



DECISION RECORD

for the
Environmental Assessment
entitled
FLEENER CREEK TRAILHEAD PARKING AREA

September 2005

It is the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) decision to implement the Proposed Action with minor modifications to the parking area design and beach access trail that were outlined in the Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). This decision is the environmentally preferred action.

Decision Rationale

The parking area design was modified in its shape and configuration of facilities as a result of Humboldt County's proposed realignment of Centerville Road. The number and types of facilities (restroom, signs, bumpers, fencing, kiosk, picnic tables) within the parking area remain the same except that native shore pine tree seedlings will be planted on the southern and eastern edges to serve as a visual screen. There is no longer a need to install a cattleguard in front of the parking area.

The beach access trail will be developed in the same area as shown in Figure 1 of the Environmental Assessment, however, a few additional switchbacks will be needed. The trail will be three feet wide initially, but will be constructed so that the possibility of widening it between four and five feet to accommodate future equestrian use would not be precluded. To reduce soil erosion and provide a safer travel surface, the trail will be graveled as funds permit. Potentially unsafe interactions may occur from time to time if cattle were to use the trail. In the event that unacceptable risks occur, a smooth wire fence may need to be installed adjacent to the east side of the trail. The fence would also serve to keep the public from traveling cross-country toward the private property and residence. At both ends of the trail, a wooden walk-through structure will be constructed to prevent the possibility of livestock from grazing outside of the allotment.

Approved: _____

Lynda J. Roush

Lynda J. Roush
BLM Arcata Field Manager

Date: _____

9-27-05

Exhibit 2: NEPA Documentation (EA/FONSI)

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

EA FACE SHEET

I. Title of Report: Fleener Creek Trailhead Parking Area
(EA # AR-04-12)

II. Lead Writer/Team Leader Bruce R. Cann Outdoor Recreation Planner
Name Title

III. Participating Staff Resource Specialty

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Charlotte Hawks Charlotte Hawks 6/23/04 Realty

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Sam Morrison Sam Morrison Geology

IV. Team Leader/Writer: Bruce R. Cann 6-22-04
Signature Date

Reviewed By: DJ Breill 6/30/04
Signature Date

Reviewed By: _____ _____
Signature Date

Exhibit 2: NEPA Documentation (EA/FONSI)

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (AR-04-12)

BLM Office: **CA-330, Arcata**

Proposed Action Title/Type: **Fleener Creek Trailhead Parking Area**

Location of Proposed Action: **Lost Coast Headlands**

Conformance With Applicable Land Use Plan: **Arcata RMP Amendment (1995)**: The proposed action is consistent with the Arcata Resource Management Plan Amendment dated 1995. The affected lands fall into the Scattered Tracts Management Area of this plan.

This proposed action is subject to the following Land Use Plan:

Name of Plan: **Arcata RMP Amendment (1995)**

This plan has been reviewed to determine if the proposed action conforms with the land use plan terms and conditions as required by 43 CFR 1610.5.

Background: In April, 2000, the State of California's Coastal Conservancy in cooperation with the Conservation Fund, commissioned a study to determine the feasibility and benefits of public acquisition of coastal open space on the headlands southwest of Ferndale, CA. The project area, now known as the "Lost Coast Headlands", encompasses about 650 acres and a mile of Pacific coastline. The area was historically used for cattle grazing but has a high potential for subdivision and residential development. The study identified numerous significant natural resource, scenic and recreational values in the area. Extensive community outreach was conducted during the effort, including meetings with the Ferndale City Council, the Humboldt County Supervisors and community members. Based on this background information, the study recommended that the parcels be acquired for the public for "light and low impact recreational uses and continued managed livestock grazing outside of riparian and wetland areas." The study also looked at potential management agencies for the area. The BLM was recommended as the most appropriate agency because "BLM has the ability to manage for multiple uses, including grazing, has sufficient staffing, has a good record for community involvement in planning processes . . ." Recommended interim management measures (until a plan could be developed for the area) included "providing a ranger presence, offering pedestrian public access during daylight hours only, allowing light managed grazing, and defining a small parking area." These recommendations were again presented to local governments, at a public meeting, and to neighboring landowners. Community support for the project led to the acquisition of the first parcel (225 acres) by the state and transfer to the BLM for long-term management. The BLM subsequently developed a small trailhead parking area and hiking trail to the beach in the Guthrie Creek area. A second 183-acre contiguous parcel (Fleener Creek) was recently acquired by the BLM to provide additional public access to the coastline, preserve open

Exhibit 2: NEPA Documentation (EA/FONSI)

space, and to protect natural resource values. This environmental assessment discusses and evaluates BLM's proposal to develop a small trailhead parking area on the southern bluff overlooking Fleener Creek, and providing a hiking trail to the beach.

