



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

MEETING OF JUNE 12, 2014

FROM: DEPARTMENT OF CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: CONSIDER APPLYING FOR THE WORLD SURFING RESERVES STATUS
FOR CAPITOLA, AND SUBMITTING A LETTER OF INQUIRY

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Council discretion to consider directing staff to send a letter of inquiry to the Save the Waves Coalition pertaining to the City applying to be included in the World Surfing Reserve for Santa Cruz County.

BACKGROUND: The World Surfing Reserves (WSR) was founded in 2009 by an international group of surfers, scientists and environmentalists and is operated by the Save the Waves Coalition that identifies, designates and preserves outstanding waves, surf zones and their surrounding environments around the world.

On April 28, 2012, approximately seven miles of the Santa Cruz City and County coastline became the official fourth World Surfing Reserve in the world. The WSR currently extends from Natural Bridges State Park to Opal Cliffs. In April of this year Mayor Storey was invited to attend the Annual Santa Cruz World Surfing Reserve Summit in Santa Cruz, after which time he directed staff to agendize the consideration of extending the WSR to include Capitola.

Surfing is a significant part of the Capitola's local culture and the designation of a WSR will highlight Capitola's surf breaks and increase the visibility of our community as an ecological tourist attraction.

DISCUSSION: If the City Council is interest in Capitola being designated a WSR, the first step would be to submit a letter of inquiry to Save the Waves Coalition.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

ATTACHMENTS: None

Report Prepared By: Susan Sneddon
City Clerk

**Reviewed and Forwarded
By City Manager: _____**