Exhibit 2: Letters of Support

MIKE THOMPSON
1ST DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE:
WAYS AND MEANS

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

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(707) 226-9898

317 THIRD STREET, SUITE 1
EUREKA, CA 95501
(707) 269-9595

POST OFFICE BOX 2208
FORT BRAGG, CA 95437
(707) 962-0933

712 MAIN STREET, SUITE 1
WOODLAND, CA 95695
(530) 662-5272

CAPITOL OFFICE:
231 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3311
WEB: http://mikethompson.house.gov

April 28, 2005

MICHAEL BOWER

Doug Bosco, Chair
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am writing in support of the application submitted by the County of Humboldt, Department of Public Works, to fund four fish passage projects vital to the recovery of coho salmon and other anadromous fish on Saunders Creek, Warren Creek and Rocky Gulch.

The projects are designed to improve fish passage on coho streams and have received high priority ranking in the Department of Fish and Game's *Recovery Strategy for California Coho Salmon,* February 2004. The streams are tributaries to the Mad and Mattole Rivers and will open up miles of fish habitat. On Saunders Creek, which is a tributary to the Mattole River, approximately 3,600 feet of habitat will be opened; on Warren Creek, a tributary to the Mad River, over two miles of anadromous fish habitat will be opened above the crossing; and on the Rocky Gulch barrier on Old Arcata Road, two culverts will be replaced and over 1.5 miles of habitat will be opened for migration.

The County of Humboldt has worked closely with private landowners, DFG and Coastal Conservancy staff to develop these important fish passage projects. I wholeheartedly support their effort and urge the Conservancy's favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

Mike Thompson

MIKE THOMPSON
Member of Congress

MT:lm

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OAKLAND, CALIF.

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Exhibit 2: Letters of Support

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GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
HEALTH
HUMAN SERVICES
VETERANS AFFAIRS

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 5035
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TEL (916) 445-3375
FAX (916) 323-6958

California State Senate

SENATOR
WESLEY CHESBRO
SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT

JOINT COMMITTEES:
JOINT COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE BUDGET, CHAIR
SELECT COMMITTEES:
CALIFORNIA'S WINE INDUSTRY, CHAIR
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES & MENTAL HEALTH, CHAIR
BAY AREA TRANSPORTATION
FORESTRY
MOBILE & MANUFACTURED HOMES
RURAL EDUCATION

April 28, 2005

Doug Bosco, Chair
California Coastal Conservancy
Attn: Michael Bowen
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

RE: Support for Saunders Creek, Warren Creek, and Rocky Gulch projects

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I strongly support the request by the County of Humboldt to the Coastal Conservancy to fund fish passage projects on Saunders Creek (tributary to Mattole River), Warren Creek (tributary to Mad River), Rocky Gulch (tributary to Humboldt Bay), and the design of a culvert replacement on a county road culvert also on Rocky Gulch.

I believe these projects will be extremely beneficial to the impacted watersheds and once completed will substantially enhance the fish-spawning habitat by removal of these barriers. As you know, fish passage projects on coho streams are listed as a high priority in the Department of Fish and Game's *Recovery Strategy for California Coho Salmon,* February 2004. DFG staff, the County of Humboldt, the California Coastal Conservancy, and several private landowners have worked closely to implement these four projects.

I urge the Coastal Conservancy to support Humboldt County's funding request to implement these fish passage improvement projects. The potential project benefits to fish and wildlife and to the people of California will be significant. If I can be of assistance or answer any questions, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

WESLEY CHESBRO
State Senator, Second District

WC:sar

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

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SANTA ROSA, CA 95404
TEL (707) 576-2771
FAX (707) 576-2773

710 E STREET, SUITE 150
EUREKA, CA 95501
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State of California – The Resources Agency
ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
http://www.dfg.ca.gov
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

April 29, 2005

Mr. Doug Bosco, Chair
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Mr. Bosco:

The Department of Fish and Game (Department) supports the proposed block grant to Humboldt County for fish passage improvement projects. Fish passage projects in this area of the state have been identified as high priority in the Department's *Recovery Strategy for California Coho Salmon* (DFG 2004); and such projects were also recommended for funding by the Peer Review Committee for the Fisheries Restoration Grant Program. The projects that will ultimately receive funds from this block grant will restore salmonid access to spawning and rearing habitat, inclusive of habitat for coho salmon listed as threatened by both the federal and state Endangered Species Acts.

