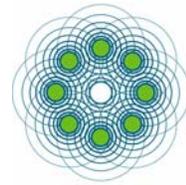


EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support



November 3, 2003

Mr. Paul Morabito
Chair, Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Support for Wetlands Recovery Project Science Advisory Panel

Dear Mr. Morabito,

On behalf of the Los Angeles County Task Force of the Wetlands Recovery Project, I am writing in support of Conservancy staff's recommendation that the Coastal Conservancy provide \$200,000 to the Wetlands Recovery Project (WRP) Science Advisory Panel (SAP).

The SAP is helping the WRP to set appropriate goals, objectives, and priorities in terms of resource identification, acquisition, protection and restoration. Through its work, the SAP assists the WRP in making decisions based on the best available science. Investing in the SAP is cost-effective because it helps the WRP work more efficiently and effectively.

Recently, our Task Force has seen a number of proposals for the funding of urban run-off treatment wetlands. These proposals have given rise to questions within our community, about the technical feasibility and compatibility of providing both water quality improvements and biologically diverse, high quality wildlife habitat in wetlands. The Conservancy commissioned the SAP to conduct a literature review and develop a scientifically credible baseline of information, to begin addressing our questions.

The SAP has completed its initial research and is conducting workshops in our community to share its findings, tools for incorporating its findings, and priorities for further research. Through the SAP's work, our community will become more knowledgeable and more capable of making appropriate decisions regarding restoration of our wetlands.

Again, our Task Force supports Conservancy funding of the SAP because of the direct assistance the SAP provides our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rick Harter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "H".

Rick Harter, Co-Chair
Los Angeles County Task Force Wetlands Recovery Project

Cc: Ms. Maria Chong-Castillo, Co-Chair, LA County Task Force WRP

The Los Angeles & San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council

700 N. Alameda Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012 T 213/ 229-9945 F 213/ 229-9952

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

Santa Barbara County Task Force
Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project
930 Miramonte Drive, Santa Barbara 93109

November 10, 2003

Paul Morabito, Chair
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, California 94612

Dear Mr. Morabito:

On behalf of the Santa Barbara County Task Force of the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project, I am writing to urge the Board of the Coastal Conservancy to approve a proposed grant of \$200,000 to the Wetlands Recovery Project's Science Advisory Panel.

The Science Advisory Panel performs a critical role in the work of the Wetlands Recovery Project by assisting the WRP in setting appropriate goals, objectives and priorities and by helping the managers group and county task forces base their decisions on the best available science.

For example, the GIS data inventory and riparian mapping component of the Science Advisory Panel's regional assessment project will be of immediate benefit here in the local watershed planning effort for Carpinteria Creek. Another component of the Science Panel's Regional Monitoring Program---development of the California Rapid Assessment Method---will provide local agencies and organizations with a uniform and very usable method for characterizing riverine and other wetlands. And the Science Panel's recent study on the habitat value of constructed wetlands provides an important analysis for local agencies to consider in planning best management practices to treat urban runoff.

Funding the Science Advisory Panel will help insure that the Wetlands Recovery Project works efficiently and effectively. The research, presentations and workshops developed by the Science Panel have been of enormous assistance to the managers group and the county task forces. The information and guidance provided by the Science Panel has helped set Task Force goals and objectives prioritize restoration and acquisition projects. It also helps enable the task force and its members to develop better projects, ask appropriate science-based questions, and incorporate regional perspectives into local decisions.

We commend the initiative shown by the staff of the Coastal Conservancy in proposing this important project and urge the Conservancy Board to approve the grant needed to fund it.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Komoto
Co-chair

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

Santa Barbara County Task Force
Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project

Cc: Trish Chapman, SCC

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

Paul Morabito
Chair, Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612

October 27, 2003

Dear Mr. Morabito,

As co-chair of the Ventura County Wetlands Recovery Project task force I am writing in support of a grant of \$200,000 to the WRP Science Advisory Panel (SAP). The SAP fulfills a critical role in helping the WRP managers group and county task forces utilize the best available science in decision making regarding restoration and conservation projects and initiatives.

Members of the Science Advisory Panel have developed close working relationships with people working throughout our county and help to bring additional needed perspectives to watershed and wetland projects. This is especially true of the growing partnership in data generation and collaboration with the newly formed Watershed Protection District. The work on GIS data sharing for the Ventura River watershed is truly exciting and we look forward to seeing these efforts grow in the county's other watersheds.

The information and guidance the SAP provides helps in setting task force goals and objectives and in prioritizing restoration, enhancement and acquisition projects. The SAP further helps the task force and participating organizations develop better projects, ask appropriate science-based questions of project proponents, and incorporate regional perspectives into local decision making processes.

The research, presentations and workshops of the SAP helps our task force and the WRP as a whole accomplish its work more efficiently and effectively. Moreover, they can help us focus our efforts where they will have the greatest impact and opportunities for successful restoration and preservation.

Sincerely,

Damon Wing
Acting Co-chair, Ventura County WRP Task Force

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support



Development and Environmental Services Department
39550 Liberty Street, P.O. Box 5006, Fremont, CA 94537-5006
www.ci.fremont.ca.us

November 26, 2003

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chair
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway Suite 1100
Oakland CA 94612
Attention: Brenda Buxton

Re: Stonybrook Creek Fish Passage Conceptual Designs

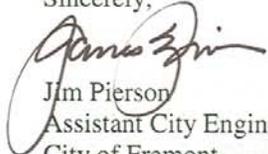
Dear Chair Morabito:

I am writing in support of funding conceptual designs of barrier modifications on Stonybrook Creek by the Center for Ecosystem Management and Restoration.

