

IN REPLY ADDRESS
 COMMANDANT
 TWELFTH NAVAL DISTRICT
 ND12-80-CY
 N1-13/H2-14
 Serial 35184

OFFICE OF COMMANDANT
 TWELFTH NAVAL DISTRICT
 SAN FRANCISCO, 2, CALIFORNIA



(Se-825)

24 May 1945

ND12/N1-13

7-5

From: Commandant, Twelfth Naval District
 To: Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks

Subject: U. S. v. 494.54 acres of land, more or less, in the
 County of Humboldt, State of Calif. - Harriet T.
 Barto, et al., Civil 4942 (Big Lagoon and South
 Humboldt Bay)

6 13 7

Reference: (a) BuDocks air mail ltr ND12/N1-13, C5-7-A1-5,
 F-5-1/JMc/mm, dtd 12 May 1945 to Coml2
 (b) SecNav ltr Op30-2CH3-ak, Ser 97630 dtd 19 March
 1945

1. Reference (a) requests the Commandant's recommendations for authorization to continue occupancy of subject property beyond 30 June 1945 in accordance with Reference (b).
2. Subject area is necessary for rocket training for planes stationed at Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Arcata, California.
3. Prior to acquisition of this land the sand spit of Big Lagoon was being used occasionally for recreation purposes. Prior to acquisition, the sand spit of South Humboldt Bay was being used for grazing cattle belonging to Louis A. Phelan. This grazing has not been terminated, and the Commandant is advised that the Naval use of the area has caused a certain minimum inconvenience to Mr. Phelan but has not resulted in any loss of livestock. Continued use of this area for livestock grazing is at the risk of the owner of said stock.
4. Continued occupancy of subject land after 30 June 1945 will not necessitate additional personnel.
5. No alteration, construction, or repair is contemplated for said area.
6. No existing activity could absorb the function of subject area, nor is there other Government land which could be utilized in lieu thereof. Consolidation of other existing activities to eliminate the need for subject area cannot be accomplished.

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No. 354805
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24 May 1945

Subject: U. S. v. 494.54 acres of land, more or less, in the
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Barto, et al., Civil No. 4942 (Big Lagoon and South
Humboldt Bay)

7. The Commandant recommends and requests that the above
captioned condemnation proceedings be amended to extend the term
for the Government fiscal year of 1946.

Ernest E. Williams
ERNEST E. WILLIAMS
By direction of the Commandant

6 13 7

354905

ND12-80-Fn
NL-13/H2-14
Serial 33522

So

12 July 1944

Coordinator of Fisheries
Room 901
155 Montgomery Street
San Francisco, California

Subject: U.S. vs 494.54 acres, more or less, in the
County of Humboldt, State of California -
Harriet T. Barte, et al., Civil Number 4942 -
(Big Lagoon and South Humboldt Bay target
areas)

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith are blueprints of subject target areas. These blueprints are the same as those furnished to the U. S. Coast Guard to aid in the preparation of a notice to mariners.

The Big Lagoon target area is located in a lagoon by that name and found several miles north of Arcata, California. Highway 101 crosses the lagoon in the southeast corner. The lagoon is separated from the sea by a sand spit which is sometimes overrun by high waves and once a year blasted to form an outlet for the waters of the lagoon. This outlet quickly closes up. The waters of the lagoon come from a creek and from the occasional waves of the ocean which overrun the sand spit. These are non-navigable waters and no commercial fishing is carried on in this vicinity. Some sport fishing for Steelhead is known to be carried on here. Although the target area closes off some of this sport fishing, it does not dispense with it entirely.

The South Humboldt Bay target area is bordered on the west by a sand spit which forms the south branch of Humboldt Bay. With the exception of one short, deep channel in the northeasterly area of the target area, this range does not interfere with navigation. Most of the water area involved is very shallow, and it is believed that commercial fishing is not interfered with.

The target area will be used whenever weather permits. It cannot be used during periods of bad flying weather.

Reference (b)

ENCLOSURE (A)

ND12-80-Fn
N1-13/H2-14
Serial 33522

12 July 1944

Subject: U.S. vs 494.54 acres, more or less, in the County of Humboldt, State of California - Harriet T. Barte, et al., Civil Number 4942 - (Big Lagoon and South Humboldt Bay target areas)

The restricted area in Big Lagoon and South Humboldt Bay has been marked by the placing of buoys in the water and signs on the sand spit. A boat will be available to warn any persons who might encroach upon the restricted area from the water side. In addition to these protections, there is a control station at each target which is in radio communication with two other stations so that the entire target area is visible and firing can be controlled.

