

Dear Members of the Humboldt County Planning Commission,

I am writing in support of the Nordic fish farm being proposed on the property of the old Samoa Pulp Mill.

I live and work in Humboldt County. I have a family here. For years, I have watched the local economy struggle, as tourism has been on a decline, especially since COVID. Most of our youth cannot find careers in this county, so they leave town to earn a living wage. If they do live here, they commute for jobs and sometimes stay away weeks at a time, putting their hard-earned money into someone else's economy.

This fish farm project, and any others like it, is something this community desperately needs, not just for the jobs it will create to build the farm, but for the long-term maintenance jobs it will provide. This is the type of project that people can depend on, and they won't have to travel hundreds of miles away to get the work.

I also know a lot of skilled and local people who can build and maintain this project.

Humboldt County needs good-paying, long-term jobs, and the Nordic fish farm will give us that opportunity. If you do, in fact, make plans in this county's best interests, then count this project at the top of your list. Please take this letter of support into consideration during your open comment period.

Ashleigh Herkert  
1929 Layman #A  
Eureka CA 95503

