

State of California – The Resources Agency

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, *Governor*

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov>

1933 Cliff Drive, Suite 9

Santa Barbara, CA 93109

805-684-6281



June 1, 2005

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman,
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, California 94612

*Re: Carpinteria Creek Watershed Restoration:
Bliss and Cate School Fish Passage Improvements*

Dear Mr. Bosco:

As an Environmental Scientist for the Department of Fish and Game, I am writing to urge the State Coastal Conservancy to award a grant to Community Environmental Council to help fund modification of fish passage barriers on the Bliss and Cate School properties along Carpinteria Creek in Southern Santa Barbara County.

One of DFG's objectives is the protection and recovery of endangered species. These projects strongly support DFG goal of improving habitat for the endangered steelhead trout. Our assessment of these barriers along Carpinteria Creek shows that their removal would be of great benefit to the recovery and enhancement of this endangered species.

As the Conservancy staff report discusses in detail, removal or modification of these two barriers is critical to recovery of steelhead runs in Carpinteria Creek, a stream which technical studies, resource agencies and a regional stakeholder group have all identified as our highest priority stream in Santa Barbara County for steelhead habitat restoration.

The grant requested by CEC would help provide the funding needed to remove two of the most significant migration barriers in the Carpinteria Creek watershed: two low-flow or "Arizona" crossings, each of which was ranked as an "extremely difficult to impassable" migration barrier in the Stoecker/Conception Coast Project's comprehensive analysis of South Coast streams in 2002. The Bliss and Cate School projects represent the first stage in a comprehensive effort that is projected to bring back substantial spawning runs of endangered steelhead to this important watershed.

We commend the CEC and its partners in the Carpinteria Creek Watershed Coalition for planning and undertaking these two projects and ask the Coastal Conservancy Board to authorize the proposed grant to help fund their implementation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,



Natasha Lohmus
Environmental Scientist
Department of Fish and Game

Cc: ✓ Terri Nivens and Mary Travis
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, California 94612

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0035
(916) 319-2035
FAX (916) 319-2135

DISTRICT OFFICE
101 W. ANAPAMU ST., SUITE A
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101
(805) 564-1649
FAX (805) 564-1651

Assembly
California Legislature



PEDRO NAVA
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, THIRTY-FIFTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES:
CHAIR, BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 5
ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY/
TRANSPORTATION
BUDGET
HIGHER EDUCATION
INSURANCE
NATURAL RESOURCES
JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET

June 1, 2005

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman,
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, California 94612

*Re: Carpinteria Creek Watershed Restoration:
Bliss and Cate School Fish Passage Improvements*

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed grant to Community Environmental Council to implement two critical fish passage improvement projects along Carpinteria Creek in Santa Barbara County.

These two projects in my District represent the initial components of a comprehensive effort by the Carpinteria Creek Watershed Coalition to improve steelhead passage and habitat along Carpinteria Creek---a stream that offers the best potential for significant steelhead recovery among all the South Coast urban creeks in Santa Barbara County.

I have admired and strongly supported work of the Coalition, a community-based partnership of rural and urban landowners, nonprofit organizations, and resource agencies. As a result of its efforts, the Coalition has become a great model for local watershed councils in our County and region on how a community can collaborate to improve stream and watershed conditions for steelhead recovery; assist landowners in protecting their property from bank erosion; and restore the habitat and water quality of the creek.

The barrier modification and habitat restoration projects that the proposed grant would help fund are critical not only for their intrinsic value to steelhead recovery. They will also have important public education value by demonstrating to other growers and ranchers in the Carpinteria Valley the importance and effectiveness of stream restoration. These two projects will offer the agricultural community a practical example of various restoration techniques and help demonstrate the value and connections among healthy streams, wildlife, and riparian restoration.

We appreciate all of the Coastal Conservancy's financial support and technical assistance for wetland and stream restoration in Santa Barbara County for the past three decades and ask that you continue that effort by approving the proposed grant to CEC to help implement the Bliss and Cate School fish passage improvement projects.

Sincerely yours,

PEDRO NAVA
35th Assembly District

Cc: ✓ Terri Nivens and Mary Travis
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, California 94612

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

Exhibit 9: Letters of Support

Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project



May 23, 2005

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman,
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, California 94612

*Re: Carpinteria Creek Watershed Restoration:
Bliss and Cate School Fish Passage Improvements*

Dear Mr. Bosco:

On behalf of the Santa Barbara County Task Force of the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project, I am writing to urge the State Coastal Conservancy to award a grant to Community Environmental Council to help fund modification of fish passage barriers on the Bliss and Cate School properties along Carpinteria Creek.

As the Conservancy staff report discusses in detail, removal or modification of these two barriers is critical to recovery of steelhead runs in Carpinteria Creek, a stream which technical studies, resource agencies and a regional stakeholder group have all identified as our highest priority stream in Santa Barbara County for steelhead habitat restoration.

One of our key County objectives in the Regional Strategy of the Wetlands Recovery Project is to improve steelhead habitat "by modifying and removing passage barriers and enhancing habitat. . .and [helping] implement high-priority steelhead recovery projects identified in [Stoecker and] Conception Coast Project's South Coast Steelhead Recovery Study." And that study identifies the Bliss and Cate School barriers as two of the most critical barriers in our County.

As you know, each of the five County Task Forces serves as the local vehicle for achieving the Recovery Project's strategies and objectives. In Santa Barbara County our task force represents more than 25 local agencies and community-based organizations who are working together to promote the protection and restoration of coastal wetlands and watersheds in our region.

The grant requested by CEC would help provide the funding needed to remove two of the most significant migration barriers in the Carpinteria Creek watershed: two low-flow or "Arizona" crossings, each of which was ranked as an 'extremely difficult to impassable'

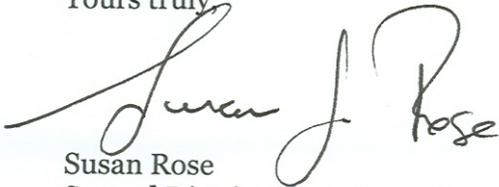
Exhibit 9: Letters of Support

migration barrier in the Stoecker/Conception Coast Project's comprehensive analysis of South Coast streams in 2002. The Bliss and Cate School projects represent the first stage in a comprehensive effort that is projected to bring back substantial spawning runs of endangered steelhead to this important watershed.

We commend the CEC and its partners in the Carpinteria Creek Watershed Coalition for planning and undertaking these two projects and ask the Coastal Conservancy Board to authorize the proposed grant to help fund their implementation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,



Susan Rose
Second District Supervisor, County of Santa Barbara,
and Co-chair, Santa Barbara County WRP Task Force

Cc: Terri Nivens and Mary Travis
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, California 94612

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