

**DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME**<http://www.dfg.ca.gov>

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March 24, 2006

Douglas Bosco Board Chairman
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Attention: Maxene Spellman

Dear Mr. Bosco,

I am writing to confirm the California Department of Fish and Game's (DFG) support of the application submitted by the Sonoma Ecology Center (SEC) in partnership with California State Parks, Diablo Vista District, (State Parks) for riparian restoration work at the Mill Creek Headwaters, Jack London State Historic Park.

This project will remove fill placed in two degraded poorly-designed road crossings and re-establish the natural hydrologic conductivity between Mill Creek's headwater streams and source springs in Coon Trap. The project will also move the trail out of the wetland portion of the headwaters onto a higher elevation alignment to minimize impacts to the restored riparian area.

Under a DFG grant, a salmonid habitat inventory has been conducted in Mill Creek. Our assessment indicates that this is an important steelhead tributary within the Sonoma Creek watershed and should be restored. This project will reduce fine sediment input, improve water quality, and enhance steelhead habitat.

DFG will participate in this community-based project by attending public meetings, conducting project review, and recommending adaptive revisions of the project design based on community feedback. Our staff has worked closely with SEC and State Parks in other restoration-related projects. Most recently, we collaborated on a DFG-funded erosion assessment of roads and trails in Jack London State Park. SEC and State Parks were successful contractors, fulfilling the scope of work and meeting timelines.

Please call me at (707) 299-9299 if you would like to discuss this further.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gail Seymour
Watershed Restoration Planner