

**Area of Special Biological Significance 7 – Shelter Cove Launch Ramp Road
Compliance Plan**

Prepared for: State Water Resources Control Board

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Background

Stormwater runoff drains down the inboard side of Launch Ramp Road (Shelter Cove, CA) into the State of California's designated Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) 7. The runoff is primarily received from a paved area used for parking and driving motor vehicles (Figure 1). This compliance plan was developed to satisfy requirements of the State Water Board for stormwater discharges into ASBSs. Plan contents are based on the requirements described in State Water Board Resolution No 2012-0012 *Approving Exemptions to the California Ocean Plan for Selected Discharges into Areas of Special Biological Significance*.

The Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District (Harbor District) currently maintains certain facilities in Shelter Cove, including Launch Ramp Road and the Shelter Cove Breakwater. Additionally, the District has a CA State Lands Lease at the site. However, the District does not own properties at the site and is not mandated to maintain facilities there, other than through the State Lands lease. Ownership of Launch Ramp Road is uncertain and is being investigated. The road may be owned by the County of Humboldt. In the near future, management of Launch Ramp Road may become the responsibility of the County. In the interim, the Harbor District is conducting actions to maintain compliance with State Water Board Resolution No 2012-0012, but cannot commit to long-term compliance actions.



Figure 1. The general direction of storm water flow at Launch Ramp Road, Shelter Cove, California.

Best Management Practices to Minimize Pollutants Reaching ASBS 7

The following best management practices are followed to help maintain natural water quality at the discharge point and in receiving waters.

- Launch Ramp Road is inspected on a daily basis, year round. Any spills or debris found during the inspections are cleaned / removed.
- A fully equipped California Office of Spill Prevention and Response - spill response trailer is on site. Training drills are held twice per year to ensure staff at the site can proficiently respond to spills.

Water Quality Monitoring

As of the date that this plan was drafted, water quality monitoring has not begun. However, the Harbor District has received sampling kits from Physis Laboratory and Aquatic Bioassay Laboratory and is prepared to conduct sampling before and during the next major rain event at the Core Discharge (KNG111) and Launch Ramp Road receiving water. Methods will be consistent with those being employed by the Northern California ASBS Regional Monitoring Workgroup (Workgroup). Additional sampling will be dependent on whether the Harbor District continues to maintain facilities at the site and funding availability. Data collected by the Harbor District will be compiled and analyzed with other data collected by the Workgroup and reported to the State Water Board.