

California State Senate

SENATOR
WESLEY CHESBRO
SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT



STANDING COMMITTEES:
BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW,
CHAIR
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
HEALTH
HUMAN SERVICES
VETERANS AFFAIRS

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 5035
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TEL (916) 651-4002
FAX (916) 323-6958

JOINT COMMITTEES:
JOINT COMMITTEE ON
EMERGENCY SERVICES &
HOMELAND SECURITY
JOINT COMMITTEE ON
LEGISLATIVE BUDGET, CHAIR
SELECT COMMITTEES:
CALIFORNIA'S WINE INDUSTRY,
CHAIR
COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY
ADMISSIONS & OUTREACH
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
& MENTAL HEALTH, CHAIR
METHAMPHETAMINE ABUSE
MOBILE & MANUFACTURED
HOMES
SUB COMMITTEE NO. 3
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
LABOR & VETERAN AFFAIRS

June 2, 2006

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chariman
California State Coastal Conservancy
Attn: Melanie Denninger
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge: Cordgrass removal Project

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing in support of the grant proposal submitted to your agency by Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge (HBNWR) for \$50,000 in matching funds to eradicate the invasive cordgrass *Spartina densiflora* from salt marsh on four units of the refuge.

Invasive cordgrass has had a major impact on the estuarine habitat of Humboldt Bay, where it has come to dominate the salt marsh. HBNWR has developed an eradication methodology that is both effective and avoids the use of chemical controls which are controversial and strongly opposed by many local residents.

I understand that the remaining marshes are extremely important to the Humboldt Bay ecosystem and that removal of invasive cordgrass will increase native plant diversity and support the habitats of native birds, invertebrates, and other animals that utilize the estuary. I urge the Conservancy to support this extremely important Project.

Sincerely,

WESLEY CHESBRO
State Senator, Second District

WC:zg

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JUN 12 2006
COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.



STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0001
PH (916) 319-2001
FAX (916) 319-2101
DISTRICT OFFICES:
50 D STREET, SUITE 450
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404
PH (707) 576-2526
FAX (707) 576-2297
104 WEST CHURCH STREET
UKIAH, CA 95482
PH (707) 463-5770
FAX (707) 463-5773
235 4TH STREET, SUITE C
EUREKA, CA 95501
PH (707) 445-7014
FAX (707) 445-6607

Assembly
California Legislature



PATTY BERG
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FIRST DISTRICT

COMMITTEES:
AGING & LONG-TERM CARE, CHAIR
APPROPRIATIONS
HEALTH
WATER, PARKS & WILDLIFE
JOINT COMMITTEE:
FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE, CHAIR
SELECT COMMITTEES:
SUSTAINABILITY, CHAIR
WINE

June 7, 2006

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chair
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco,

I am please to offer this letter in support of the grant proposal submitted by Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge for the removal of an invasive cordgrass and restoration of salt marsh.

Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge is requesting \$50,000 in matching funds to eradicate the invasive cordgrass *Spartina densiflora* from salt marsh on the refuge. *Spartina* has negatively impacted the limited remaining acreage of salt marsh in Humboldt Bay. These marshes are extremely important to the Humboldt Bay ecosystem.

The knowledgeable staff at HBNWR has developed a successful method of control and eradication. The Conservancy's continued financial assistance in aiding the removal of invasive cordgrass will increase native plant diversity and support the habitats of native birds, invertebrates, and other animals in the estuary.

I urge your favorable consideration of Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge's grant request. If I can provide any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (707) 445-7014.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patty Berg".

PATTY BERG
Assemblymember, 1st District

Cc: Melanie Denninger, Coastal Conservancy
Andrea Pickart, Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

California Native Plant Society

North Coast Chapter
P.O. Box 1067
Arcata, CA 95518
June 4, 2006

California Coastal Conservancy
Mr. Doug Bosco, Chair
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
Attn: Melanie Denninger

Re: Support for Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge grant, Humboldt County

Dear Mr. Bosco,

The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) is a statewide nonprofit organization of nearly 10,000 amateurs and professionals dedicated to the preservation of California's diverse flora. CNPS conducts a variety of conservation efforts focused on long-term protection and preservation of native flora in its natural habitat. The North Coast Chapter represents over 300 members in Del Norte, Humboldt, and Trinity, and western Siskiyou Counties.

As Conservation Chair of the North Coast Chapter, I am writing this letter to express support for the Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge's proposal to eradicate the invasive estuarine cordgrass (*Spartina densiflora*) and restore salt marshes of Humboldt Bay.

Today only 10% of the original extent of salt marshes remain, due to habitat destruction and degradation. This invasive cordgrass has invaded much of the remaining intact salt marsh habitat around Humboldt Bay, and has become a dominant element to the detriment of native salt marsh vegetation. These saltmarshes are home to several rare plant species, including the Humboldt Bay owl's clover and the Pt. Reyes bird's beak. This work is essential to the protection and preservation of native salt marsh habitat and the rare plants that occur in these marshes.

The proposal will use a combination of mechanical and manual methods for eradicating the invasive cordgrass, and will rely on revegetation with native

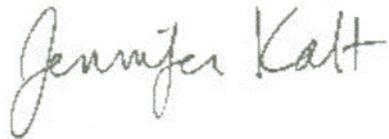


Dedicated to the preservation of California native Flora

plants to greatly reduce the likelihood of reestablishment. The eradication and revegetation methods are based on effective techniques that have been examined in scientific studies. There is strong opposition locally to use of herbicides; therefore, the chapter strongly supports this effort because it relies on non-chemical, science-based methods that will have positive long-term effects. Furthermore, the project will implement methods researched under previous Conservancy grants to restore more than 60 acres, and will be an important step toward protecting this unique habitat.

We hope that you will support this important work to protect our unique and precious coastal resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jennifer Kalt".

Jennifer Kalt, Conservation Chair

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JUN 09 2006

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Agriculture and Natural Resources
Humboldt County
Agriculture Center
5630 South Broadway, Eureka, Ca 95503-6998

(707) 445-7351 FAX (707) 444-9334 TDD 1-800-698-4544



Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chair
California State Coastal Conservancy
Attention: Melanie Denninger
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

June 5, 2006

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing in support of the Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge grant proposal for \$50,000 in matching funds submitted to your agency to eradicate invasive cordgrass, *Spartina densiflora*. It is found on the salt marsh on four units of the refuge. *Spartina* has severely impacted the limited remaining acreage of the salt marsh in the bay. The Humboldt-Del Norte Weed Management Area has rated *Spartina* a priority management weed.

Removing the invasive cordgrass will increase native plant diversity and support the habitats of native birds, invertebrates, and other animals that utilize the estuary. Salt water marshes are extremely important to the Humboldt Bay ecosystem, and the cordgrass needs to be controlled.

Your consideration in this request is greatly appreciated!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Gary Markegard'.

Gary Markegard
Livestock & Natural Resources Advisor/County Director

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.