Appendix E: Wild & Scenic River Eligibility Report

Bureau of Land Management

Cotoni-Coast Dairies Unit of the California Coastal National Monument

As part of the current Resource Management Plan amendment (RMPA) process being conducted by the US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Central Coast Field Office (CCFO), an inventory and analysis of rivers and streams within the Cotoni-Coast Dairies (C-CD) unit of the California Coastal National Monument (CCNM) is required to determine whether rivers or segments of rivers are "eligible" and "suitable" for consideration in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (NWSRS). The CCFO has completed the eligibility phase and the results are reported herein.

I. Statutory Background

The Wild and Scenic River Act (WSR Act) was enacted by Congress in 1968 with the realization that, "the established national policy of dam and other construction at appropriate sections of the rivers of the United States needs to be complemented by a policy that would preserve other selected rivers or sections thereof in their free-flowing condition to protect the water quality of such rivers and to fulfill other vital national conservation purposes." Rivers that fall under this designation have to meet criteria of being free flowing from WSR Act, Section 16(b) "existing or flowing in natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, rip-rapping, or other modification of the waterway") and possess outstandingly remarkable values (ORVs: scenic, recreational, geologic, fish, wildlife, cultural, historical, or other). The act provides for protection for included river segments so they are "preserved in free-flowing condition, and that they and their immediate environments shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations."

Rivers and river segments designated under the act are protected and managed to maintain their free flowing character and values that led to designation. Section 10 of the WSR Act mandates, "each component of the national wild and scenic rivers system shall be administered in such manner as to protect and enhance the values which caused it to be included in said system without, insofar as is consistent therewith, limiting other uses that do not substantially interfere with public use and enjoyment of these values." Protections put in place for designated segments are intended to protect and/or enhance the river from its current state. If a river or segment is added to the NWSRS a specific plan based on the characteristics of an area will be created, tailored to the specific qualities and competing factors of an area.

Most rivers are added to the NWSRS through federal legislation, after a study of the river's eligibility and suitability for designation. Under Section 5(d)(1) of the WSR Act, federal agencies are required to consider and evaluate rivers on lands they manage for potential designation in conjunction with the preparation of their RMP. The BLM Manual, 6400, further defines and establishes the policy, program direction and procedural standards for fulfilling the requirements of the WSR Act. The NWSRS study process has three distinct steps:

1. Determine what rivers or river segments are eligible for NWSRS designation;

2. Determine the potential classification of eligible river segments as wild, scenic, recreational or any combination thereof; and

3. Conduct a suitability study to determine if the river segments are suitable for designation as components of the NWSRS.

This report documents the first two of the three steps of the process for the streams in the planning area.

II. Eligibility of Rivers & Streams

Identification

The initial step in the eligibility determination was to create an inventory of all potential rivers and river segments falling on lands administered by the BLM at C-CD. A variety of sources were reviewed to identify waterways which could have potential for wild and scenic river designation. They include the USGS National Hydrography Dataset, the Nationwide Rivers Inventory List, the Outstanding Rivers List compiled by American Rivers, Inc., river segments identified by state or local government, river segments identified by the public during formulation of the C-CD RMPA/EA, and river segments identified by the planning team as having potential to meet Wild and Scenic River eligibility requirements. Intermittent streams were added to the inventory based on input from BLM specialists where potential outstandingly remarkable values (ORVs) may exist.

Per the WSR Act, an eligible segment must be free flowing and possess one or more ORV(s). River values are evaluated within a region of comparison and are identified as outstandingly remarkable if the value is significant on a regional or national scale. Eligibility decisions are based solely on the values of a river. Managerial constraints and other factors are considered during the suitability determination stage of the process. If a river segment is determined eligible, it is then assigned a tentative classification (wild, scenic, recreational) based on the level of human development in the river corridor.