Need for Proposed Action: On January 31, 2003, the BLM acquired approximately 175 acres, one of four parcels encompassing what is called the Lost Coast Headlands (Map A). To provide public access to the coastline, protect natural resource values, and protect adjacent private property, it is necessary that a small trailhead parking area and hiking trail to the beach be developed.

Description of Proposed Action: The proposed project is to develop a small 7-vehicle parking area adjacent to the new bypass road that is currently being constructed by Humboldt County. This parking area would be graveled and contain a vault restroom, two picnic tables, and an information kiosk. It would be delineated by a split-rail redwood fence. A cattle guard would be installed to prevent livestock entry to the parking area. Leading from this trailhead parking area would be a 3-foot wide ½-mile long hiking trail that would traverse its way down the slope to the mouth of Fleener Creek at the beach. The trail tread would be natural, with no gravel added (see Figure 1).

Description of Alternatives: Several alternative locations for a parking area and trail were considered before selecting the proposed location. These included three separate sites at the bottom of the hill nearby two residences and Fleener Creek. Each of these sites was dropped from further consideration after field reconnaissance and discussions with the adjacent landowners revealed that social and resource impacts were too high. A "No Action" alternative (Continuation of Existing Situation) was also considered but is unacceptable because of the safety problem that will result with vehicle congestion along the side of the road and impacts to nearby private property owners.

Affected Environment: The land and resources affected by this project include the proposed trailhead parking area and trail with their immediate surroundings. The remainder of the parcel would not be affected by this project.

Soils/ Geology: The bluff overlooking the ocean immediately west of the proposed project site has undergone severe erosion from wave action and landslides. Massive landslides in the area have occurred since the 1940's and possibly earlier. In the winter of 2003 renewed landslide activity resulted in the loss of the county road through this area which is now being relocated inland to avoid erosion and loss of the road from future storm or earthquake activity. The proposed trailhead parking area would be located in one of the more stable areas between the new county road alignment and the new landslide activity.

The proposed project overlies three geologic units, the Rio Dell Formation, the Hookton Formation, and a flat terminal surface represented by an uplifted marine terrace. All three geologic units are

Exhibit 2: NEPA Documentation (EA/FONSI)

