

DATE: October 29, 2021
TO: Bolinas Lagoon Advisory Council
FROM: Samantha Haimovitch, Superintendent
SUBJECT: Agenda item #4: Review and approval of subcommittee draft letter to California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Action Item)

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the council review and approve as submitted a review of a letter to CDFW composed by the subcommittee convened at the April 16, 2021 meeting to address illegal clamming and fishing practices in Bolinas Lagoon.

DISCUSSION

At the October 2020 BLAC meeting, Town of Bolinas and Rod and Boat Club representatives provided updates on recent activity in and around Bolinas Lagoon. As was discussed at that time, the COVID pandemic related shelter in place mandates and other restrictions have caused changes in public activity in and around the Lagoon, including but not limited to: increased water-craft use on the lagoon, poor practices with respect to clamming and fishing behavior, lack of respect for speed limit signage, and dramatically increased visitation.

The outcome of the previous conversation indicated that there was an interest from the Council membership to write a letter to CDFW outlining the BLAC's concerns and requesting increased oversight and enforcement of codes related to these issues. At the April 2021 BLAC meeting, a subcommittee was convened to draft said letter, the product of which is attached.