Stonybrook Creek is a tributary of Alameda Creek. With a seven hundred square mile watershed, much of it undeveloped park lands, Alameda Creek represents one of the best opportunities to restore steelhead to the streams of San Francisco Bay. The Alameda Creek Fisheries Restoration Workgroup is currently working with other stakeholders to remove the existing barriers to migration in the lower creek, so that steelhead can access the extensive rearing and spawning habitat of the upper watershed, including Stonybrook Creek. This creek features deep pools, perennial flows and dense tree canopy, all ideal for salmonids. However, much of Stonybrook's high-quality habitat is unavailable to migrating fish due to road culverts and other structures. Modifying two existing barriers would help remedy this situation by making 3000 feet of high-quality stream available. It is essential that the design work for altering these barriers begin immediately so that this stream's habitat will be available when the ongoing projects to modify barriers in the lower watershed are completed and anadromous fish return to the watershed.

We urge the Coastal Conservancy to fund completion of conceptual design of barrier modifications as it an important part of restoring steelhead to Alameda Creek.

Sincerely,


Jim Pierson
Assistant City Engineer
City of Fremont



Building & Safety
510 494-4400

Engineering
510 494-4700

Environmental Services
510 494-4740

Planning
510 494-4440

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support



COUNTY OF ALAMEDA PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY

399 Elmhurst Street • Hayward, CA 94544-1395
(510) 670-5480

November 10, 2003

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chair
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway Suite 1100
Oakland CA 94612
Attention: Brenda Buxton

Dear Mr. Morabito,

SUBJECT: STONYBROOK CREEK FISH PASSAGE CONCEPTUAL DESIGNS

I am writing in support of funding conceptual designs of barrier modifications on Stonybrook Creek by the Center for Ecosystem Management and Restoration.

Stonybrook Creek is a tributary of Alameda Creek. With a seven hundred square mile watershed, much of it undeveloped park lands, Alameda Creek represents one of the best opportunities to restore steelhead to the region. As the facilitating agency of the Alameda Creek Fisheries Restoration Workgroup, Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (ACFCWCD) is currently working with other stakeholders to remove the existing barriers to migration in the lower creek, so that steelhead can access the extensive spawning and rearing habitat of the upper watershed, including Stonybrook Creek. This creek features ideal salmonid habitat that includes deep pools, perennial flows and dense tree canopy. However, much of Stonybrook's high-quality habitat is unavailable to migrating fish due to road culverts and other structures. Modifying two existing barriers would help remedy this situation by making 3000 feet of high-quality stream accessible. It is essential that the design work for altering these barriers begin immediately so that this stream's habitat will be available when the ongoing projects to modify barriers in the lower watershed are completed and anadromous fish return to the watershed.

As you may be aware, the ACFCWCD has been a strong supporter of the steelhead restoration effort in Alameda Creek. Over the last four years, we have co-funded (with the Coastal Conservancy) *an Assessment of the Feasibility of Restoring Steelhead Passage to the Alameda Creek Watershed* (2000); co-funded conceptual designs and cost estimates for barriers within the flood control channel; sponsored four Annual Fremont Steelhead and Watershed Awareness Fairs; hosted the Alameda Creek Fisheries Restoration Workgroup; and participated in a number of studies aimed at producing data for the restoration effort. We are committed to restoring steelhead to Alameda Creek

"To Serve and Preserve Our Community"

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

- 2 -

November 5, 2003

and have enjoyed working with the Coastal Conservancy toward this common goal.

We urge the Coastal Conservancy to fund the completion of conceptual designs of barrier modifications as it an important part of restoring steelhead to Alameda Creek.

Sincerely,



Donald J. LaBelle
Director of Public Works

LCK:DJL

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support



Alameda Creek Alliance

PO Box 192 • Canyon, CA • 94516 • (510) 845-2233
e-mail: alamedacreek@hotmail.com
web site: <http://www.alamedacreek.org>

November 4, 2003

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chair
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway Suite 1100
Oakland CA 94612
Attention: Brenda Buxton

Re: Stonybrook Creek Fish Passage Conceptual Designs

Dear Chair Morabito:

I am writing in strong support of funding conceptual designs of barrier modifications on Stonybrook Creek by the Center for Ecosystem Management and Restoration. The Alameda Creek Alliance is a non-profit community watershed group with over 600 members, working to restore steelhead trout and salmon to Alameda Creek. The ACA has been leading efforts to remove or modify fish passage barriers in the Alameda Creek watershed since 1997.

Stonybrook Creek is a tributary of Alameda Creek. With a seven hundred square mile watershed, much of it undeveloped park lands, Alameda Creek represents one of the best opportunities to restore steelhead to the streams of San Francisco Bay. As a member of the Alameda Creek Fisheries Restoration Workgroup, we are working with other stakeholders to restore access for steelhead to the extensive rearing and spawning habitat of the upper watershed, including Stonybrook Creek. This creek features deep pools, perennial flows and dense tree canopy, ideal for salmonids. Much of Stonybrook's high-quality habitat is currently unavailable to migrating fish due to road culverts and other structures. Modifying two existing barriers would help remedy this situation by making 3,000 feet of high-quality stream available. It is essential that the design work for altering these barriers begin immediately so that this stream's habitat will be available when the ongoing projects to modify barriers in the lower watershed are completed and anadromous fish return to the watershed.

We urge the Coastal Conservancy to fund completion of conceptual design of barrier modifications, an important element in restoring steelhead to Alameda Creek.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Miller", is written over a horizontal line.

Jeff Miller, Director
Alameda Creek Alliance

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.