The C-CD Interdisciplinary Team is made up of specialists covering resources and programs under the field office jurisdiction. This team reviewed the initial inventory list and added segments potentially containing ORVs. The interdisciplinary team reviewed the data collected and determinations made during field visits to each segment to provide a final determination on eligibility for each segment. Determinations of free-flowing and ORVs rely on professional judgment making the collective knowledge and experience of this team critical to the eligibility determination process.

There are six perennial and intermittent streams totaling 20.1 miles located on C-CD including Molino Creek, Agua Puerca (Ferrari) Creek, San Vicente Creek, Liddell Creek, Yellow Bank Creek, and Laguna Creek. The watersheds of several of these streams are entirely or almost entirely on C-CD. The larger streams, Laguna Creek and San Vicente Creek, have watershed areas that extend well beyond the C-CD boundary. The streams tend to exhibit “flashy” (rapidly rising and falling) winter flows in response to storm events, which themselves are intensified by the orographic effect of the mountains. As the dry season progresses and the soil dries out, the streams continue to be fed by seeps and springs. These streams segments are identified in Figure 1 and are listed in Table 2 below.

Eligibility Determination

Per the WSR Act, an eligible segment must be free flowing and possess one or more ORV. If a river segment is determined eligible, it is then assigned a tentative classification. The suitability stage of the assessment considers a variety of factors beyond resource values in determining the segments inclusion in the ROD and of segments for designation. Each identified river segment was evaluated to determine whether it is eligible for inclusion in the NWSRS.

The WSR Act defines free-flowing as, “existing or flowing in natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, rip-rapping, or other modification of the waterway.” A segment does not need to be perennial to be qualified as free-flowing. Intermittent watercourses with regular and predictable flows, enough to maintain the segment’s ORVs, can qualify, provided the flow comes from a natural source. Watercourses that only flow from unpredictable events such as flash floods are generally not free flowing. In determining if a segment is free-flowing, “evaluation should focus on normal water years, with

consideration of drought or wet years during the inventory." Free flowing does not necessarily connotate natural hydrology; existence of small dams, diversion works, or other minor structures at the time the river segment is being considered shall not automatically disqualify it.

Outstandingly Remarkable Values and their Region of Comparison

A variety of values were evaluated for each segment to determine if they are Outstandingly Remarkable. The WSR Act stipulates that ORVs of a river segment will be in their immediate environments and need to be river related. This means in the vicinity of the river (with a 0.25-mile preliminary boundary per BLM Manual 8351) or created by or exists because of the river. Potential ORVs include scenic, recreational, fish, wildlife, cultural, and historic values, and other similar values. Determination of ORVs relies on a professional assessment of the values associated with a river based on objective, scientific reasoning. An ORV, "would be one that is a conspicuous example from among a number of similar values that are themselves uncommon or extraordinary". This report documents the reasoning and justification for declaring segments eligible. Each value was evaluated over a Region of Comparison. Values were evaluated based on the ecoregion the river segment is located within, the California Coast Ranges, within the Pacific Border Province (California Coastal Commission 1987).

Scenic - The landscape elements of landform, vegetation, water, color, and related factors result in notable or exemplary visual features or attractions. The BLM Visual Resource Inventory Handbook, H-8410-1, may be used in assessing visual quality and in evaluating the extent of development on scenic values. The rating area must be scenic quality "A," as defined in the BLM Visual Resource Inventory Handbook.

When analyzing scenic values, additional factors, such as seasonal variations in vegetation, scale of cultural modifications, and the length of time negative intrusions are viewed, may be considered. Scenery and visual attractions may be highly diverse on most of the river or river segment.

The scenic designation is used when the landscape elements of landform, vegetation, water, color, and related factors result in notable or exemplary visual features or attraction. Additional factors, such as seasonal variations in vegetation, scale of cultural modifications, and length of time negative intrusions are viewed, can also be considered when analyzing scenic values. Scenery and visual attractions may be highly diverse over most of the public lands involved, are not common to other waterways in the region, and must be of a quality to attract visitors from outside the area.

