to explore creative funding solutions for common regional goals. Our focus has been on trying to get the government to pay conservation organizations for work done. We need a broader vision to prioritize and expand conservation options. Invasive weed programs are a good example of regionally applied creative and collaborative funding opportunities. The Humboldt Bay Wildlife Refuge (USF&W - federal) has funded eradication of the invasive plant, Purple Loosestrife on state lands in the Eel River Basin . The point with invasive species is to catch them early wherever they occur using whatever funds are available, and not to depend on a particular landowner/jurisdiction to fight the problem alone. If this is not done, a small outbreak of an invasive species can just explode into a large problem for all.
- We discussed the issue of government scientific reports being altered at the top level to comply with specific political agendas. It was suggested that early exposure may help and attention by the media (recent NASA case). These issues are currently under scrutiny of the courts.
- The importance of wide ranging social/political connections and public outreach and education was identified.
“We always see the same faces at these meetings – that’s good but the conservation issues are not being discussed by Joe Smith at the grocery store – we need more public education and outreach programs on conservation issues.”
(in order to build social and political support)
- We need more focus on social justice and education

The conversation at Glen McHargue’s table focused mostly around the survey and personal discussion that had nothing to do with the workshop. Here are some quotes from the attendees:

- “It forced us to show where our priorities truly are, what is urgent.”
- “There was a gap in the area of land stewardship areas, the survey could use a page on that.”

- “I wish it was more clear on how they wanted the 100 to be broken up, for example regionally?”
- “There were no implementation or restoration areas, I, as well as others, just listed it under conservation activities.”
- “It would be helpful if there was an area for a “write in” in which we could spend our money on. There are too many needs for too many different people, for example, I am working on the coastal trail.”
- “The simplification was good, simplification will bring out the trends. Then the trends may be looked at to establish a cause and effect relationship.
- “There should be a new category of 'Economy of Natural Resources' then they would show all of the effects of consumption of things like plywood, seafood etc. Maybe it is a subset of 2B”
- “I feel that marine conservation is much different than terrestrial conservation but the survey didn't differentiate very well. Maybe have the taker of the survey differentiate what they are thinking (marine or terr.) before they take the survey.”
- “I am very interested in the results of this survey and knowing what 'the laundry list' of things to be done are”
- “It is good that Mendocino and Del Norte are included, it seems often, in this area, it is just Hum. Bay.”
- Biggest regional need?
- “Social and political outreach and education. Because of this lack of knowledg it is often hard for the north coast to get a share of the resources, it is often forgotten.”
- “Cultural diversity, I think we are just labeled as the backwoods white folks north of SF”
- “I wish there was a place where I could see who is getting funding, where the money is going, the investments. This would help me to see the big picture and where the priorities were.”