

EXHIBIT 4: Letters of Support

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California State Senate

SENATOR
SHEILA JAMES KUEHL
TWENTY-THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT
CHAIR
NATURAL RESOURCES AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE



COMMITTEES:

AGRICULTURE AND WATER RESOURCES
BUDGET AND FISCAL REVIEW
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
JUDICIARY
LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

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CHAIR, SCHOOL SAFETY
CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND MENTAL HEALTH
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VICE CHAIR, INTERNATIONAL TRADE POLICY AND STATE LEGISLATION
INVESTIGATE PRICE MANIPULATION OF THE WHOLESALE ENERGY MARKET
URBAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE ARTS

January 7, 2004

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

Dear Paul:

I am writing to lend my strong support to Heal The Bay's Stream Team program. As a longstanding member of the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission, I am quite familiar with the recommendations and issues affecting the Malibu Creek Watershed. I am confident that the Stream Team program will continue to serve and improve the water quality in the Malibu Creek Watershed. It is my understanding that the data collected over the past three years by the Stream Team has been instrumental in setting nutrient and bacteria limits for TMDLs in the Malibu Creek Watershed. These new limits will greatly improve water quality for recreational users and wildlife within the watershed and at our beaches.

As a supporter of the Stream Team monitoring efforts over the past three years, I am excited to see the extensive habitat mapping and source identification work move towards restoration. I strongly support the continued use of citizen volunteers to implement creative, cost effective solutions to improve water quality and habitat. Volunteers will play an important role in the proposed vegetation removal and replanting projects, fish barrier removal projects, and the removal of large dump sites. The involvement of citizen volunteers provides the added benefits of public education and visibility in the community.

I am confident that if this project is funded it will serve to provide us with further valuable scientific information that will assist the state and local entities in improving water quality in the Malibu Creek Watershed and the entire Santa Monica Bay. In addition, this project will result in immediate restoration that will improve habitat quality and engage the public.

Thank you for your consideration. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sheila J. Kuehl".

SHEILA JAMES KUEHL
Senator 23rd District

Representing the cities of Agoura Hills, Beverly Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Malibu, Oxnard, Santa Monica, West Hollywood and Westlake Village and the communities of Bel Air, Brentwood, Canoga Park, Encino, Hollywood, Mt. Olympus, Pacific Palisades, Port Hueneme, Sherman Oaks, Studio City, Tarzana, Topanga, West Los Angeles, West Hills, Westwood and Woodland Hills.

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FRAN PAVLEY
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FORTY-FIRST DISTRICT

CHAIR, BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE
ON RESOURCES (NO. 3)
COMMITTEE MEMBER:
APPROPRIATIONS
ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, SPORTS,
TOURISM & INTERNET MEDIA
BUDGET
EDUCATION
TRANSPORTATION
WATER, PARKS AND WILDLIFE

January 13, 2003

Paul Morabito, Chairman and Members of the Board
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612

**Re: Heal the Bay Stream Team Application
SUPPORT**

Dear Chairman Morabito and Board Members:

I am writing to lend my support to Heal the Bay's Stream Team program. The Stream Team has a proven record in providing valuable information to improve the water quality in the Malibu Creek Watershed as well as educating the community about water quality issues. Most importantly, the data collected over the past three years of the program has been instrumental in setting nutrient and bacteria limits for TMDLs in the Malibu Creek Watershed. These new limits will greatly improve water quality for recreational users and wildlife within the watershed and at our beaches.

The additional funding will be used by Heal the Bay to remove a significant area of invasive vegetation, which will be replanted with native plants. This funding will also provide for the removal of two fish barriers, which will increase the available habitat for the endangered steelhead trout. The projects will occur on public lands and will provide considerable environmental benefits to the Malibu Creek Watershed and the Santa Monica Mountains. In addition, by involving citizen volunteers, these projects will provide the added benefits of public education and visibility within the community.