A complete clearance of these two areas from your office is requested in the form which you customarily use. Your attention to this matter will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

ERNEST E. WILLIAMS
Commander, L-V(S) USNR
By direction of the Commandant

Reference (b)

ENCLOSURE (A)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Office of the Coordinator of Fisheries

Room 901, 155 Montgomery St.
San Francisco, 4, California

July 14, 1944

Office of the Commandant
Twelfth Naval District
San Francisco 2, California

Attention: Commander Ernest E. Williams, L-V(S) USNR

Subject: U. S. vs 494.54 acres, more or less, in the County
of Humboldt, State of California - Harriet T. Barto,
et al., Civil Number 4942 - (Big Lagoon and South
Humboldt Bay target areas)

Dear Sir:

Your letter of July 12, 1944 asks the clearance of this office for the use of target areas described therein and located at Big Lagoon and South Humboldt Bay.

This office finds that such use of these areas will not interfere with the production of important quantities of commercial food fish and therefore has no objection to their use for the purposes described.

Very truly yours,

O. E. SETTE,
Area Coordinator, Area II

OES:LC

Reference (c)

ENCLOSURE (B)

ND12-80-Fn
 N1-13/H2-14
 Serial 33521

COPY/Wt

So

12 July 1944

From: Commandant, Twelfth Naval District
To: District Engineer, U. S. Army
 74 New Montgomery Street, San Francisco, California
 Attention: Chief, Civil Works Division

Subject: U. S. vs 494.54 acres, more or less, in the County of Humboldt, State of California - Harriet T. Barto, et al., Civil Number 4942 - (Big Lagoon and South Humboldt Bay target areas)

Enclosure: (A) Blueprint of Big Lagoon restricted target area.
 (B) Blueprint of South Humboldt Bay restricted target area.

1. Delineated upon enclosures (A) and (B) are two target areas which are proposed to be used by the Navy in conjunction with the Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Arcata, California. These areas will be used in training flyers in the practice of firing rockets. An approach will be made from over the water and the firing will be done toward the Pacific Ocean.
2. Both areas are protected by signs at either end of the sand spit approaching the target area and by buoys outlining the water area which is restricted. Range stations are located in such a manner as to make the entire target area visible. Radio communication is maintained with approaching planes. A boat is to be maintained in the vicinity for the purpose of warning off any boats which might approach the danger area.
3. The Big Lagoon target area is not located in navigable waters, but is separated from the Pacific Ocean by a sand spit which is opened only once a year and then only by blasting. The opening thus created quickly closes.
4. South Humboldt Bay is a navigable bay. However, the area chosen by the Navy as a restricted area as shown delineated upon enclosure (B) does not encroach upon any navigable area in said bay. It is composed for the most part of very shallow water and mud flats.
5. In neither area is it proposed to undertake any construction in the water, but in both areas a floating range station will be maintained and anchored within the restricted area. It is understood that a closing permit is required from the District Engineer only when it is proposed to

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HL-13/H2-14
Serial 33521

12 July 1944

Subject: U. S. vs 494.54 acres, more or less, in the County of Humboldt, State of California - Harriet T. Barte, et al., Civil Number 4942 - (Big Lagoon and South Humboldt Bay Target areas)

erect structures in inland navigable waters of the United States. Under these circumstances it is assumed that no permit will be necessary in order to close the subject areas. Confirmation of this assumption is requested.

ERNEST E. WILLIAMS
By direction of the Commandant

Reference (d)

ENCLOSURE (c)

COPY/wt

The District Engineer WAR DEPARTMENT
 UNITED STATES ENGINEER OFFICE
 401 CUSTOMHOUSE
 SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

17 July 1944

Subject: U. S. vs 494.54 acres, more or less, in the County of Humboldt, State of California - Harriet T. Barto, et al., Civil Number 4942 - (Big Lagoon and South Humboldt Bay Target Areas).

To: The Commandant, Twelfth Naval District, Federal Office Building, San Francisco 2, California.

1. Reference is made to your letter of 12 July 1944, file, ND12-80-Fn M1-13/E2-14 Serial 33521.

2. Big Lagoon is not considered navigable waters of the United States; hence, any operations or construction therein will not require the approval of the Secretary of War. Humboldt Bay is a navigable waterway of the United States, but it is understood that the only structure to be placed therein in connection with the subject Navy operations is a raft. War Department approval will not be necessary for that purpose.

3. For your information, this office is making repairs to the south jetty, Humboldt Bay, which necessitates frequent trips on the road on the south spit from Table Bluff to the jetty. Arrangements have been made with the Operations and Executive Officers at Arcata whereby Navy operations and those of this office will be conducted without serious inconvenience to either.

