



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

San Diego Coast District

4477 Pacific Highway

San Diego, CA 92110

(619) 688-3260 FAX (619) 688-3229

RUTH COLEMAN, DIRECTOR

May 23, 2007

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

RE: Los Peñasquitos Sediment Basin Project

Dear Mr. Bosco,

California State Parks (CSP) would like to express its support for the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Foundation's Los Peñasquitos Sediment Basin Project. Since 1985, the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Foundation has been instrumental in restoring Los Peñasquitos Lagoon through adaptive management and coordinating stakeholder involvement.

CSP owns and manages nearly all of the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon as a part of Torrey Pines State Reserve. One of the impacts currently affecting the environmental health of the Lagoon is the input of large amounts of sediment from the Lagoon's watershed. Rapid urbanization of land within the Lagoon's watershed has resulted in increased runoff due to removal of native vegetation and the addition of non-permeable landscape surfaces (*e.g.*, roads/highway widening, roofs, and parking lots). This runoff is supplemented by increased water usage (*e.g.*, irrigation of non-native landscapes) from these newly developed commercial and residential areas. The increased runoff carries large amounts of sediment into the Lagoon, burying rare salt marsh vegetation, and filling tidal channels. Because the sources of this sediment are largely on private property it is difficult for CSP to effectively manage this problem. The Los Peñasquitos Sediment Basin Project will intercept a substantial portion of these sediment flows before they reach the Lagoon and so protect valuable state parklands.

If you have any questions concerning how State Parks can further support this project, please contact Darren Scott Smith, Environmental Scientist at (619) 278-3785.

Sincerely,

Ronilee A. Clark
District Superintendent

cc Darren Scott Smith, Environmental Scientist
Reading File



PAM SLATER-PRICE

SUPERVISOR, THIRD DISTRICT
SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

May 31, 2007

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

Subject: Los Peñasquitos Sediment Basin Project

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Torrey Pines*

Dear Mr. Bosco,

I am writing in support of the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Foundation's Los Peñasquitos Sediment Basin Project. Since 1985, the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Foundation has been instrumental in restoring Los Peñasquitos Lagoon through adaptive management and coordinating stakeholder involvement.

As the County Supervisor for this State-designated Critical Coastal Area and Co-Chair of the Wetlands Recovery Project's San Diego County Task Force, I believe this project is essential in protecting Los Peñasquitos Lagoon from sediment loads. The Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Enhancement Plan and Program, San Diego Basin Plan, and 2002 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) identify sedimentation as a significant impact linked to urban encroachment and a leading cause in the rapid destruction of native salt marsh habitat. Both short and long-term benefits of the project include:

- Reducing sediment loads that alter natural tidal channels and degrade native salt-marsh habitats;
- Reducing levels of turbidity that can adversely affect healthy water quality;
- Reducing levels of pollutants that are transported into the lagoon by sediment; and
- Protect the beneficial uses afforded by Los Peñasquitos Lagoon.

Both the County and Wetlands Recovery Project San Diego Task Force are interested in taking advantage of this opportunity to develop both short and long-term solutions for sedimentation issues associated with urbanization within the watershed and protecting the beneficial uses and unique biological resources present in the area.

Thank you for your attention to this important application.

Sincerely,

Supervisor Pam Slater-Price
Third District
PSP/sk



**COUNCIL PRESIDENT
SCOTT H. PETERS**

CITY OF SAN DIEGO

June 5, 2007

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

Subject: Los Peñasquitos Sediment Basin Project

Dear Mr. Bosco,

I am writing to ask for your support of the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Foundation's Los Peñasquitos Sediment Basin Project. Since 1985, the Los Peñasquitos Lagoon Foundation has been instrumental in restoring Los Peñasquitos Lagoon through adaptive management and coordinating stakeholder involvement.

As the elected representative of this environmentally sensitive area, I believe that projects like this one can be very effective in reducing the sediment loads entering the lagoon from the watershed. It is my understanding that this project will provide both short and long-term benefits that include the following:

- Reducing vulnerability of surrounding urban and industrial developments to floods;
- Reducing sediment loads that alter natural tidal channels and degrade native salt- marsh habitats;
- Reducing levels of turbidity that can adversely affect healthy water quality;
- Reducing levels of pollutants that are transported into the lagoon by sediment; and
- Protect the beneficial uses afforded by Los Peñasquitos Lagoon.

The City is interested in taking advantage of this opportunity to develop both short and long-term solutions for sedimentation issues associated with ongoing urbanization within the watershed, protecting established developments in the watershed from flooding and protecting the unique biological resources present in the area.

Thank you for your efforts pertaining to this important application and project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Scott H. Peters".

Scott H. Peters