Recreational - Recreational opportunities in the subject river corridor are or could be popular enough to attract visitors from throughout or beyond the region of comparison or are unique or rare in the region. River-related opportunities include sightseeing, interpretation, wildlife observation, camping, photography, hiking, fishing, hunting, and boating. Such a recreational opportunity may be an ORV without the underlying recreational resource being an ORV; for example, fishing may be an ORV without the fish species being an ORV. The river may provide settings for national or regional usage or competitive events.
Geologic - The river area contains one or more examples of a geologic feature, process, or phenomenon that is unique or rare in the region of comparison. The features may be in an unusually active stage of development, represent a textbook example, or represent a unique or rare combination of geologic features, such as erosional, volcanic, glacial, or other geologic feature.

Fish - Fish values include either indigenous fish populations or habitat or a combination of these river-related conditions, described as follows:

> a. Populations—The river supports nationally or regionally important populations of indigenous resident or anadromous fish species. Of particular significance is the presence of wild stocks or

federally or state-listed or candidate, Threatened, Endangered, or BLM sensitive species. Diversity of species is an important consideration and could, in itself, lead to a determination that it is an ORV.

b. Habitat—The river provides exceptionally high-quality habitat for fish species indigenous to the region of comparison. Of particular significance is habitat for wild stocks or federally- or state-listed or candidate, Threatened, Endangered, or BLM sensitive species. Diversity of habitat is an important consideration and could, in itself, lead to a determination that it is an ORV.

Wildlife - Wildlife values include either terrestrial or aquatic wildlife populations or habitat or a combination of these conditions, as described below:

a. Populations—The river or area within the river corridor contains nationally or regionally important populations of indigenous wildlife species dependent on the river environment. Of particular significance are species considered unique to the area or populations of federally or state-listed or candidate, Threatened, Endangered, or BLM sensitive species. Diversity of species is an important consideration and could, in itself, lead to a determination that it is an ORV.

b. Habitat—The river, or area within the river corridor, provides exceptionally high-quality habitat for wildlife of national or regional significance or may provide unique habitat or a critical link in habitat conditions for federally- or state-listed or candidate, Threatened, Endangered, or BLM sensitive species. Contiguous habitat conditions are such that the biological needs of the species are met. Diversity of habitat is an important consideration and could, in itself, lead to a determination that it is an ORV.

Cultural - Cultural values are archaeological resources and traditional cultural properties. Archaeological resources are the physical remains of past human activities, whereas traditional cultural properties are locations associated with cultural traditions or religious importance of a living community.

a. Archaeological Resources—The river, or river corridor, has scientifically or culturally valuable locations of past human uses that retain integrity or contains an example of a district, site, building, or structure that is rare or outstanding, is associated with a distinctive style, or is associated with a regionally or nationally important event or person. Examples of such locations are prehistoric or historic archaeological sites or historic structures that are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or have been designated a National Historic Landmark.

b. Traditional cultural properties—The river or area within the river corridor contains locations of traditional cultural or religious importance to a specified social or cultural group. Examples of traditional cultural properties are a unique plant procurement site of contemporary significance, fishing grounds, ceremonial areas, and historic village locations. Traditional cultural properties may or may not be integrated with archaeological locations.

Historical - The river, or area within the river corridor, has scientific value or contains a rare or outstanding example of a district, site, building, or structure that is associated with an event, person, or distinctive style. Likely candidates include sites that are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the national level or have been designated a national historic landmark by the Secretary of the Interior.

Other Similar Values - While no specific evaluation guidelines have been developed for the "other similar values" category, additional values deemed relevant to the eligibility of the river segment should be considered in a manner consistent with the foregoing guidance. Other similar values may include but not limited to, hydrological, ecological/biological diversity, paleontological, botanical, and scientific study opportunities.

To be considered as "outstandingly remarkable", a river related value must be a unique, rare, or exemplary feature that is significant at a comparative regional or national scale. Only one such value is needed for eligibility. All values should be directly river related, meaning they should:

1. Be located in the river or on its immediate shorelands (generally within ¼ mile on either side of the river);
2. Contribute substantially to the functioning of the river ecosystem; and/or
3. Owe their location or existence to the presence of the river.

