

June 14, 2010

Ms. Ruby Pap
District Supervisor
North Central Coast District
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont St, Suite. 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105-2219

RE: Development Permit Application No. 2-06-018 (Lawson's Landing)

Dear Commissioners:

The Marin Chapter of the Native Plant Society (CNPS) is dedicated to the conservation of California native plants and their natural habitats. We have studied Lawson's Coastal Development Permit Application No. 2-06-018 and make the following recommendations.

It is easy to imagine that prior to its conversion to recreational use by the Lawson Family, a complex and diverse natural ecosystem consisted of mobile dunes, dune scrub and wetlands. This unique area was habitat to many rare plants and animals until unpermitted recreational activities led to the severe and partial degradation of those communities.

The Coastal Commission has a great opportunity to reverse many of those impacts and restore much of this area to the magnificent example of a California coastal ecosystem that it was in the past and should be in the future.

Thus CNPS recommends the following:

- all environmentally sensitive habitat areas be identified, especially wetlands areas;
- around those areas, minimum 100-foot buffers that exclude construction, vehicles and camping be enforced;
- damage from previous misuse be repaired; and,
- the damaged areas be restored and protected from future misuse.

We further recommend that upland areas in the eastern portion of the property be considered for alternate camping sites, in order to decrease pressure on sensitive habitats near the ocean.

The second part of California Native Plant Society's core mission is to educate the public on California's native plants. An opportunity exists on the Lawson property to demonstrate restoration and good stewardship of rare coastal dune and wetland habitat. We hope the Coastal Commission will further this opportunity.

Sincerely,

The Marin Chapter of the California Native Plant Society

Eva Buxton
Conservation Chairman
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Tiburon, CA 94920

