EXTERNAL

From: Jerry Kermode

To: Sonoma County Commissioners,

RE: Sonoma County Local Coastal Plan Update (PLP13-0014)

This comment is concerning the small beach just off the south end of the parking lot of what I believe is called The Bodega Harbour Estates Yacht Club in Bodega Bay. It is a small gravel and mud beach used primarily by windsurfers on those wild and windy days that are so common in Bodega Bay. I have been windsurfing here for 22 years; most of the locals sailors have sailed here for much longer. Continued access to this beach is very important to us. Windsurfers have maintained this area picking up trash, cleaning the parking lot, warning beach goers of the poison oak on the slope leading to the beach and in general being ambassadors of this part of the bay.

I believe there is a little known public access right of way down the driveway and across the parking lot to the beach. Use of the parking lot for public use has been restricted by Bodega Bay Harbour Estates, which has held the lease for this property for years. Windsurfers park along Smith Brrothers Road, above the Yacht Club, carry our equipment down the driveway, across the parking lot and down a short dirt path to the beach. If parking will be allowed in the lot please make sure there is no parking through this, as we have been told, public access to the beach. There have been times when events were held there that cars made it difficult to carry boards or sails to the beach.

I appreciate your attention to the needs of this small but very active group of Sonoma county residents.

Fair winds -- for all,

Jerry Kermode JerryKermode@gmail.com JerryKermode.com Phone 707-824-9893

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