These are the only factors considered in determining the eligibility of a river segment. All other relevant factors are considered in determining suitability. A river need not be navigable by watercraft to be eligible. For purposes of eligibility determination, the volume of flow is sufficient if it is enough to maintain the outstandingly remarkable value(s) identified within the segment.

Potential Classifications for Eligible Segments

River and stream segments determined to be free-flowing and possessing at least one ORV were assigned a tentative classification. There are three possible classifications based on the amount of development, accessibility, and water quality along the watercourse or shoreline. There is some flexibility in this determination, and the final decision relies on professional judgment (see Table 1).

Table 1. Attributes Leading to Tentative Classification of Eligible River Segment under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968

	Classification		
Attributes	**Wild**	**Scenic**	**Recreational**
Water Resources Development (impoundments, diversions, etc.)	Free of impoundment	Free of impoundment	Some existing impoundment or diversion. The existence of low dams, diversions, riprap, or other modifications of the waterway is acceptable, provided the waterway remains generally natural and riverine in appearance.
Shoreline Development	Essentially primitive. Little or no evidence of human	Largely primitive and undeveloped.	Some development. Substantial evidence of human activity.

Attributes	Classification		
	Wild	**Scenic**	**Recreational**
	activity. The presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value, is acceptable. A limited amount of domestic livestock grazing or hay production is acceptable. Little or no evidence of past timber harvest. No ongoing timber harvest.	No substantial evidence of human activity. The presence of small communities or dispersed dwellings or farm structures is acceptable. The presence of grazing, hay production, or row crops is acceptable. Evidence of past or ongoing timber harvest is acceptable, provided the forest appears natural from the riverbank.	The presence of extensive residential development and a few commercial structures is acceptable. Lands may have been developed for the full range of agricultural and forestry uses. May show evidence of past and ongoing timber harvest.
Accessibility	Generally inaccessible except by trail. No roads, railroads, or other provision for vehicular travel within the river area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the river area is acceptable.	Accessible in places by road. Roads may occasionally reach or bridge the river. The existence of short stretches of conspicuous or longer stretches of inconspicuous roads or railroads is acceptable.	Readily accessible by road or railroad. The existence of parallel roads or railroads on one or both banks, as well as bridge crossings and other river access points, including fords, is acceptable.
Water Quality	Meets or exceeds Federal criteria or Federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming), except where exceeded by natural conditions.	No criteria prescribed by the WSR Act. The Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 have made it a national goal that all waters of the US be made fishable and swimmable. Therefore, rivers will not be precluded from scenic or recreational classification because of poor water quality at the time of their study, provided a water quality improvement plan exists or is being developed in compliance with applicable federal and state laws.	

Protection of Eligible Segments

Segments determined eligible in this report are subject to protection until the suitability stage is completed. Following suitability determinations, river segments determined non-suitable return to the underlying management prescribed in the effective RMPA, while suitable rivers are managed to maintain their free flowing character and ORVs as per the alternative selected in the Final RMPA. During the period between issuing the final eligibility report and the ROD, eligible segments identified during a planning process (Section 5(d)(1) of the WSR Act) are offered a different level of protection then river identified for study by Congress (Section 5(a) of the WSR Act). While congressionally authorized study rivers receive protection under the WSR Act, protection of the free-flowing characteristics and ORVs of agency-identified study rivers occurs through other authorities including the National Environmental Policy Act, the Federal Lands Policy and Management Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Endangered Species Act. For example, a federal or federally permitted action subject to the National Environmental Policy Act process would have to consider the effects on the free-flowing and ORVs of any affected eligible stream segments.

Molino Creek

Description
The Molino watershed supports mixed conifer and redwood forests, scrub communities, native and annual grasslands, and riparian and wetland communities. Grazing leases extend through a majority of the grassland, scrub, and woodland communities. The Molino woodland and scrub communities have a high proportion of grassland openings and grassland/woodland edge. Wildlife diversity is presumed high and relatively disturbance-tolerant. The watershed supports anadromous salmonids and has 40 percent of the known locations of the federally-threatened California red-legged frog on C-CD (Environmental Science Associates [ESA] 2004).