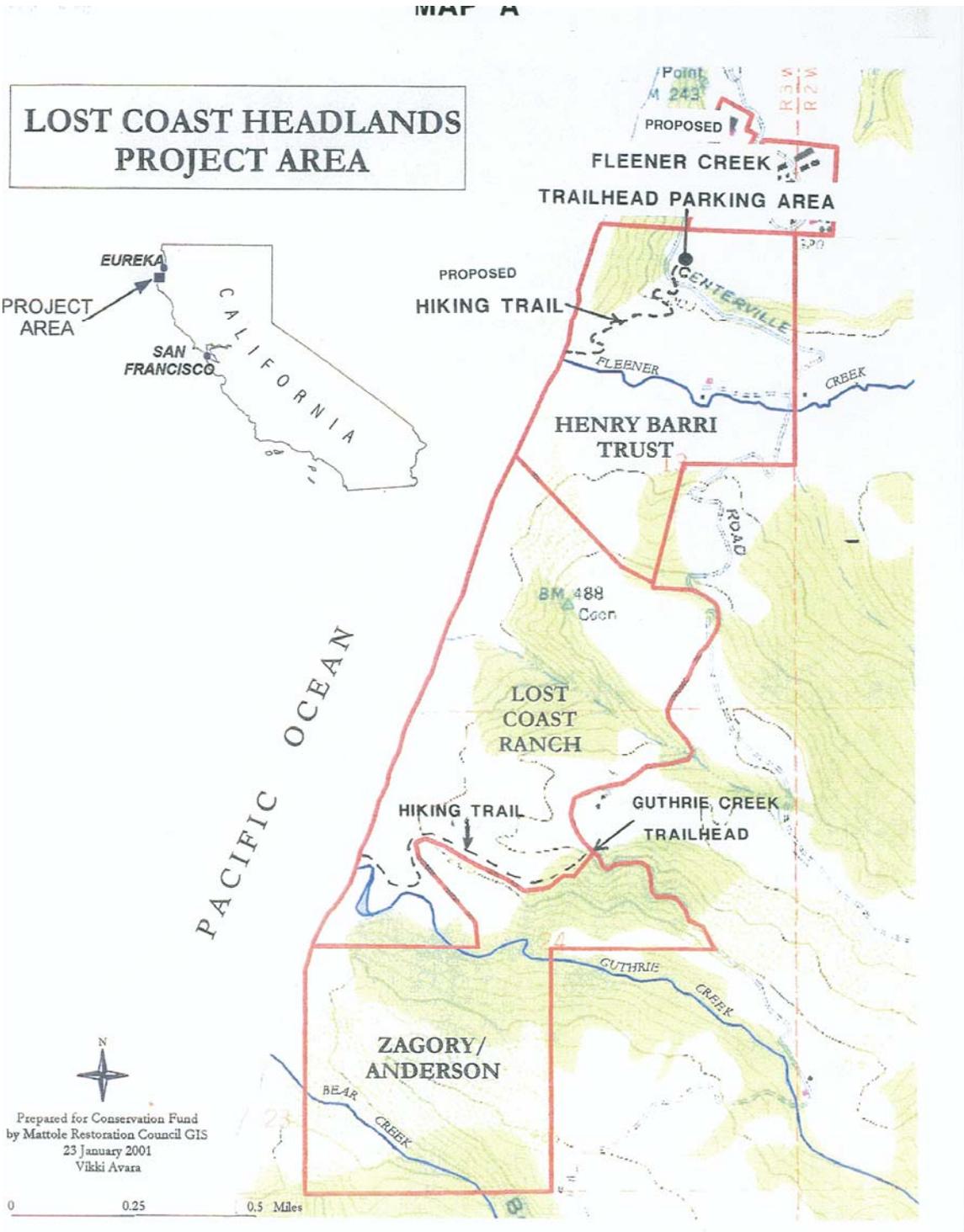


Figure 1: Fleener Creek Trailhead and Beach Trail

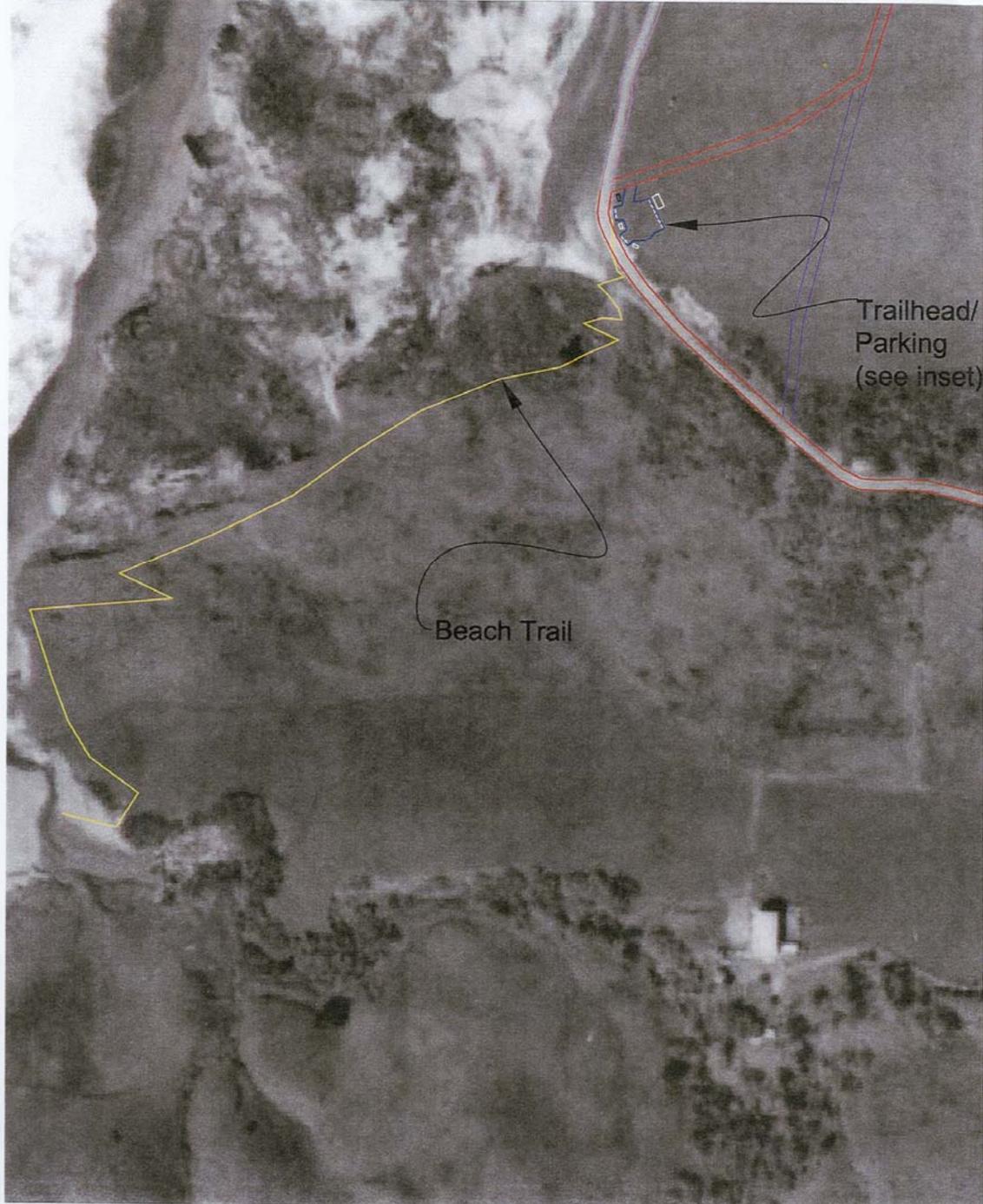


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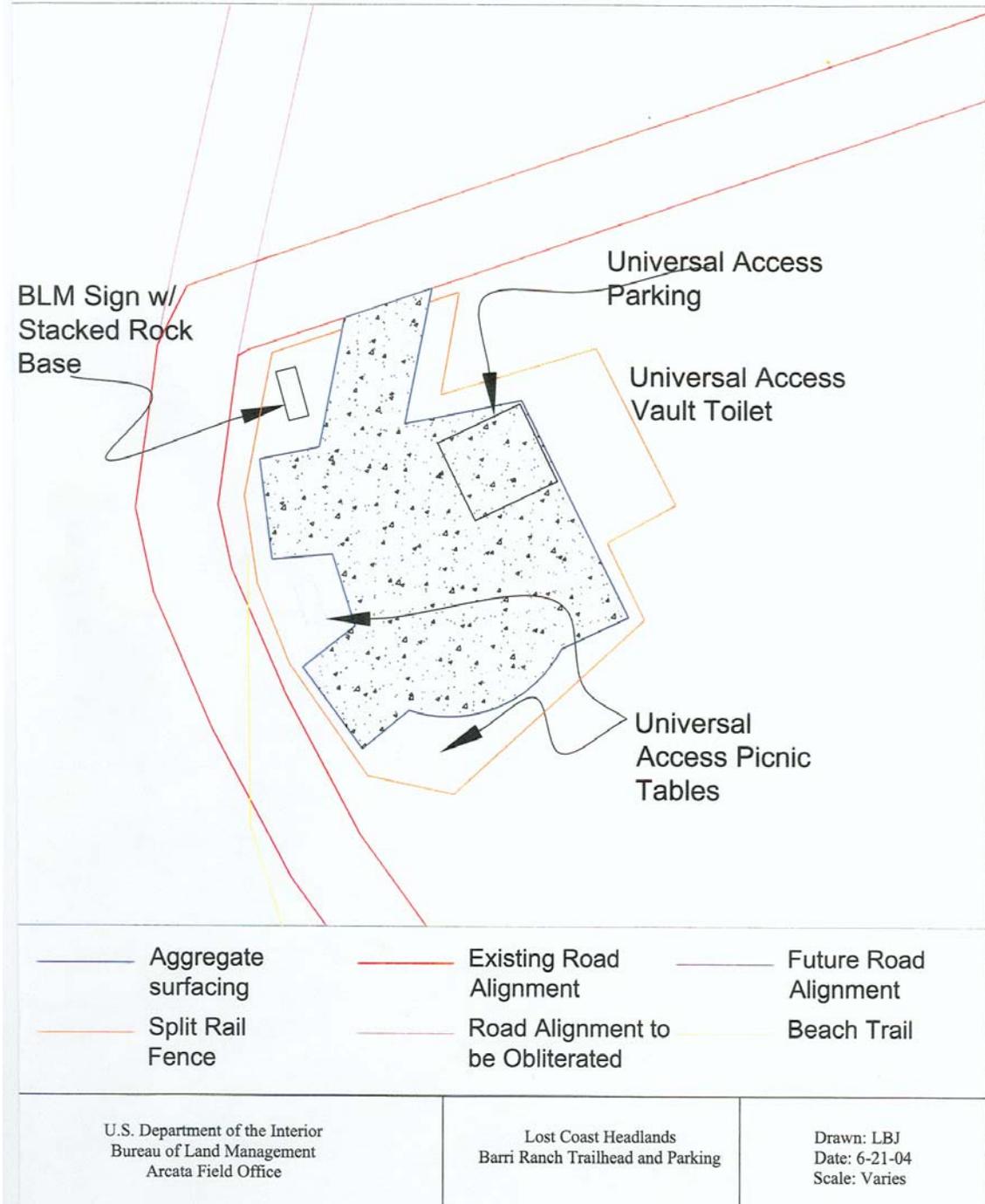


Exhibit 2: NEPA Documentation (EA/FONSI)

incorporated in the extensive landslide activity in cliffs to the west of the proposed parking lot, and north of the proposed trail. The closest landslide activity is approximately 100 ft from the western-most edge of the proposed parking lot.

