

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support



State of California – The Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
<http://www.dfg.ca.gov>

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor

JEFF



POST OFFICE BOX 47
YOUNTVILLE, CALIFORNIA 94599
(707) 944-5500

August 10, 2004

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

Dear Mr. Morabito:

I am writing in support of the Napa County RCD's request for project design funding for the Rutherford Reach of the Napa River in the amount of \$279,400. The funding is needed to implement the conceptual restoration plan

As the grant application indicates, the Rutherford Dust Restoration Team (RDRT) recently formed to restore the 4.5 mile reach of the Napa River in the Rutherford area. In the short time since May 2002, this group has undertaken an extraordinary number of projects and achieved many of its initial goals. The goals of the RDRT to restore the watershed are parallel to those of the Department of Fish and Game (DFG).

Two years ago, Rutherford landowners raised \$60,000, and hired Philip Williams and Associates to complete a conceptual plan for river restoration. One of the major issues in the area is the narrow, channelized nature of the river, and the resulting bank instability and degraded fish habitat. The river corridor restoration plan includes recommendations for vegetation management, bank stabilization, channel geometry modifications, and aquatic and riparian habitat enhancement. The fisheries report identified restoration measures that would greatly improve chinook salmon spawning and steelhead summer holding habitat.

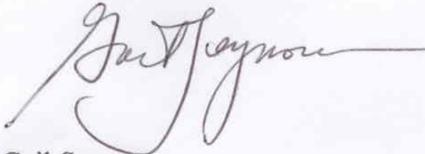
Ninety percent of the landowners along the 4.5 mile reach of river have provided initial seed money, and all have provided access to their property to undertake these restoration activities. They plan to provide educational workshops and volunteer work parties while undertaking restoration projects. This project is a long-term, capacity building effort that is resonating throughout the Napa Valley and wine industry. Landowners/vintners who previously have not shown interest in restoration pursuits are joining the partnership and contributing hard cost-share to the project.

DFG's Fisheries Restoration Grant Program has contributed over \$60,000 in funding towards this project and expects to see great returns in watershed protection and restoration. I hope you will give serious consideration to approving the Napa County RCD's grant application for the Napa River restoration project in Rutherford. This multi-objective project promises to be a showcase restoration project for the vineyard industry and agriculture throughout the State. We are hoping to get to the implementation phase

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

started as soon as possible to maintain the enthusiastic momentum among landowners within the Napa Valley.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gail Seymour", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gail Seymour
Watershed Restoration Planner

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support



**California Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Francisco Bay Region**



Terry Tamminen
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection

1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400, Oakland, California 94612
(510) 622-2300 • Fax (510) 622-2460
<http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb2>

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

24 August 2004

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

Subject: Support for Funding to Enhance Channel and Flood Plain Functions in the
Rutherford Reach of Mainstem Napa River, Rutherford, California

Dear Mr. Morabito,

We offer our strong support for the Rutherford Project which is intended to design a channel that is in dynamic equilibrium with its sediment load and streamflow regime, as needed to restore physical habitat structure, water quality, and protect streamside property and public works throughout the 4.5 mile length of the Rutherford Reach of the mainstem of the Napa River.

As you may know, our agency is engaged in the development of a comprehensive program to control excessive erosion and sedimentation in the Napa River watershed, through the development of a total maximum daily load for sediment. Through previous support and partnership with your agency in funding the Napa River Basin Limiting Factors Analysis, and based on preliminary results of a basin-wide sediment budget, we conclude that channel incision and accelerated bank erosion are the primary human sources of sediment input to the mainstem Napa River, and perhaps more significantly the primary causes for adverse changes to physical habitat structure in the River (including loss of gravel bars, side channels, sloughs, and diminished connectivity between the channel and its flood plain). These adverse changes to habitat structure may constitute the primary limiting factors for fall-run Chinook salmon, rare in Bay Area streams, and California freshwater shrimp, federally listed as endangered, both of which reside in the mainstem of the Napa River. The proposed project emphasizes a geomorphic approach which provides the potential to restore physical habitat structure and functions in the Rutherford Reach, and therefore, the possibility of significantly enhancing populations of Chinook salmon and California freshwater shrimp. We strongly support the proposed project, and look forward to its successful implementation. Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Mike Napolitano
Napa River Sediment TMDL Project Manager