Molino Creek originates beyond the northeastern corner of C-CD, flows through the upper northern part of the property, and eventually ends at the ocean. Although the stream length and watershed size of Molino Creek are relatively small compared to other coastal streams in the region (e.g., Scotts Creek, San Vicente Creek), the stream does provide limited habitat for anadromous salmonids. However, there is at least one impassable barrier downstream of potential spawning and rearing sites where the creek channel cross underneath Swanton Road and drops approximately 6’ over a vertical ledge into a small series of plunge pools. The County has a project plan to replace the failed bridge crossing above Molino Creek and restoring the stream to natural grade at this location. Nonetheless, the primary limiting factor on Molino Creek may be natural – the small watershed area does not appear to produce sufficient storm runoff to maintain optimal water depths throughout the spring.

Outstandingly Remarkable Values
Molino Creek provides designated critical habitat for the Central California Coast Distinct Population Segment (DPS) of steelhead, which is listed as threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act (National Marine Fisheries Service [NMFS 2005). The Molino Creek area is also designated critical habitat for the California red-legged frog, listed as threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [USFWS] 2010). This species is thought to utilize all of the creeks on C-CD for summer habitat.

Classification
The section of Molino Creek that flows through C-CD has an old dam structure, as well as grazing infrastructure. An old road runs along a portion of the segment, which is also bisected by the county-maintained Swanton Road. Due to the presence of these features, the tentative classification is recreational.

Agua Puerca Creek

Description
Agua Puerca is also located in the northern portion of the Property and enters the ocean at Davenport Landing after flowing through the U.S. Abalone facility. The mouth of the creek consists of an old concrete flume which was previously used by a fish farm to guide returning adult salmon back into the farm. The headwaters of Agua Puerca Creek occur within C-CD.

With respect to the geomorphologic and biotic conditions of the stream, Agua Puerca Creek appears to provide adequate habitat for a small salmonid population although the presence of difficult-to-pass and/or impassable migration barriers are likely to be lining factors. As is the case with Molino Creek, the small watershed size of Agua Puerca Creek may also limit water availability.

Outstandingly Remarkable Values
Agua Puerca Creek provides designated critical habitat for the Central California Coast Distinct Population Segment (DPS) of steelhead, which is listed as threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act. The Agua Puerca Creek area is also designated critical habitat for the California red-legged frog, listed as threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act (USFWS 2010). This species is thought to utilize all of the creeks on C-CD for summer habitat. Other sensitive wildlife resources within the watershed include habitat for bats, raptors, and San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat.

Classification
The section of Agua Puerca Creek that flows through C-CD has an old dam structure, as well as grazing infrastructure. An old road runs along a portion of the segment, which is also bisected by the county-maintained Swanton Road. Due to the presence of these features, particularly the impoundment structure, the tentative classification is recreational.

San Vicente Creek

Description
San Vicente Creek flows through the town of Davenport on its way to the ocean. At the C-CD property boundary, the creek passes through a railroad crossing (an artificial bore through bedrock) and the Highway 1 crossing (a box culvert) before emptying into the Pacific Ocean. These crossings do appear passable to salmonids during at least parts of the migration season.

The San Vicente Creek watershed is dominated by riparian areas and wetlands, grasslands, coastal scrub, and conifer forest. San Vicente Creek is the only stream on C-CD that supports coho salmon and steelhead. In addition, the San Vicente watershed has the most extensive area of redwood forest on the property.

Generally high levels may of sand and silt in the creek may create sub-optimal salmonid conditions, and potentially high stream temperatures due to limited channel shading, particularly in the lower reaches. The source of sedimentation was not identified, but old quarries located upstream of C-CD may contribute to these conditions.

