



Mendocino Coast Cyclists, Inc.

PO Box 742
Fort Bragg, CA 95437
www.MendoCC.org
... a pending 501c3 non-profit
www.MendoCC.org

June 3, 2013

Abbey Stockwell, Planner
Mendocino County Planning & Building Services
120 West Fir Street, Fort Bragg, CA 95437

RE: MacKerricher State Park Dune Rehab/Haul Road Removal (CDP #12-2012)

Dear Ms. Stockwell,

The Mendocino Coast Cyclists club strongly supports securing maintaining and restoring the MacKerricher Haul Road between Ward Avenue and Ten Mile River. We respectfully request that the portion of the dune restoration project description ("*1: removal of asphalt and gravel base in three segments of the former Georgia Pacific Haul Road, totaling 2.7 miles*") not be approved without a public process analyzing alternatives to its removal.

As we said in our letter to Major General Anthony Jackson in January, the MacKerricher Haul Road south of Ward Avenue is a huge recreational asset for Fort Bragg and surrounding areas. The opportunity to maintain and reconnect the neglected portions of Haul Road north of Ward should not be neglected. Visitors and locals alike could once again experience bicycling and walking along a beautiful portion of the Pacific Ocean, with nothing between them but dunes, vast expanses and the freshest air arriving from the west.

Currently, because of the million dollar restoration of the Pudding Creek Trestle, we are able to hike and bike 3.6 miles from the south Trestle parking lot to where the blacktop ends just north of Ward Avenue. If the remnants of the original Haul Road north of Ward Avenue were re-connected via a biking/hiking trail, riders and walkers would be able to enjoy an awesome wilderness experience of no cars, no buildings and no civilization all the way to the Ten Mile River, a distance of seven miles one way. This would be a beautiful and easy ride or walk for contemplation, exercise or to just get away from it all. No other city can offer such a complete get-away so close to downtown.

The extended trail would automatically become a part of the Pacific Coast Trail and the Pacific Coast Bicycle Route allowing hikers and bikers to avoid several miles of shoulder-less Highway 101. As time goes by such a natural, accessible experience becomes more and more difficult to find. We could have it here. Please help make Fort Bragg a destination for those who want to get away from it all, improve their health and peace of mind.

Mendocino Coast Cyclists encourages State Parks to analyze alternatives – via a public process – to the removal of the Haul Road north of Ward Avenue, including reconnecting the lost segments to the fullest extent possible so it may be enjoyed by walkers, runners, cyclists and equestrians and for many more years.

Please feel free to contact us if we can help in any way.

Sincerely,

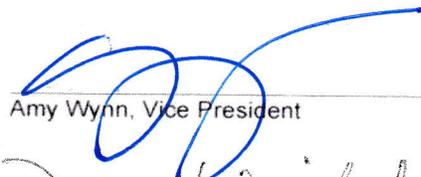
Mendocino Coast Cyclists Board of Directors



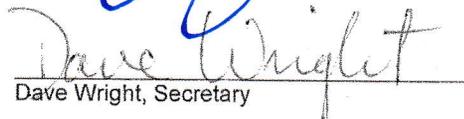
John Loudon, President



Tom Charters, Treasurer



Amy Wynn, Vice President



Dave Wright, Secretary

Encl: n/a

CC: Loren Rex, Superintendent, Mendocino County Sector; Noreen Evans, CA State Senator, District 2; Wesley Chesbro, CA State Assemblyman; Mendocino County Board of Supervisors; Visit Mendocino County, Chamber of Commerce; Tamara Gedik, CA Coastal Commission.