September 28, 2016

California Coastal Commissioners
Jack Ainsworth, Acting Executive Director
California Coastal Commission
45 Fremont Street, Suite 2000
San Francisco, CA 94105
Via US Mail & Electronic Mail

Re: Marin County Local Coastal Program Amendment hearing location

Dear Commissioners:

The Marin County Local Coastal Program Amendment was adopted by the Marin County Board of Supervisors in April 2016, deemed complete by the Coastal Commission July 1, 2016, and has been under active review by your staff. The Commission may take up the Marin County LCP Amendment for potential certification at its November meeting, currently scheduled for Half Moon Bay.

Marin County’s Planning Commission last reviewed the draft LCP Amendment in February 2012, when it recommended its adoption to the Board of Supervisors. Since then, there have been numerous substantial modifications, and on September 26, 2016 the Marin County Planning Commission held an almost 4-hour public hearing to be briefed on substantive LCP policy issues, and to provide for public discussion.

All five Planning Commissioners in attendance, the County staff, and virtually all speakers and correspondence from the public went on record at the September 26th Planning Commission hearing to request that the Coastal Commission hearing to review the Marin County LCP Amendment be held in Marin County. The public submitted approximately 98 comment letters requesting that the hearing on the Marin County LCP Amendment be held in Marin County.

In order to meet the Coastal Act’s goal of providing the widest opportunity for public participation, Turtle Island Restoration Network requests that the Coastal Commission hearing on the Marin County LCP Amendment be held in Marin.

We reiterate this request, which we first made in correspondence for the Commission’s meeting on August 11, 2016. We supported your staff’s request for a one-year extension of time to complete the review and certification of the Marin County LCP. At that time, many letters regarding that hearing item supported the time extension and also called for holding the hearing in Marin County.
Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the scheduling of the Marin County LCP public hearing before your Commission.

Respectfully,

Cassie Burdyshaw
Advocacy & Policy Director
Turtle Island Restoration Network