Preserving, enhancing, and restoring the San Francisco Bay Area's waters for over 50 years

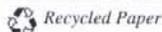


EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support



August 25, 2004

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

Dear Mr. Morabito:

The Land Trust of Napa County wholeheartedly supports the Napa County RCD's request for \$279,400 to implement the conceptual restoration plan for the 4.5 mile Rutherford Reach of the Napa River.

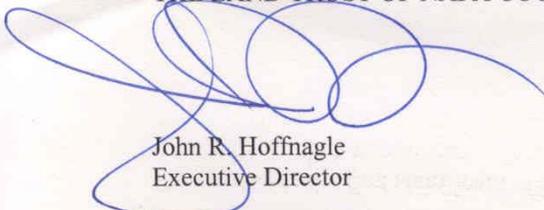
In a relatively short period of time (since May 2002), the Rutherford Dust Restoration Team (RDRT) has undertaken an extraordinary effort to achieve many of its initial goals for restoring this reach of the Napa River. In addition to fundraising and completing a conceptual plan, they have secured the support of 90% of the landowners along this area – a truly noteworthy accomplishment in a Valley where environmental issues have more recently divided the community. Indeed, with this accomplishment, more than half of the battle has already been won.

The Napa River has been severely degraded by human development over the last 100 years, with the resulting bank instability and erosion not only impacting the economic viability of neighboring lands, but leading to the extinction of coho salmon and severely degraded habitat for the remaining steelhead salmon. The restoration efforts that would be undertaken through RCD's and Rutherford Dust's efforts are critical if we are to restore ecological health to the Napa River.

This project is the first significant effort to be spearheaded by private landowners in the Napa Valley. It represents a collaborative approach to resource management, an approach with repercussions long into the future as landowners gain capacity and understanding for how to continue their agricultural practices while protecting riparian resources.

This multi-objective, multi-partner effort promises to be a showcase restoration project for the vineyard industry and agriculture throughout the State. In our county, landowner-driven efforts such as this are our best hope for the future of the Napa River. I hope you will give serious consideration to supporting them.

Sincerely,
THE LAND TRUST OF NAPA COUNTY


John R. Hoffnagle
Executive Director

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AUG 27 2004

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

cc: Ellie Insley

Preserving Open Space and Agriculture for Future Generations

1040 Main Street, Suite 203 · Napa, California 94559 · Phone (707)252-3270 Facsimile (707)252-1071

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STANDING COMMITTEES:
BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW,
CHAIR
BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW
SUBCOMMITTEE #3, CHAIR
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ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
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STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 5100
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TEL (916) 445-3375
FAX (916) 323-6958

California State Senate

SENATOR
WESLEY CHESBRO
SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT



SELECT COMMITTEES:
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& MENTAL HEALTH, CHAIR
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FORESTRY
MOBILE & MANUFACTURED
HOMES
RURAL EDUCATION
JOINT COMMITTEES:
JOINT COMMITTEE ON
LEGISLATIVE BUDGET

August 13, 2004

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

Dear Mr. Morabito:

I am writing in support of the Napa County RCD's request for project design funding for the Rutherford Reach of the Napa River in the amount of \$279,400. The funding is needed to implement the needed restoration plan for this portion of the Napa River.

The Rutherford Dust Restoration Team (RDRT) recently formed to restore the 4.5 mile reach of the Napa River in the Rutherford area. In the short time since May 2002, this group has undertaken an extraordinary number of projects and achieved many of its initial goals.

