



Navarro-by-the-Sea Center
for Riparian and Estuarine Research

NAVARRO-BY-THE-SEA
HISTORIC CAPTAIN FLETCHER'S INN
Rehabilitation Plan and Specific Area Plan
Navarro River Redwoods State Park



FACTS

Purpose and Background

This plan is being prepared to make the rehabilitation of the historic Captain Fletcher's Inn and nearby historic structures a reality. The planning is a collaboration of the Navarro-by-the-Sea Center for Riparian and Estuarine Research (NSCR) and the Mendocino District of California State Parks. NSCR applied for, received, and is administering a Planning Grant from the California Cultural and Historical Endowment (CCHE) that is funding this effort. The project involves preparation of a Historic Rehabilitation and Specific Area Plan for future re-use of the Navarro-by-the-Sea complex at Navarro River Redwoods State Park, and construction plans for rehabilitation of the historic Captain Fletcher's Inn at the Navarro-by-the-Sea complex.

What is the NSCR?

The NSCR is a 510(c)3 non-profit organization whose primary purposes are promoting education and interpretive activities at Navarro River Redwoods State Park, supporting scientific and historic research of the original town of Navarro, the Navarro estuary system, and the larger Navarro watershed, and presenting these subjects to the public. The NSCR comprises a small group of dedicated volunteer Board Members. The current focus of the NSCR is the rehabilitation and adaptive re-use of the historic Captain Fletcher's Inn (ca. 1865) and the other remaining historic structures near the Navarro Beach.

Why a Rehabilitation Plan and Specific Area Plan?

This area of the Navarro River Redwoods State Park provides an opportunity to celebrate and interpret the cultural history of the Park during an important period (from 1861 to 1893) that covers the establishment and active operation of the Navarro Mill and Captain Fletcher's involvement with the economically important coastal logging trade. The Inn and the Mill Manager's House are eligible for National Register status and are directly associated with the Navarro estuary in its Mill town era and the early history of redwood lumbering. The Inn represents Captain Fletcher's integration from initial settler to active participant in the major economic trends of the period which in addition to lumber production included the construction of cargo trade vessels.

Although some work, like a new roof, has been done to provide basic security, the Inn is being threatened by time and circumstances. The building and its materials, needless to say, are aging. The hill behind it continually is a threat. Each winter flood takes its toll.

What is Study Area for the Specific Plan?

The focus of the plan is on rehabilitating the historic buildings of the Navarro River Redwoods State Park. The site planning involves an approximately 8.5-acre portion of the State Park from the beach eastward to the historic Mill Company House and outbuildings, encompassing Captain Fletcher's Inn, the 1960s-era motel unit next to the Inn, and two 1920s-era bungalows.

Will this Plan Affect Any Existing Uses at Navarro Beach?

No! This plan will not address nor affect existing uses and facilities at the Navarro Beach. Though the Beach is included in the overall study area, it is for purposes of identifying safe pedestrian trail connections between the Inn and the Beach parking area,

Plan Goals and Content

The Specific Area Plan will facilitate environmental compliance, define permitting requirements, and provide direction for plans and specifications for rehabilitation work and future re-use of the Navarro-by-the-Sea complex at Navarro River Redwoods State Park.

The Specific Area Plan will incorporate a number of studies and reports already produced, such as the 2003 Historic Structure Report for Captain Fletcher's Inn and an Archaeological Survey produced by Sonoma State University. The CCHE grant also involves additional studies and mapping including: a topography survey of the site, drainage and flooding investigations, domestic water supply and septic disposal studies, geotechnical investigation, site history report, anthropological study, National Register Nomination, wetland delineation, and biological investigations. The Specific Area Plan will include details on reuse and space assignment in Captain Fletcher's Inn, consistent with the goals of the California State Parks and the Navarro-by-the-Sea Center, and the public input received during the Master Plan process.

Following completion of the Specific Area Plan, construction plans will be prepared for rehabilitation of Captain Fletcher's Inn. These will consist of schematic plans, design development plans, working drawings and specifications. This task would be accomplished consistent with the recommendations of the 2003 Historic Structure Report, the National Register Nomination, and the findings in the Specific Area Plan. The construction drawings will allow the NSCR and California State Parks to move forward with pursuing additional funding for rehabilitation of Captain Fletcher's Inn.

How Do I Find Out More?

First, please visit the NSCR web page at: <http://www.navarro-by-the-sea-center.org/index.html>

There you will find a wealth of information about the historical use patterns of the area, its natural history, the personality of Charles Fletcher, the Navarro-by-the-Sea Center for Riparian and Estuarine Research, and much more.

If you have any questions about the rehabilitation Plan and Specific Area Plan, or would like to help preserve the historic Captain Fletcher's Inn, you may either

- write us at:
NSCR
P.O. Box 1710
Mendocino, CA 95460
- or call the Project Manager, Jim Martin, at:
707-877-3477.

THANK YOU!