Outstandingly Remarkable Values
San Vicente Creek is the only stream on C-CD that supports coho salmon and is one of the few streams south of the Golden Gate Bridge with a coho run. San Vicente Creek also supports a healthy steelhead run, and overall has the best salmonid habitat on the property. Both of these species are listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act [NMFS 1999, 2005]. The National Marine Fisheries Service has been stocking San Vicente Creek with coho salmon from a hatchery on nearby Scotts Creek since 2011 (Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County [RCD] 2014).

The San Vicente Creek area is also designated critical habitat for the California red-legged frog, listed as threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act (USFWS 2010). This species is thought to utilize all of the creeks on C-CD for summer habitat. Other sensitive wildlife resources within the watershed include habitat for bats, raptors, and San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat.

Classification
A large portion of the physical watershed of San Vicente Creek is leased by Cemex cement, where mining activities included a large shale quarries; several abandoned quarries; conveyor line; and an extensive road network; operations have now ceased and reclamation activities are underway. The old San Vicente Railroad alignment, which cuts across the north side of the canyon high above the creek, is a private in-holding. Lower portions of the watershed support residential housing and structures associated with the town of Davenport, which has dozens of privately owned lots situated immediately adjacent to the BLM-managed lands along the floodplains of the lower portion of San Vicente Creek. Due to the presence of these features, the tentative classification is scenic.

Liddell Creek

Description
The Liddell watershed supports riparian areas and wetlands, grasslands, coastal scrub, live oak woodlands, and conifer forest. There are three branches to Liddell Creek including West Liddell Creek, Liddell Creek, and the East Branch. Liddell Creek appears to originate and terminate on C-CD, and California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) records do not indicate appropriation. The east and west branches originate just beyond C-CD and eventually merge into Liddell Creek.

All three branches of Liddell Creek are exposed to sedimentation due to the soil types in this watershed and past mining operations. This sedimentation appears to be the primary limiting factor in this watershed, although the dense canopy cover in this system has also been shown to limit primary production, and thus food supplies for fish (McGinnis 1991). While dense canopy cover is a natural condition, the input of fine sediments undoubtedly reduces available spawning habitat.

Outstandingly Remarkable Values
All three branches of Liddell Creek support steelhead trout and are designated as critical habitat for the California Central Coast steelhead (NMFS 2005), listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act.

The Liddell Creek area is also designated critical habitat for the California red-legged frog, listed as threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act (USFWS 2010). This species is thought to utilize all of the creeks on C-CD for summer habitat. Other sensitive wildlife resources within the watershed include habitat for bats, raptors, and San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat.

The Liddell Creek area contains associations of significant cultural resources, culturally significant landscape features, and ethnobiological resources identified by the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band. Pre-contact cultural resources in C-CD include sites where food gathering and preparation occurred, as well as lithics.

Classification
Lower portions of the Liddell Creek watershed support active and fallow agriculture and contain farm worker housing and farm structures. The county-maintained Bonny Doon Road runs along portions of the creek. Upstream of the BLM-managed segment of this creek, the City of Santa Cruz's Liddell Spring water diversion diverts water for domestic use. The tentative classification of this segment is scenic.

Yellow Bank Creek

Description
Yellow Bank Creek's watershed is prototypical of the general character of C-CD - it rises from sandy beaches and coastal terraces through grassland and coastal scrub to the heavily wooded conifer forest interior at the top of the Property. Yellow Bank Creek has no surface water connection to the ocean. The stream passes through two bore tunnels under the railroad tracks and Highway 1. At the location where the creek exits the downstream bore onto the beach, a 3-foot drop with a very shallow plunge pool may present a migration barrier during parts of the year. Upstream of the reservoir formed by Yellow Bank Dam, natural stream reaches provide both spawning and rearing habitat for salmonids.

Yellow Bank Creek itself is a small perennial stream that supports a landlocked population of rainbow trout, due to the presence of three migration barriers near the mouth of the stream. Other sensitive resources within the watershed include California red-legged frog, native grasslands, live oak woodlands, redwoods, riparian communities, a high number of raptors, limestone cliffs that may provide nesting habitat for peregrine falcons, and cultural artifacts. Although the coastal terraces are relatively narrow compared to the other terraces on the Property, they still support row crop agriculture. Grasslands are leased for grazing.