The narrow, channelized nature of the Napa River, and the resulting bank instability has resulted in degraded fish habitat. The river corridor restoration plan includes recommendations for vegetation management, bank stabilization, channel geometry modifications, and aquatic and riparian habitat enhancement. This project is a long-term, capacity-building effort that is resonating throughout the Napa Valley and wine industry.

I appreciate the support that the Coastal Conservancy has provided to the Napa Valley and I hope you will give serious consideration to approving the Napa County RCD's grant application for the Napa River restoration project in Rutherford. This multi-objective project promises to be a showcase restoration project for the vineyard industry and agriculture throughout the State.

Sincerely,

WESLEY CHESBRO
State Senator, Second District

cc: Ellie Insley

WC:bf

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

444 GEORGIA STREET
VALLEJO, CA 94590
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FAX (707) 648-5383

50 D STREET, SUITE 120A
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404
TEL (707) 576-2771
FAX (707) 576-2773

710 E STREET, SUITE 150
EUREKA, CA 95501
TEL (707) 445-6508
FAX (707) 445-6511

1040 MAIN STREET, SUITE 205
NAPA, CA 94559
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FAX (707) 224-1992

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UKIAH, CA 95482
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WORKFORCE INVESTMENT

MEMBER

AGRICULTURE
APPROPRIATIONS
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
VETERANS AFFAIRS

Assembly California Legislature



PATRICIA WIGGINS
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SEVENTH DISTRICT

STATE CAPITOL

P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0007
(916) 319-2007
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DISTRICT OFFICES

50 D STREET, SUITE 301
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404
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640 TUOLUMNE STREET
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(707) 649-2307
(707) 649-2311 FAX

1040 MAIN STREET
SUITE 101
NAPA, CA 94559
(707) 258-8007
(707) 258-8205 FAX

August 4, 2004

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

Dear Mr. Morabito:

I am writing in support of the Napa County RCD's request for project design funding for the Rutherford Reach of the Napa River in the amount of \$279,400. The funding is needed to implement the conceptual restoration plan.

As the grant application indicates, the Rutherford Dust Restoration Team (RDRT) recently formed to restore the 4.5 mile reach of the Napa River in the Rutherford area. In the short time since May 2002, this group has undertaken an extraordinary number of projects and achieved many of its initial goals.

First they raised \$60,000, and hired Philip Williams and Associates to complete a Conceptual Plan for river restoration. One of the major issues in the area is the narrow, channelized nature of the river, and the resulting bank instability and degraded fish habitat. The river corridor restoration plan includes recommendations for vegetation management, bank stabilization, channel geometry modifications, and aquatic and riparian habitat enhancement. The fisheries report identified restoration measures that would greatly improve Chinook spawning and steelhead summer holding habitat. Additionally, this project is a long-term, capacity building effort that is resonating throughout the Napa Valley and wine industry.

Ninety percent of the landowners along the 4.5 mile reach of river have provided initial seed money, and all have provided access to their property to undertake these restoration activities. They plan to provide educational workshops and volunteer work parties while undertaking restoration projects. Cost-share from the RDRT has been significant; \$60,000 was contributed by landowners to develop the Napa River Rutherford Reach river corridor restoration plan.

I hope you will give serious consideration to approving the Napa County RCD's grant application for the Napa River restoration project in Rutherford. This multi-objective project promises to be a showcase restoration project for the vineyard industry and agriculture throughout the State.



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COMMITTEES:

CHAIR

BANKING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
SELECT COMMITTEE ON
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WORKFORCE INVESTMENT

MEMBER

AGRICULTURE
APPROPRIATIONS
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
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VETERANS AFFAIRS

Assembly
California Legislature



PATRICIA WIGGINS
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SEVENTH DISTRICT

STATE CAPITOL

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(707) 649-2311 FAX
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NAPA, CA 94559
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(707) 258-8205 FAX

We are hoping to get to the implementation phase as soon as possible to maintain the enthusiastic momentum among landowners within the Napa Valley. This is a break-through program that will reconnect the floodplain to the Napa River in certain portions of the Rutherford Reach. This will set a new and needed precedent in the watershed restoration movement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Pat Wiggins".

