



Westport Municipal Advisory Council

P. O. Box 307, Westport, CA 95488
Website: <https://www.wmac95488.org/>
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May 3, 2024

Shelby Miller
Mendocino County Department of Planning and Building Services
860 N. Bush Street
Ukiah, California 95482

Re: CDP_2024-0011 (Save the Redwoods League)

Dear Ms. Miller:

The WMAC received testimony at its regular meeting on May 2, 2024 about this proposed undertaking involving demolition of five buildings and implementation of a revegetation program within APs 013-390-15, 013-390-14, and 013-400-23. The input noted some of the structures are historic in age and the property is associated with a pioneering family named Devilbiss. We urge you to require an archaeological and historical resources survey of the subject parcels by an appropriately qualified professional or team of experts. Expertise in both archaeology and history or architectural history appears warranted.

The resource identification study should take into consideration the full footprint of the historic use as a possible cultural landscape if those lands are under SRL ownership. Input from the Westport Ten Mile Cemetery District indicates a family cemetery directly west across State Route 1 from the planned project with over a dozen graves is part of the potential historical resource. The study should identify and evaluate whether or not an historical resource or resources are present. If such a resource is present, demolition of historic buildings and ground disturbance could both cause significant adverse changes to that type of resource. That finding would thus imply the need for an environmental impact assessment that considers alternatives to reduce or mitigate damage.

Thank you for considering input from our community. Please contact me at (707) 964-7272 or by emailing info@wmac95488.org if I can clarify the concerns expressed at our meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thad M. Van Bueren".

Thad Van Bueren, Chairman

Cc: Supervisor Dan Gjerde
Westport Ten Mile Cemetery District