

EXHIBIT 4: Letters of Support

Ventura County
Watershed Protection District



PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY
RONALD C. COONS
Agency Director

September 18, 2003

K. Bone
Paul Morabito, Chairman
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Jeff Pratt
District Director

Hugh Clabaugh, Deputy
Design/Construction

Sally Coleman, Deputy
Water Quality/Environmental

Sergio Vargas, Deputy
Planning/Regulatory

Gary McKean, Manager
Operations/Maintenance

Subject: **SUPPORT FOR THE VENTURA RIVER ARUNDO REMOVAL
DEMONSTRATION PROJECT**

Dear Mr. Morabito,

On behalf of the Ventura County Watershed Protection District, I encourage your support for the Ventura River *Arundo* Removal Demonstration Project.

The extensive *Arundo* infestation within the Ventura County watersheds has increased flood and fire hazards, decreased groundwater replenishment, and decreased habitat values. The first tasks towards the long-term goal of *Arundo* eradication include public education, testing of removal methods, and streamlining the environmental regulatory process. This demonstration project performs these tasks while opening opportunities for large and small-scale eradication projects throughout the county.

Together with the *Arundo* Task Force, the District has been a key player in developing this demonstration project. This project is an important step in the right direction, and we look forward to participating and supporting this project and future projects.

Sincerely,

Jeff Pratt, Director
Watershed Protection District

RECEIVED

SEP 29 2003

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

EXHIBIT 4: Letters of Support

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—BUSINESS, TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING AGENCY

GRAY DAVIS, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DISTRICT 7
120 SOUTH SPRING STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012-3606



September 15, 2003

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chairman
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Support for Ventura River Arundo Removal Demonstration Project

Dear Mr. Morabito:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) would like to express its support for the Ventura River Arundo Removal Demonstration Project.

The Ventura River Arundo Removal Demonstration Project will prove valuable to Caltrans District 7. This evaluation of four removal techniques, including six riparian re-vegetation treatments with native plants species, public outreach and education programs, will be beneficial in confronting the non-native, invasive perennial plant which has become a biological threat to riparian ecosystems throughout California.

Caltrans thanks you for keeping us informed of your efforts to undertake such a project which will allow us to continue our responsibility of delivering environmentally sound projects.

Sincerely,


Ronald Kosinski
Deputy District Director

Attn: Karen C. Bane



RECEIVED
SEP 22 2003
COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.