The base of the cliff below the project area is composed of unstable mudstones and siltstones of the Rio Dell Formation (Wildcat Group) which are exposed in the coastal cliffs below the proposed parking lot. These semi-consolidated beds of this unit dip northward at angles of 18 to 19 degrees, with numerous dip-slope landslides exposed in the cliffs below. Overlying the Rio Dell Formation at this site is a 70 foot thick section of the Hookton Formation, which consists of soft, unconsolidated, friable sands and gravels. The Hookton Formation overlies the Rio Dell Formation unconformably, with northward dips of 9 to 12 degrees. Overlying these two units is a thin marine terrace unit, approximately 10 ft thick, composed of friable sands and gravels and this forms the nearly flat, terminal surface topography surrounding the project area.

The immediate area of the proposed parking lot is on a stable flat portion of the marine terrace surface and at this time is not involved in the active landslide activity. No landslide features or cracks appear in the proposed parking lot area or along the proposed road route. Future landslide activity and coastal erosion of the cliffs nearby may involve this area. The proposed trail is on relative stable grassy slopes, but close to the active landslide activity immediately to the north, and may be involved in future landslide activity.

Biological Resources

Vegetation: The affected area consists of an array of habitat types including open sandy beaches, steep coastal bluffs, stream riparian, coastal scrub, mixed conifer forests, and open grasslands. The affected lands fall within the coastal north coast mountain region of cismontane California. The vegetation types are predominately California annual grassland and California coastal scrub. Douglas-fir-Sitka spruce forest is present in the draws. No sensitive, threatened or endangered plant species have been detected in the affected area.

Wildlife: Wildlife species include the black-tailed deer, raccoon, grey fox, mountain lion, coyote, brush rabbit, pocket gopher, and a variety of other mammals typically found in coastal prairies. Bird species include the red-tailed hawk, northern harrier, turkey vulture, common raven, California quail, and a variety of other birds typically found in coastal prairies and coastal riparian areas. Gulls, terns, and shorebirds use the beach, especially at the mouth of Fleener Creek for roosting and foraging. No threatened or endangered animal species have been identified in the vicinity of the project location.

The affected area is within the range of the northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*), the Marbled Murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*), the bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), the western snowy plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus*), and the Steller sea lion (*Eumetopias jubata*), all of which are threatened, and the endangered brown pelican (*Eumetopias jubata*).

Exhibit 2: NEPA Documentation (EA/FONSI)

Marbled Murrelet

The project area is within the Northwest Forest Plan Zone 1 of marbled murrelet habitat. The area within 0.25 miles of the proposed parking area and trail do not contain nesting trees or forest stands suitable for the marbled murrelet, and is not within designated critical habitat for the marbled murrelet.

Northern Spotted Owl

The affected area does not contain the constituent elements of suitable northern spotted owl nesting or roosting habitat. None of the area is designated northern spotted owl critical habitat. The nearest known owl site is located approximately two miles east of the project site.

Bald Eagle

The bald eagle breeds in the northern one-quarter of California, including a few territories in Humboldt and Trinity Counties. The bald eagle winters at sites throughout the state, concentrating on artificial water impoundments. The largest wintering population can be found in the Klamath Basin. The species is a locally regular, uncommon winter visitor and locally rare breeder. Specific winter habitat for this species is generally large trees with open crowns near large creeks, rivers, or lakes that have a fish supply. No suitable nest or roost trees occur on or nearby the project site. Individual bald eagles can sometimes be observed during the winter around Humboldt Bay, approximately nine miles to the north.

Western Snowy Plover

The project site is within the range of the western snowy plover. No plovers have been observed in the area. The high tide line is backed by vertical headlands transitioning to tall cliffs which make the beach area habitat not suitable for western snowy plovers.

Steller Sea Lion

The Steller sea lion is a large ocean mammal that is designated as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. It feeds primarily on fish and squid, and remains in the water for long periods of time. It hauls out on offshore rocks and on some sheltered beaches. No Steller sea lion habitat occurs near or within 0.25 miles of the mouth of Fleener Creek.

Brown Pelican

The brown pelican was listed as an endangered species in 1970. Its range consists of an eastern population along the southeastern and Gulf coasts of the U.S., and a population that occurs along the west coast of the U.S., Mexico, the Gulf of California, and down to Central America. Along the west coast, brown pelicans breed as far north as Monterey and during the non-nesting season range as far north as Vancouver Island. Brown pelicans use the near-shore Pacific Ocean west of the project site. The birds occur in the ocean adjacent to the area in the summer and fall of the year with a few rare occurrences being noted in the winter and spring. The bird feeds on bait fish in the near-shore waters. Offshore rocks and sea stacks are used as roosting and loafing sites. No habitat or pelican use occurs in the vicinity of the project area.