Department staff has been working closely with Conservancy staff to identify projects that meet program goals for both of our agencies. Two high priority projects will be part of this block grant, Warren Creek Culvert Replacement and Rocky Gulch Barrier Culvert Replacement. The benefits to fish and wildlife and to the people of California will be significant. The Department urges the Conservancy to adopt the block grant as proposed and to, ultimately, authorize expenditure of funds on these two high priority culvert replacement projects.

Please contact Ms. Gail Newton of my staff if you wish further clarification or have any questions regarding these comments. She can be reached by phone at (916) 327-8841 or by email at gnewton@dfg.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

L. RYAN BRODDRICK
Director

cc: See next page

Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1870

Exhibit 2: Letters of Support

cc: California Coastal Conservancy
Sam Schuchat
Michael Bowen ✓

Department of Fish and Game
Native Anadromous Fish and Watershed Branch
Larry Week
Gail Newton
Debbie DuVall

Northern California North Coast Region
Don Koch
Gary Stacy
Gary Flosi

Exhibit 2: Letters of Support

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

825 5TH STREET

EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 95501-1153 PHONE (707) 476-2390 FAX (707) 445-7299

April 26, 2005

Doug Bosco, Chair
Attn: Michael Bowen
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

RE: Funding Request - Humboldt County's Fish Passage Projects

Dear Chairman Bosco:

Humboldt County Board of Supervisors requests the Coastal Conservancy's funding of our fish passage projects on Saunders Creek (tributary to Mattole River), Warren Creek (tributary to Mad River), Rocky Gulch (tributary to Humboldt Bay), and the design of a culvert replacement on a county road culvert also on Rocky Gulch. Fish passage projects on coho streams are listed as a high priority in the Department of Fish and Game's (DFG) *Recovery Strategy for California Coho Salmon,* February 2004.

Saunders Creek is a coho and steelhead stream with approximately 3,600 feet of habitat that will be opened. The project has DFG funding of $259,540 and a NOAA Fisheries match of $50,000. All the permits have been secured including: DFG Stream Alteration Permit (1601), Army Corps of Engineers 404 and Regional Water Quality Control Board 401.

Warren Creek supports coho salmon, steelhead and cutthroat trout. There are over two miles of anadromous fish habitat above this crossing. This project was the highest rated fish passage project in 2004 by the California Coastal Salmonid Restoration Grants Peer Review Committee.

The Rocky Gulch Barrier Culvert Replacement Project is located on private property approximately 0.3 miles above Old Arcata Road. Extensive restoration efforts are in progress below this site on Rocky Gulch. This is the uppermost barrier on the stream and once the culvert is replaced with a bridge, approximately 1.5 miles of coho and steelhead habitat will be opened.

The other Rocky Gulch project is for a design to replace an undersized county road culvert at Old Arcata Road, and engineer an appropriately sized stream channel on the private lands immediately above and below the county road culvert. The new culvert will be designed to meet the 100 year storm event, and keep the flow in one channel, assisting both upstream migration of adult salmonids and downstream migration of juvenile salmonids.

Exhibit 2: Letters of Support

The Department of Fish and Game staff, Humboldt County, the California Coastal Conservancy, and several private landowners have worked closely to implement these four projects. The Board believes the potential benefits to fish and wildlife and to the people of California will be significant.

We urge the Conservancy to support our funding request to implement these fish passage improvement projects. Should you have questions concerning the specific projects please contact Chris Whitworth, of our Public Works Department, at 707-445-7377.

Sincerely,

Roger Rodoni

Roger Rodoni, Chair
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

RR/kr

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