PATRICIA WIGGINS
Assemblymember, Seventh District

PW: lek

c.c. Ellie Insley
Project Coordinator
P.O. Box 2044
Glen Ellen, CA 95442

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COASTAL CONSERVATION
OAKLAND, CALIF.

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
1303 Jefferson St., #500B
Napa, CA 94559
(707) 252-4189 FAX 252-4219
phillip.blake@ca.usda.gov

JEFF

August 8, 2004

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

RE: Rutherford Dust Society, (RDRT) River Restoration Grant Proposal

Mr. Morabito:

I am writing to request your support of the Napa County RCD request for project design funding for the Rutherford Reach of the Napa River in the amount of \$279,400. The group is seeking these funds to implement a restoration plan.

In May of 2002, the Rutherford Dust Restoration Team (RDRT) recently formed to restore their reach of the Napa River and have since undertaken a number of projects and achieved many of its initial goals. The NRCS has assisted with some of that work, so I am very familiar with both their goals, and their commitment to restore the fisheries and stabilize ecological processes in the Napa River. Several other groups have engaged in small restoration projects along Napa River tributaries, but no group has ever undertaken such a significant effort on the rural, main-stem of the watershed.

Their commitment is best demonstrated by the fact that they initially raised \$60,000 through self-assessment, to complete a conceptual plan for restoration. One of the major issues in the area is the narrow, man-modified nature of the river, that triggered bank instability and poor conditions for fish passage and habitat. The river corridor restoration plan includes recommendations for vegetation management, bank stabilization, channel geometry modifications, and aquatic and riparian habitat enhancement. The fisheries report identified restoration measures that would greatly improve Chinook spawning and steelhead summer holding habitat.

One of the expected outgrowths of a successful project will be an inspiration for other groups of agricultural and rural landowners to follow suit. As an impetus for wide scale change, the group will develop educational workshops and volunteer work parties for elementary and secondary schools, as a part of the overall restoration effort.

A number of other resource agencies and political bodies are working to support this project, including state, federal, and local government. I would expect that this work will provide an inspiration for farmers and rural property owners across the state to take similar responsible actions for their industry and to protect their way of life. I appreciate your time, and hope that you will carefully consider the merits of the RDRT folks.

Sincerely,

Phillip Blake
District Conservationist

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF

The Natural Resources Conservation Service provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment.

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COUNTY *of* **NAPA**

ROBERT J. PETERSON, P.E.
District Engineer

August 6, 2004

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

RE: Rutherford Dust Restoration Team – Application for funding for 50% design

Dear Mr. Morabito:

I am writing in support of the Napa County Resource Conservation District's request for project design funding for the Rutherford Reach of the Napa River in the amount of \$279,400. As the grant application indicates, the Rutherford Dust Restoration Team (RDRT) recently formed to restore the 4.5 mile reach of the Napa River in the Rutherford area.

I have participated in many of the RDRT strategy meetings over the past two years, and I am very impressed with RDRT's accomplishments. In particular, I am impressed by the fact that RDRT has garnered support from so many property owners along this reach of the Napa River. This was no small feat, and it required a great deal of effort to educate the landowners about the condition of the river and to organize and motivate them to do something to about it, especially when the conceptual design calls for river widening and the loss of some agricultural land.

Perhaps one of RDRT's greatest contributions to their watershed is the example they have set for future restoration activities. The restoration of the Napa River and the recovery of its salmonid species and other aquatic life is an ambitious goal that cannot be accomplished in a piecemeal fashion but will require partnerships between groups of landowners, resource agencies, and non-profit organizations. Fortunately, other landowners along the Napa River are following RDRT's progress, and several have expressed interest in forming their own groups to develop similar restoration plans for their reaches of the river.