Exhibit 2: NEPA Documentation (EA/FONSI)

Fisheries: Fleener Creek is a three-mile long, fish bearing, perennial creek that terminates at the ocean. The proposed trail would end adjacent to the mouth of Fleener Creek. According to the California Department of Fish and Game, the only fish species present in Fleener Creek is three-spine stickleback (*Gasterosteus aculeatus*) (Michelle Gilroy, Personal Communication, September 3, 2002).

Recreation: The affected area is currently seldom used by the public because there are no facilities, access improvements, or signs that would identify the area for public use and enjoyment. Those few local residents and visitors who have been informed the area is public land currently park alongside the county road and hike cross-country through a pasture that is grazed by cattle during the spring and early summer.

Visual Resources: The BLM's Visual Resource Management (VRM) System established management classes that set standards for maintaining visual resources. The area was recently acquired and therefore does not have management classes established. They will be identified during the land use planning process. Assuming the project area is within an area designated VRM Class 2, management activities that change the basic elements (form, line, color, texture) should not be evident in the characteristic landscape. Contrasts can be seen, but must not attract attention.

Cultural Resources: A pre-field review of the archaeological data base, ethnographic and historic literature and records indicate there had been several ethnographic Wiyot Indian camps along the beach/creek interfaces and that dairy farming and ranching took place from the mid-1850's to the present. The area surrounding the project site was field examined in 2001 by the Arcata Field Office Archaeologist to determine if any prehistoric, ethnographic, and/or historic properties could be located. None of the ethnographic Wiyot Indian sites could be located nor were any prehistoric archaeological sites found. One historic archaeological site was located in Section 13 on the edge of a badly eroding cliff facing northerly. This area is presently fenced off to prevent resource impacts. Regarding the historic ranch properties located on Fleener Creek, Donald Tuttle from the Humboldt County Public Works Dept. evaluated the Barri Ranch Farmstead and related buildings for historical significance in 2002 and determined they were not significant historic resources and not eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places nor to the California Register of Historic Places. His report was prepared for the Humboldt County Department of Public Works in relation to a request for a lot line adjustment.

A site-specific field survey will be conducted in the trailhead parking area location and along the proposed trail route prior to any surface disturbance. The survey will be attached as an addendum to this EA, and all recommendations of the Arcata Archaeologist in the report will be implemented upon approval by the Arcata Field Manager.

Exhibit 2: NEPA Documentation (EA/FONSI)

Environmental Impacts:

<u>Resources / Critical Element</u>	<u>Affected</u>		<u>Resources / Critical Element</u>	<u>Affected</u>	
	Yes	No		Yes	No
Air Quality	—	<u>XX</u>	T&E Species-Botany	—	<u>XX</u>
ACECs	—	<u>XX</u>	Hazardous Wastes	—	<u>XX</u>
Cultural Resources	—	<u>XX</u>	Water Quality	—	<u>XX</u>
Farmlands	—	<u>XX</u>	Wetlands/Riparian	—	<u>XX</u>
Floodplains	—	<u>XX</u>	Wild & Scenic Rivers	—	<u>XX</u>
Nat. Amer. Concerns	—	<u>XX</u>	Wilderness	—	<u>XX</u>
S&M Component 1	—	<u>XX</u>	Recreation	<u>XX</u>	
S&M Component 2	—	<u>XX</u>	Visual Resources	—	<u>XX</u>
Environmental Justice	—	<u>XX</u>	T&E Species-Wildlife	—	<u>XX</u>
Soils / Geology	—	<u>XX</u>	Vegetation	—	<u>XX</u>
Invasive, non native species	—	<u>XX</u>	Essential Fish Habitat	—	<u>XX</u>

Description of Impacts: The proposed project would have no impact on cultural resources. If, however, any cultural materials, sites, or properties should be discovered in the future, a qualified Archaeologist will evaluate the finds and protection measures implemented if necessary.

No impacts would occur to any rare, threatened, or endangered wildlife, plant, or fish species. There would be no impacts on other wildlife or fish species. The impact from removing the small amount of grass for the proposed trailhead parking area, and some brush and grass for the proposed hiking trail would be negligible. Trail erosion would be kept to a minimum by constructing waterbars where necessary to channel water runoff to appropriate locations. The average grade of the trail would be 10-12% to minimize erosion potential and provide for a more pleasurable hiking experience. The trailhead parking area would be developed on level ground so erosion would be negligible.

Positive impacts on the recreation resource would result, because visitors would be able to park their vehicles in a designated area instead of along the county road, and travel from an outstanding overlook with views of the Fleener Creek watershed down to a beautiful stretch of beach. Visitor use is anticipated to be approximately 10-15 hikers per day.

