

Coastal Forestry

October 21, 2024

Santa Cruz Planning Department
501 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060



RE: Rezone APN # 089-091-60 to TPZ
Adjacent to TPZ/Timberland
Property Under Same Ownership

I have been hired to facilitate the rezoning of APN# 089-091-60 to Timber Production. The parcel is currently zoned SU and the county assessor lists the parcel as 10.1 acres in size. The parcel is adjacent to APN # 089-051-02, a 102.9 acre parcel already zoned Timber production under the same ownership. APN# 089-051-02 is heavily timbered and meets the state definition of timberland. As the parcels are contiguous and under the same ownership, APN# 089-091-60 qualifies for an "Adjacency Rezoning" under section 51113.5 of the California Code.

In June of 2024 I completed a sample inventory of APN# 089-091-60 to determine forest characteristics. The inventory consisted of 4 plots 1/5 acre in size randomly placed across the parcel. At each plot I determined tree diameter, height, and percent defect of all conifers greater than 12 inches in diameter within the plot boundaries. I also cored a smaller sample of trees to determine radial growth of the stand over the last ten years. I then processed the collected data to determine the current stocking levels and growth capability of the parcel as detailed below.

TIMBER STOCKING: To rezone a property to the "Timber Production" zoning a property must meet the timber stocking standards set forth in Section 4561 of the Public Resources Code. Section 4561 states in part that "The average residual basal area, measured in stems one inch or larger in diameter.....in areas which the registered professional forester has determined are site II classification or lower, the minimum average residual basal area shall be 50 square feet per acre. Rock outcroppings and other areas not normally bearing timber shall not be considered as requiring stocking." The average residual basal area in the timbered portions of APN# 089-091-60 is 186 square feet per acre and therefore meets the stocking standards.

TIMBERLAND: To rezone a property to the "Timber Production" zoning a property must meet the definition of timberland. Section 51104 of the California Code states that "Timberland means privately owned land.....capable of growing an average annual volume of wood fiber of at least 15 cubic feet per acre." The property proposed for rezoning is capable of growing an annual average volume of wood fiber of 60.2 cubic feet per acre and therefore meets the definition of timberland.

COMPATIBLE USE: Current property use of the parcel includes watershed, wildlife habitat and timber management. No structures are located on the parcel. Existing infrastructure on the parcel does not significantly detract from the use of the property

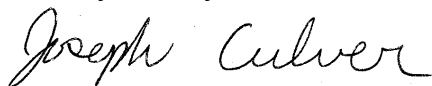
for, or inhibit, growing and harvesting timber. There are no structures on the parcel. There are no roads suitable for standard vehicles on the property. There are approximately 1,200 feet of tractor trails that are used during logging operations for skidding logs. These are dirt-surfaced trails approximately ten feet wide that are generally contoured to the natural slope, have frequent dirt berms installed across the trail surface for drainage after use, and are covered in redwood duff or vegetation. These low impact trails are maintained to forest practice standards and are used during logging operations approximately every 12-15 years.

The parcel also includes a seasonal watercourse (class 3) that flows into a perennial, non fish-bearing watercourse (class 2). The location of the skid trails and watercourses are shown on the attached map.

The property is well suited for timber management into the future. The property was selectively harvested approximately 15 years ago and the forest resource is currently healthy and experiencing a growth rate consistent with managed forests. The ownership has indicated that they want to continue to manage the timber resource and stand conditions warrant another harvest in the near future. Harvesting on the parcel will take approximately one month. The harvest will be part of a larger harvest on adjacent lands under the same ownership. An approved Timber Harvest Plan currently is in place for the ownership. The owners would like to log the parcel sometime between May 1 and October 15 of 2025. Weather conditions and contractor availability do not allow a more specific time window at this time.

The property meets required state stocking levels, qualifies as "Timberland," and the current use is compatible with the Timber Production zoning.

Thank you for your time in this matter,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph Culver".

Joseph Culver
RPF #2674

Attached: Bushnell Rezone Map

Bushnell Rezone Application

Santa Cruz County
Castle Rock Ridge USGS Quadrangle
Portions of Sections 17
T9S, R2W, MDB&M
Contour Interval = 40 feet

APN 089-091-60

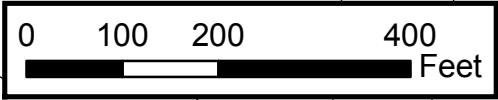
Legend

Rezone Parcel

Skid Trail

Class 2 Watercourse

Class 3 Watercourse



Coastal Forestry

October 3, 2024

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501 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060



RE: Rezone APN # 089-091-60 to TPZ
Additional Information following
Review by Santa Cruz County

On September 25, 2024 Santa Cruz Planning issued an "Incomplete Application" letter regarding the rezoning application. This response contains the additional information required per the letter.

County Comment

*Please provide more detailed information on what is the existing infrastructure on the parcel.
Please include any maps/surveys or any other information on deeded easements, etc.*

There are no structures on the parcel. There are no roads suitable for standard vehicles on the property. There are approximately 1,200 feet of tractor trails that are used during logging operations for skidding logs. These are dirt-surfaced trails approximately ten feet wide that are generally contoured to the natural slope, have frequent dirt berms installed across the trail surface for drainage after use, and are covered in redwood duff or vegetation. These low impact trails are maintained to forest practice standards and are used during logging operations approximately every 12-15 years.

The parcel also includes a seasonal watercourse (class 3) that flows into a perennial, non fish-bearing watercourse (class 2). The location of the skid trails and watercourses are shown on the attached map.

County Comment

Please update the report to provide an approximate period of time when a reasonable timber harvest can be accomplished on this site and when it is expected to get harvested.

Harvesting on the parcel will take approximately three weeks. The harvest will be part of a larger harvest on adjacent lands under the same ownership. An approved Timber Harvest Plan currently is in place for the ownership. The owners would like to log the parcel sometime between May 1 and October 15 of 2025. Weather conditions and contractor availability do not allow a more specific time window at this time.

Please let me know how else I may assist,

Joseph Culver
RPF #2674