



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

San Diego Coast District

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RUTH COLEMAN, DIRECTOR

May 05, 2006

Douglas Bosco, Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Enhancement-Monitoring Program And Enhancement Plan Update File No. 78-046

Dear Mr. Bosco,

California State Parks (CSP) would like to express its support for proposed extension and funding of the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Enhancement – Monitoring Program and Enhancement Plan Update. CSP owns and manages the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Marsh Natural Preserve as a part of the Torrey Pines State Reserve. Rapid urbanization along lagoon boundaries and within the watershed has altered many of the Lagoon's natural systems, impacting native vegetation and marine organisms. In order to manage these impacts and work toward enhancing the lagoon in its entirety, it is crucial that the current monitoring program be extended and funded in order to maintain its continuity and 18-year record of lagoon health. Updating the enhancement plan will facilitate adaptive management decisions utilizing data provided by the monitoring program. Furthermore, it will incorporate the revision of management priorities based upon the updated characterization of the lagoon and allow the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Foundation (LPLF) to be more competitive in pursuing outside funding needed to implement prioritized management strategies.

With representation on LPLF's Board of Directors, CSP has worked closely with the Foundation on numerous management activities designed to enhance and monitor the health of Los Peñasquitos Lagoon. If you have any questions concerning how CSP can further support this project, please contact Darren Smith, Resource Ecologist at (619) 278-3785.

Sincerely,

Ronilee A. Clark
Superintendent

Cc Reading File