The analysis of visual impacts concluded that the project would not attract attraction nor have a negative impact on the area's scenic quality. Materials used for the restroom, split-rail fence, and kiosk would blend in with, and complement the surrounding viewshed.

The proposed action would not have a direct or adverse effect on Wild and Scenic River values, and is therefore in compliance with Section 7 of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (Public Law 90-542 and amendments thereto).

Exhibit 2: NEPA Documentation (EA/FONSI)

There could be impacts on visitors hiking the trail when cattle are grazing nearby. Observations indicate that most of the cattle tend to stay away from the proposed trail location and spend most of their time on flatter ground closer to Fleener Creek. Cattle are grazed in the vicinity of the trail for only two months of the year, so interactions should be kept to a minimum. In the event that cattle begin using the trail or come too close to hikers, the BLM will evaluate the need for installing a temporary smooth wire fence adjacent to the lower portion of the trail. The temporary fence, if needed, could be removed once the cattle were re-located to another pasture.

Impacts on grazing activities are considered to be minor. The road to the parking area would not be fenced to allow livestock movement across it. A cattle guard would be installed to prevent livestock entry into the parking area. The proposed trail would be only three feet wide, so the amount of grazing land taken out of production here would be negligible. If cattle begin using the hiking trail or if interactions between hikers and cattle become unacceptable, a fence separating the cattle and hikers may need to be installed adjacent to the trail which would take another couple of acres of grazing land out of production.

Other potential impacts expressed during the public input process while the acquisition of this land was in progress include increased traffic and its affect on congestion and road maintenance requirements, increased fire hazard, increase in trespassing, litter, and vandalism. A discussion of these and other issues can be found in the *Lost Coast Headlands Feasibility Study, Preliminary Findings and Recommendations*, dated March 8, 2001, prepared by Rondal Snodgrass.

Cumulative Impacts: Positive cumulative impacts would occur for visitors wishing to access California's coastline. The nearest coastal access point is relatively close...approximately one mile to the north at Centerville Beach County Park. Another public parking area and hiking trail to the beach is located about two miles to the south at BLM's Guthrie Creek Trailhead. The proposed project would likely reduce the potential for overcrowding at both Centerville Beach and Guthrie Creek Trailhead. Overall visitor use is anticipated to increase slightly in this general location (3 mile stretch of coastline). Cumulative impacts on wildlife, vegetation, cultural resources, and fisheries when assessed in relation to past, present, and future activities and trends is insignificant.

Persons/Agencies Consulted or Contacted:

California Coastal Conservancy
The Conservation Fund
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors
Humboldt County Public Works Dept.
Ferndale City Council
Evette and Gary Green
George and Francis Scalvini
Mr. and Mrs. Cone

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FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Having reviewed this Environmental Assessment, including the explanation and resolution of any potentially significant environmental impacts, the BLM has determined that the Proposed Action with the mitigation measures will not have any significant impacts on the human environment and that an EIS is not required. The proposed project is also in conformance with the approved land use plan.

Authorized Official: Lyndee Powell

Date: 10-19-04

Exhibit 2: NEPA Documentation (EA/FONSI)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA -- THE RESOURCES AGENCY

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

45 FREMONT STREET, SUITE 2000
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-2219
VOICE AND TDD (415) 904-5200

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, GOVERNOR



November 17, 2004

Lynda J. Roush
Arcata Field Manager
ATTN: Bruce Cann
Bureau of Land Management
1695 Heindon Road
Arcata, CA 95521-4573

RECEIVED
NOV 24 2004
BLM ARCATA FIELD OFFICE

Re: ND-082-04, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Negative Determination for Fleener Creek Trailhead Parking Area project, south of Centerville Beach County Park, Humboldt County

Dear Ms. Roush:

The Commission staff has reviewed the above-referenced negative determination for the Fleener Creek Trailhead Parking Area project, which would consist of public access and parking improvements, including a graveled parking lot for 7 vehicles, restroom facilities, picnic tables, an information/interpretive kiosk, redwood fencing, and a 3 ft. wide, ½ mile long hiking trail down the slope to the mouth of Fleener Creek.

The project would be located on federal land, improve public access, be compatible with the scenic visual quality of the area, avoid effects on environmentally sensitive habitat and archaeological resources, and include erosion controls to protect water quality.

