



08.04.2025

To Whom It May Concern regarding Grassy Bar Oyster Company's efforts to secure a "Type 20 off-sale" beer and wine license:

This letter is intended to give a short project description and explain the opportunity to provide a public benefit through the acquisition of a license to sell beer and wine for off-site consumption at our "Shucking Shed" outlet on the Morro Bay Embarcadero.

Grassy Bar Oyster Company is applying for a Type 20 off-sale beer and wine license to supplement our business operations. Many of our customers who pick up to-go orders ask where they can purchase a nice wine or beer that will accommodate their cooking plans. Our oysters are world-class fare, and they pair well with a white wine or a light beer if being consumed raw, or something more complex if being cooked on a grill. A very common scenario is that a customer will come in to pick up a couple dozen oysters for their weekend BBQ and will ask if we have a bottle of wine to sell them, upon which we direct them to other places where they can find alcohol. We think that our commercial fishing business should be able to capitalize on this demand, especially because this will not represent any changes to our ongoing business structure, facilities, or equipment. Grassy Bar Oyster Company already sells non-alcoholic beverages and has a small cooler at our "Shucking Shed" outlet, and we are simply looking to add an option of cold beer and wine for off-site consumption.

We have also had offers from local wineries to create specific pairings and tasting events, which we unfortunately have needed to turn down. These represent opportunities to grow the cultural fabric of locally produced food in the Central California region that we are not currently able to leverage. Our business will forever be focused, first and foremost, on growing commercial quantities of the highest quality seafood in Morro Bay (over 1M oysters per year, employing several commercial fishing jobs), but there are always risks associated with any kind of farming. A type-20 license will give our business another avenue to grow and will provide an increased ability to weather difficult crop phases, thereby reinforcing the city of Morro Bay's efforts to support a robust commercial fishing sector. We posit that allowing Grassy Bar Oyster Company to secure a type 20 license is in the public interest, as it will help continue the fishing heritage of Morro Bay and deepen community ties to local food, beer, and wine growers – the very reason that tourists and locals alike love our community and visit our waterfront.

Sincerely,
Nathan Churches, PhD
Grassy Bar Oyster Co.
Secretary & Co-owner