For the District Engineer:

/s/ Henry S. Pond
 Henry S. Pond
 Chief, Civil Works Division

Reference (e)

ENCLOSURE (D)

COPI/Wt

ND12-80-Fn
A5-1
Serial 39297

20 August 30, 1944

From: Commandant, Twelfth Naval District
To: District Coast Guard Officer, Twelfth Naval District

Via: Captain of the Port, San Francisco

Subject: U.S. vs 374.51 acres, more or less, in the County of Humboldt, State of California, Harriet T. Barte, et al., Civil No. 4942 (Big Lagoon target area) - Establishment of restricted area in navigable waters of the United States.

Reference: (a) VONS Directive to Commandants, all Naval Districts, dated 14 August 1943 (Appendix 002, Captain of the Port's Manual).
(b) VONS Directive to Commandants, all Naval Districts, dated 29 February 1944, subj: Restricted areas in navigable waters; establishment of under Anchorage Regulations.

Enclosure: (A) Chart of proposed restricted area.
(B) Proposed local "Notice to Mariners".

1. In accordance with reference (a) and pursuant to authority of Section I, Title II of the Espionage Act (50 U.S.C. 192-192) and Public Law 292-77th Congress, it is requested that all of the waters within the area in Big Lagoon, California, defined by the following boundaries be established as a restricted area to be used as an aerial rocket firing range:

From a point of origin latitude $41^{\circ} 12' 06''$ north, longitude $124^{\circ} 06' 55''$ west on the western shore of Big Lagoon; thence east to latitude $41^{\circ} 12' 06''$ north, longitude $124^{\circ} 06' 45''$ west; thence south to latitude $41^{\circ} 10' 45''$ north, longitude $124^{\circ} 06' 45''$ west; thence east to latitude $41^{\circ} 10' 45''$ north, longitude $124^{\circ} 06' 40''$ west; thence south to latitude $41^{\circ} 10' 00''$ north, longitude $124^{\circ} 06' 40''$ west; thence west to latitude $41^{\circ} 10' 10''$ north, longitude $124^{\circ} 07' 45''$ west; thence south to latitude $41^{\circ} 10' 00''$ north, longitude $124^{\circ} 07' 45''$ west on the shore line of Big Lagoon, thence north along the shore line to the point of origin.

2. The above described area shall be closed to all navigation unless special permission is granted by the Commanding Officer of the Naval Air Station, Arcata, California, and the Captain of the Port of Eureka, California.

ND12-80-Fn
 NI-13/12-14
 Serial 39298

COPY/Wt

So

August 31, 1944

From: Commandant, Twelfth Naval District
To: District Coast Guard Officer, Twelfth Naval District
Via: Captain of the Port, San Francisco
Subject: U.S. vs 794.54 acres, more or less, in the County of Humboldt, State of California, Harriet T. Barte, et al., Civil No. 4942 (Big Lagoon and South Humboldt Bay target areas) - Establishment of restricted area in navigable waters of the United States.
Reference: (a) VCNO Directive to Commandants, all Naval Districts, dated 14 August 1943 (Appendix Q41., Captain of the Port's Manual).
 (b) VCNO Directive to Commandants, All Naval Districts, dated 29 February 1944, subj: Restricted areas in navigable waters; Establishment of under Anchorage Regulations.
Enclosure: (A) Chart of proposed restricted area.
 (B) Proposed local "Notice to Mariners".

1. In accordance with reference (a) and pursuant to the authority of Section 1, Title II of the Espionage Act (50 U.S.C. 191-192) and Public Law 292-77th Congress, it is requested that all of the waters within the area in Humboldt Bay, California defined by the following boundaries be established as a restricted area to be used as an aerial rocket firing range:

From a point $40^{\circ} 44' 42''$ north latitude, $124^{\circ} 14' 00''$ west longitude on the eastern shore of South Spit; thence to a point in a southerly direction $40^{\circ} 42' 00''$ north latitude $142^{\circ} 14' 00''$ west longitude; thence to a point in a westerly direction $40^{\circ} 42' 00''$ north latitude, $124^{\circ} 15' 18''$ west longitude on the eastern shore of South Spit; thence in a northerly direction following the shore line to the point of beginning.

2. The above described area shall be closed to all navigation unless special permission is granted by the Commanding Officer of the Naval Air Station, Alameda, California, and the Captain of the Port of Eureka, California. No vessel granted such permission shall be permitted to land anywhere along the coast line of the above restricted area.