Therefore, we **agree** with your conclusion that the proposed project would not adversely affect coastal zone resources, and we hereby **concur** with your negative determination for this project made pursuant to Section 15 CFR 930.35 of the NOAA implementing regulations. Please contact Mark Delaplaine at (415) 904-5289 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

(for) PETER M. DOUGLAS
Executive Director

cc: North Coast District Office
California Department of Water Resources
Governor's Washington, D.C., Office

Exhibit 2: NEPA Documentation (EA/FONSI)



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Arcata Field Office
1695 Heindon Road
Arcata, California 95521-4573
www.ca.blm.gov/arcata



In Reply Refer To:
8000(P)
CA330

October 19, 2004

Mr. Peter Douglas
Executive Director
California Coastal Commission
C/O Mr. Larry Simon
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

Dear Mr. Douglas:

This Coastal Consistency Negative Determination (CCND) is submitted by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for the Fleener Creek Trailhead Parking Area project, located on a coastal bluff southwest of Ferndale, CA., nearly one mile south of Centerville Beach County Park (Map A). The project would provide public access to the coastline from a 175-acre parcel which was acquired by the BLM in January 2003. It is consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the California Coastal Management Program (CCMP).

Project Description: The proposed project is to develop a small 7-vehicle parking area overlooking Fleener Creek and the Pacific Ocean. The parking area would be graveled and contain a vault restroom, two picnic tables, and an information kiosk containing a map, educational materials, and regulations. The site would be delineated by a split-rail redwood fence. Leading from the trailhead parking area would be a 3-foot wide, ½-mile long hiking trail that would traverse its way down the slope to the mouth of Fleener Creek at the beach. The trail tread would be composed of natural soil (Figure 1).

Project Need: This project is needed to provide the public with a safe place to park their vehicles adjacent to the existing county road. The trail is needed to provide the public with a safe and orderly means of reaching the beach where visitors would have an outstanding opportunity hike, picnic, sightsee, view wildlife, and explore and learn about the area's unique geologic features.

By not improving the area with a small parking area and trail to the beach, the public would most likely park farther south along the county road adjacent to two private residences, causing a traffic hazard and potential conflicts (trespassing, increased fire danger, noise) with private property owners. Visitors would end up hiking cross-country

Exhibit 2: NEPA Documentation (EA/FONSI)

through an active cattle grazing operation to reach the beach, creating numerous conflicts between people and cattle.

Evaluation of Relevant Enforceable Policies of the CCMP

Articles 2 & 3: Public Access and Recreation

The project would increase the public's opportunity to access the beach and coastline, and provide visitors with outstanding opportunities to perform a variety of recreation activities, including day hiking, picnicking, beachcombing, environmental education and interpretation, sightseeing, and wildlife viewing. Recreation use is estimated to be approximately 1000 visitors per year once the facilities are in place. The area would be closed to motorized vehicle use and overnight camping on a temporary basis until a broader scale Resource Management Plan Amendment is completed. The potential for providing equestrian access will continue to be explored as a compatible activity and appropriate for the area.

Article 4: Marine Environment

Marine resources would be protected, and healthy populations of all species of marine organisms would be maintained for long-term commercial, recreational, scientific, and educational purposes. The biological productivity and quality of nearby coastal waters, wetlands, and estuary would be maintained. None of the project work would involve the discharge of wastewater, increase runoff, interfere with surface water flow, or deplete ground water resources. Nearby riparian habitats would be protected.

Article 5: Land Resources

A complete on-the-ground cultural survey was conducted throughout the area. No cultural resources were identified within the project area therefore, no impacts would occur to these resource values.

No impacts would occur to any rare, threatened, or endangered wildlife, plant, or fish species. There would be no impacts on other wildlife or fish species. The impact from removing the small amount of grass for the proposed trailhead parking area, and some brush and grass for the proposed hiking trail would be negligible. Trail erosion would be kept to a minimum by constructing waterbars where necessary to channel water runoff to appropriate locations. The average grade of the trail would be 10-12% to minimize erosion potential and provide for a more pleasurable hiking experience. The trailhead parking area would be developed on level ground so erosion would be negligible.

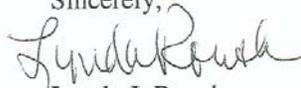
Exhibit 2: NEPA Documentation (EA/FONSI)

CONCLUSION

The BLM has made a thorough consistency assessment pursuant to 15 CFR Part 930.35D, and in accordance with the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, Section 307(c)(1), the CCND demonstrates that the proposal would be undertaken in a manner as to have an overall positive impact on the coastal zone. The project would be visually compatible with the surrounding landscape, and enhance coastal dependent recreation opportunities in the area. Existent land use would not change as the project is consistent with existing federal, state and local land use plans, policies and controls.

If you have any questions or need further information regarding this project, please contact Bruce R. Cann of my staff at (707) 825-2322. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Lynda J. Roush
Arcata Field Manager

Attachment:

1. Environmental Assessment / Finding of No Significant Impact