The Napa County Board of Supervisors enthusiastically supports the project and will soon decide whether to provide 50% cost share for the project design and construction using Measure A funding. Measure A is funded by a half-cent sales tax approved by Napa County voters to provide flood protection for the community while adhering to the principles of a living river. The living river principles include:

NAPA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

804 First Street Napa, CA 94559-2623 • (707) 259-8600 • FAX (707) 259-8619

www.co.napa.ca.us/departments/publicworks

www.napaflooddistrict.org

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

Paul Morabito, Chair
Coastal Conservancy

August 6, 2004
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- Reconnecting the Napa River to its historic floodplain;
- Maintaining the natural slope and width of the river;
- Allowing the river to meander as much as possible;
- Retaining natural channel features such as large woody debris, backwater pools and gravel bars; and
- Supporting a continuous fish and riparian corridor.

I hope you will give serious consideration to approving the Napa County RCD's grant application for the Napa River restoration project in Rutherford. The RDRT has invested a great deal of time, money, and effort to develop the conceptual design and gain support from the landowners and your support in funding of the 50% design will greatly help to maintain the enthusiasm and support for this project that will serve as a model for restoring the Napa River.

Sincerely,



Todd Adams
Stormwater Program Coordinator
707-253-4823

TA:gm

cc: Ellie Insley
Project Coordinator
P.O. Box 2044
Glen Ellen, CA 95442

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

Cakebread Cellars



August 5, 2004

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

Dear Mr. Morabito:

I am writing in support of the Napa County RCD's request for project design funding for the Rutherford Reach of the Napa River in the amount of \$279,400. The funding is needed to implement the conceptual restoration plan.

As a property owner along the Napa River in the Rutherford area who fully supports this project, I am proud to have the Napa County Board of Supervisors, State Senator Wes Chesbro and Congressman Mike Thompson also strongly support this restoration project.

As the grant application indicates, the Rutherford Dust Restoration Team (RDRT) formed to restore the 4.5 mile reach of the Napa River in the Rutherford area. Since May 2002, this group has raised \$60,000 in seed monies from ninety percent of the landowners along the 4.5 mile reach of the river to help initiate the project. The group hired Philip Williams and Associates to complete a Conceptual Plan for river restoration.

The major issues in the Rutherford reach of the river are the narrow, channelized nature of the river, and the resulting bank instability and degraded fish habitat. The river corridor restoration plan includes recommendations for vegetation management, bank stabilization, channel geometry modifications, and aquatic and riparian habitat enhancement. The fisheries report identified restoration measures that would greatly improve the Chinook spawning and Steelhead summer holding habitat.

Other benefits of this restoration plan besides the environmental improvements stated above are:

1. This project dovetails with other projects taking place throughout the Napa River watershed.
2. This project can be the model for other landowners to use for their river restoration outside the areas of the Napa Flood Control project and the St Helena Flood Control project.
3. This project has brought the community of landowners along the river together for a common cause, to improve the river.
4. This project promises to be a showcase restoration project for the vineyard industry and agriculture throughout the State.

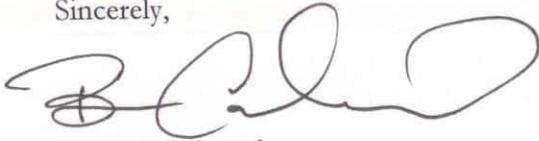
8300 St. Helena Highway, P.O. Box 216, Rutherford, California 94573-0216
Offices: (707)963-5221 Fax: (707)963-1067 Visitors' Center: (707)963-5222
Email: cellars@cakebread.com Website: www.cakebread.com

EXHIBIT 3: Letters of Support

Paul Morabito, Chair
Coastal Conservancy
August 5, 2004
Page 2

Thank you for your serious consideration of approving the Napa County RCD's grant application for the Napa River restoration project in Rutherford. We are hoping to get to the implementation phase as soon as possible to continue the enthusiastic momentum among all involved parties within the Napa Valley.