Outstandingly Remarkable Values
The Yellow Bank Creek area is designated critical habitat for the California red-legged frog, listed as threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act (USFWS 2010). This species is thought to utilize all of the creeks on C-CD for summer habitat. Other sensitive wildlife resources within the watershed include habitat for bats, raptors, and San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat.

In 2018, the BLM constructed two off-channel ponds for California red-legged frog. These ponds are already being utilized by the species, although breeding has not yet been documented on site.

Classification
There are numerous existing roads in the Yellow Bank Creek and Laguna Creek watersheds, including routes (or ways) used by grazing leaseholders and the City of Santa Cruz Water Department. An old dam is located just upstream of the BLM property boundary. Due to the presence of these features, the tentative classification is recreational.

Laguna Creek

Description
The majority of the Laguna Creek watershed is located outside of C-CD. Portions of the watershed within the Property include the lower portion of Laguna Creek and the majority of the Y Creek sub-watershed. The upper portions of the watershed are leased for grazing, while the lower portions support row crop agriculture.

Although Laguna watershed has a low erosion hazard potential, portions of the watershed are underlain by the highly erosive Santa Margarita and Lompico Sandstones. Laguna Creek was assigned a moderate rating for both acute and chronic turbidity, indicating that sedimentation is an issue. Laguna Creek originates near Ben Lomond Mountain and enters the Pacific Ocean just below the BLM property boundary.

Outstandingly Remarkable Values
Both Laguna Creek and Y Creek support anadromous steelhead trout and are designated critical habitat for this species, listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (NMFS 2005).

The Yellow Bank Creek area is designated critical habitat for the California red-legged frog, listed as threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act (USFWS 2010). This species is thought to utilize all of the creeks on C-CD for summer habitat. Other sensitive wildlife resources within the watershed include habitat for bats, raptors, and San Francisco dusky-footed woodrat.

The Liddell Creek area contains associations of significant cultural resources, culturally significant landscape features, and ethnobiological resources identified by the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band. Pre-contact cultural resources in C-CD include sites where food gathering and preparation occurred, as well as lithics.

Classification
The City of Santa Cruz claims a pre-1914 right to appropriate from Laguna Creek, recorded with the SWRCB as Statement of Water Diversion and Use 2042. There are numerous existing roads in the Laguna Creek watershed, including numerous routes used by grazing leaseholders and the City of Santa Cruz Water Department. The tentative classification is scenic.

III. Eligible Segments

The eligibility study for C-CD has determined that all of the segments evaluate met the criteria of free-flowing and possessed at least one ORV. During the suitability phase of the WSR Act process, the support of and coordination with other landowners and users will be analyzed for eligible segments. Table 2 summarizes the eligibility evaluation of all identified river segments. The table includes information on stream segments managed by BLM at C-CD, including the length on BLM property, acreage of BLM property within 0.25 miles of each segment, free-flowing status, outstandingly remarkable value(s), and tentative classification.

Table 2: Wild & Scenic River Inventory for Cotoni-Coast Dairies

River Name/Segment	BLM Length (mi.)	BLM Acres within 0.25 miles	Free Flowing	ORVs[1]	Tentative Classification		
					Wild	Scenic	Recreational
Molino Creek	0.728	376	Y	E,F			X
Agua Puerca Creek	2.629	768	Y	E,F			X
San Vicente Creek	4.127	1,069	Y	E,F		X	
Liddell Creek	6.851	1,544	Y	E,F,G		X	
Yellow Bank Creek	2.558	823	Y	F			X
Laguna Creek	3.173	858	Y	E,F,G		X	

1. Outstandingly Remarkable Values

A – Non-existent
B – Scenery
C – Recreation
D – Geology
E – Fish
F – Wildlife
G – Cultural
H – Historical
I – Other