I am confident that if this project is funded it will serve to provide us with further valuable scientific information that will help the state and local entities improve water quality in the Malibu Creek Watershed and the entire Santa Monica Bay. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

FRAN PAVLEY
Assemblymember, 41st District

FP:msm



EXHIBIT 4: Letters of Support



State of California • The Resources Agency

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

Angeles District
1925 Las Virgenes Road
Calabasas, California, 91302

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor

Ruth Coleman, Director

January 9, 2004

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

Dear Mr. Morabito:

The California Department of Parks and Recreation, Angeles District, is the single largest landowner in the Malibu Creek Watershed. We continue to support Heal the Bay's Stream Team program. State Parks has benefited from much of the data collected by the Stream Team monitoring Program. Heal the Bay's Stream Team has monitored the water quality and benthic macroinvertebrates at four locations within State Parks property. In addition, the Stream Team has mapped all of the large streams within in our property including Malibu Creek, Las Virgenes Creek, Liberty Canyon Creek, and Stokes Canyon Creek. The data collected by the Stream Team has contributed to a restoration and habitat enhancement plan for Malibu Creek before during and after the removal of Rindge Dam. Exotic invasive vegetation removal, stream bank stabilization and re-vegetation efforts depend on the data collected by the Stream Team's volunteer Stream Walk assessments. Stream Team data has been counted as in-kind non-federal agency matching funds, thereby decreasing the overall cost of the Rindge Dam study. Stream Team water quality data is being used by the Department of Parks and Recreation to plan and implement upcoming TMDLs for nutrients and bacteria within our boundaries.

We are excited and strongly support the efforts to move from restoration planning to actual restoration projects. We believe that Malibu Creek State Park will greatly benefit from these efforts. The proposed effort to create mobile invasive vegetation teams that hand pull vegetation near streams will greatly assist in our extensive vegetation removal efforts. These are areas where intensive labor is needed, and the use of other methods of vegetation removal can pose threats to aquatic life. Heal the Bay also proposes to remove the Texas Crossing within Malibu Creek State Park, a barrier to steelhead trout migration as part of this grant.

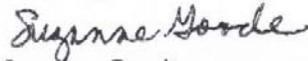
We support this important program that will continue to collect the scientific data necessary for stewardship of the Malibu Creek watershed. Further, we believe using this data to restore stream banks and vegetation throughout the Malibu Creek Watershed will benefit all park users including wildlife. Stream Team data will also

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Mr. Morabito
January 9, 2004
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provide a measure to help prioritize and evaluate the success of many upcoming restoration projects conducted by California State Parks and other regional stakeholders. We look forward to working with the Stream Team on these future projects.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Goode
Senior Resource Ecologist

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SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

RAMIREZ CANYON PARK
5750 RAMIREZ CANYON ROAD
MALIBU, CALIFORNIA 90265
PHONE (310) 589-3200
FAX (310) 589-3207



January 7, 2004

Sam Schuchat, Executive Officer
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, California 94612

Heal the Bay Malibu Creek Watershed Habitat Restoration Grant

Dear Mr. Schuchat:

The staff of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy is very interested in the Malibu Creek Watershed Habitat Restoration grant application submitted to the State Coastal Conservancy by Heal the Bay. The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Board is expected to consider a resolution ratifying this letter at its January 26 meeting. We understand that your application deadline precedes that meeting date, hence staff offers this expression of support.

We have worked with Heal the Bay during their previous Proposition 12 Mapping and Monitoring grant and have benefitted from data collected at two of their monthly water chemistry monitoring sites, two biannual benthic macroinvertebrate sampling sites, and three miles of stream habitat surveys on Conservancy or Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA)-owned parklands.

As owners and managers of thousands of acres in the Malibu Creek Watershed, the Conservancy and MRCA believe that the information gathered over the past three years by Heal the Bay to restore riparian habitat will be invaluable for continued watershed protection and enhancement efforts. Removal of invasive exotic plant species, streambank stabilization projects to minimize sediment-loading in the watershed's creeks, and maximizing available habitat to the federally-listed Southern Steelhead Trout are all priority resource protection issues for the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.

