November 26, 2003

Mr. Paul Morabito, Chair
California State Coastal Conservancy
1350 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 5000 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
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”
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 • (619) 946-2230
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,
Jeff Miller, Director
Alameda Creek Alliance

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