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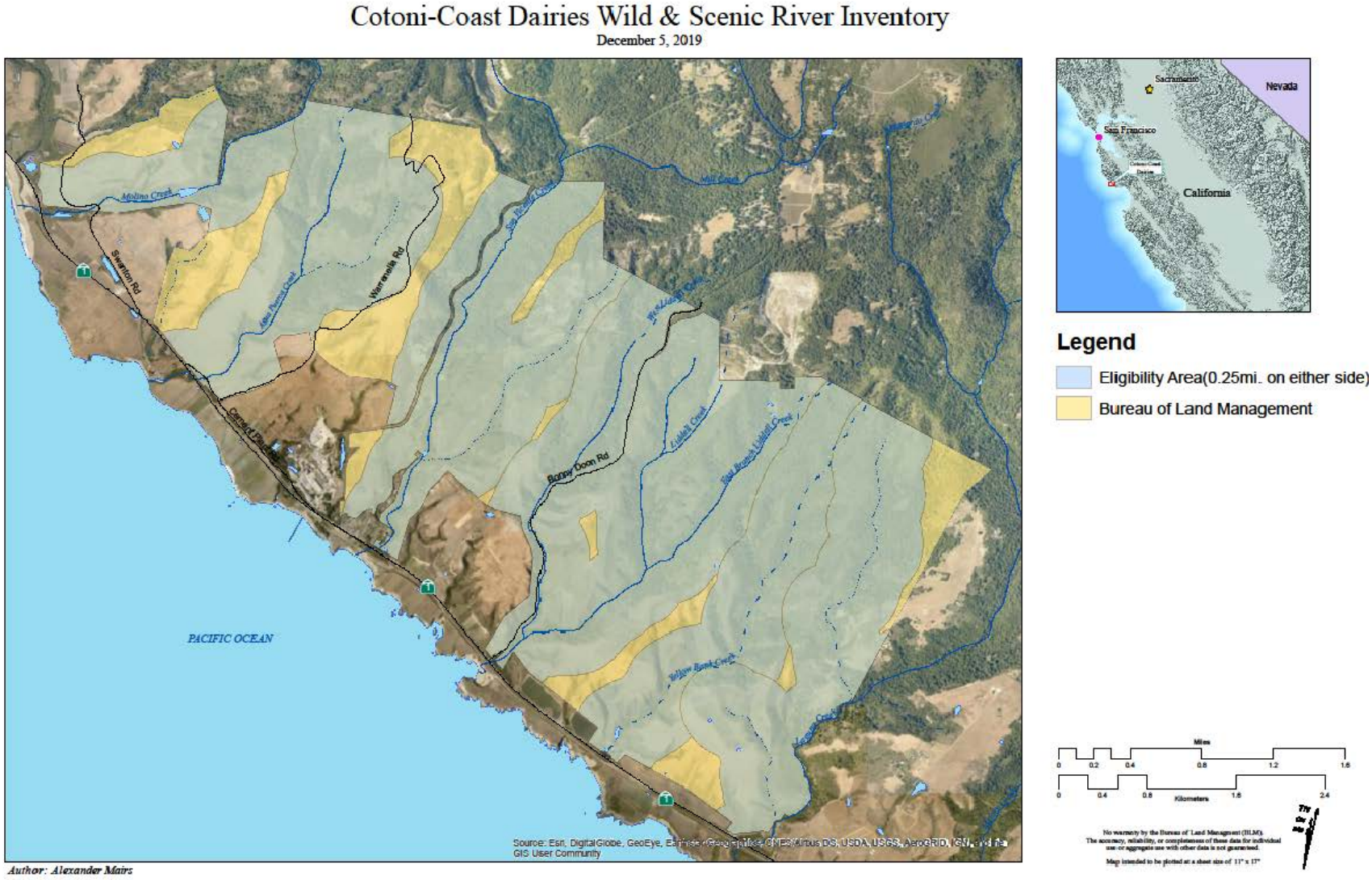

Figure 1. Cotoni-Coast Dairies Wild and Scenic River Inventory.