Sincerely,



Bruce Cakebread
President & COO

cc: Ellie Insley
Project Coordinator
P.O. Box 2044
Glen Ellen, CA 95442

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

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Piña Vineyard Management, LLC.

Vineyard Management/Custom Farming
P.O. Box 373 Oakville, CA 94562-0373
(707) 944-2229 Fax (707) 963-3345

Paul Morabito, Chairperson
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, Ca. 94612

Re: Rutherford Dust Society, (RDRT) River restoration Grant Proposal

Mr. Morabito:

I am writing in support of the Napa County RCD's request for project design funding for the Rutherford Reach of the Napa River in the amount of \$279,400. The funding is needed to implement the conceptual restoration plan.

As one of the organizers of this project, representative of two of the landowners on this reach and owner of three parcels in this watershed I ask that you give this project priority over projects with less impact to their respective watersheds.

This project has already brought to property owners of this watershed an education of their impact to the river and the rivers impact on them. The owners of the parcels adjoining the river and owners of the adjacent watershed have come together to fund and organize a project that our local government and environmental groups have been trying to legislate into happening for several years.

We have assembled a great staff of knowledgeable people to organize, plan and install this project. We have been presenting our plan to other watershed and appellation groups, county, state and national elected officials and county, state and federal regulatory staff. We have collected more than \$60,000 to educate and plan for this project. In addition to river owners those that have contributed to this project are local property owners not on the river, Corporations that see the significance of this project to their investments in Napa and Regulatory agencies that can only pray that more of their watersheds get organizations to do this type of work. We have commitments from a vast majority of the owners to work with us to make sure this plan is executed.

While the goal of this plan is to restore our reach of this watershed we have already expanded our hopes to include the whole Napa River watershed. We are the start of something really big and need to show everyone that it can be done.

Sincerely,

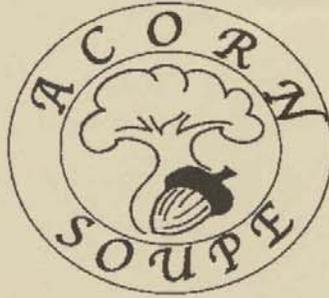
Davie Piña
President
Piña Vineyard Management

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

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Founder's Circle

Grace Family Vineyards
Phelps Family Foundation
Spottswoode Winery
Ruth Epstein Schuler Foundation
Learned Perry Family
Margaret Spaulding and Ewald Detjens



Special Friends

Rusty Staub Foundation
Christopher S. Peacock Foundation

August 26, 2004

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

Dear Mr. Morabito:

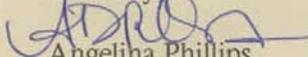
Please accept this letter as a show of support for the Napa County Resource Conservation District's request for \$279,400 to implement the conceptual restoration plan for the Rutherford Reach of the Napa River.

The Rutherford Dust Restoration Team (RDRT) recently formed to restore the 4.5 mile reach of the Napa River in the Rutherford area. One of many exciting aspects of this project is the opportunity to dovetail with our no-charge youth- and community-focused environmental education program. This is such a rich opportunity to involve our children and work alongside landowners as they set stewardship examples for the community.

Another important aspect to this project is the power of the partnerships. Acorn Soupe has partnered with six of the agencies that support this project which speaks to the strong commitment to work together to restore our land, improve habitat, and involve the community in the process.

Acorn Soupe supports the work of the Napa County Resource Conservation District and RDRT in their commitment to the land and we hope that you will give serious consideration to approving the Napa County Resource Conservation District's grant application for the Napa River restoration project in Rutherford.

Sincerely


Angelina Phillips
Executive Director

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AUG 30 2004

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

Providing environmental education for youth development
1241 Adams Street #1088 St. Helena, CA 94574 707.968.9982 www.acornsoupe.org
McCormick Sanctuary, Inc. - a non-profit corporation