The State Coastal Conservancy generously granted funds to help the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy secure the recent purchase of the 2,983-acre Ahmanson Ranch. That property encompasses the headwaters of Malibu Creek and could also benefit from

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additional collaborative efforts such as those that would be funded by the Heal the Bay grant.

Heal the Bay has demonstrated its ability to undertake and cost-effectively manage extensive data collection efforts and small scale habitat restoration projects that benefit our agencies and the entire watershed. The professional science and planning staff of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and MRCA look forward to working with Heal the Bay in restoration activities for the ecological health of the Malibu Creek Watershed and the local, state, and national parklands that are part of the watershed.

I can be reached at (310) 589-3200, extension 112 should you or your staff have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rorie Skei". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "S".

RORIE SKEI
Chief Deputy Director

cc: Jerome C. Daniel, Chair, SMMC
Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Director, SMMC

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United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area
401 West Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, California 91360-4207

In reply refer to: N3617

January 5, 2004

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

Dear Mr. Morabito,

The National Park Service (NPS) in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area supports Heal the Bay's Stream Team program in identifying and documenting habitat quality in the Malibu Creek watershed. Heal the Bay's Stream Team has monitored the water quality and benthic macroinvertebrates at four locations within NPS property. In addition, the Stream Team has mapped many of the large streams within in our property including Cheseboro Creek, Palo Comado Creek, Liberty Canyon Creek, Medea Creek, and Triunfo Creek. Heal the Bay has and continues to share this data so that we may be better informed while making decisions that potentially impact resources within NPS property. We strongly support Heal the Bays restoration activities and believe their ecologically sensitive manner for removing riparian exotic invasive vegetation will enhance the ecology of the watershed as a whole. In addition, we believe the clean up and removal of large debris sites and removal of fish barriers downstream of our property will assist in restoring steelhead trout throughout the Santa Monica Mountains. We look forward to furthering our partnership with Heal the Bay in managing and protecting the natural resources of the Santa Monica Mountains.

Heal the Bay has proven to be a valuable educational asset for resource agencies and other stakeholders in the watershed. The National Park Service supports Heal the Bay's efforts and we are committed to providing the technical assistance necessary to aid in the accomplishment of your goals.

Woody Smeeck
Superintendent

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JAN 09 2004

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

EXHIBIT 4: Letters of Support



3815 Old Topanga Canyon Road
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December 30, 2003

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

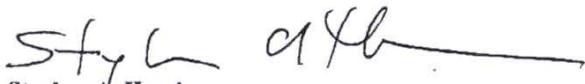
Dear Mr. Morabito,

The Mountains Restoration Trust (MRT) strongly supports Heal the Bay's Malibu Creek Watershed Habitat Restoration grant. We have worked closely with Heal the Bay during their previous Proposition 12 Mapping and Monitoring grant and have been the beneficiaries of data collected at three of their monthly water chemistry monitoring sites, three biannual benthic macroinvertebrate sampling sites and over 15 miles of stream habitat surveys on our property. In addition, the Stream Team has conducted some specific mapping of MRT property for internal restoration planning and follow up on vegetation removal projects that we are currently working on.

As a large land owner and manager we believe that using the information gathered over the past three years by Heal the Bay to restore riparian habitat would be a great benefit to the watershed. Among high priority issues for MRT are the removal of exotic invasive plant species, stream bank stabilization projects to minimize sediment loading to creeks within the watershed, and maximizing the available habitat for the endangered steelhead trout. It is our understanding that if Heal the Bay receives the grant funds that they will undertake numerous projects that will benefit the watershed. Heal the Bay has demonstrated their ability to cost effectively undertake and manage extensive data collection efforts and small scale habitat restoration projects that benefit organizations like ours and the watershed as a whole. We look forward to working with Heal the Bay as they move into restoration activities and expect these projects to benefit all the resources within the Malibu Creek Watershed.

The Mountains Restoration Trust believes that additional support for Heal the Bay will continue to benefit the ecological health of the Malibu Creek Watershed and we strongly support their efforts.

Sincerely,


Stephen A. Harris
President