

Exhibit 5: Letters of Support

LYNN WOOLSEY
6TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEES:

EDUCATION AND LABOR
CHAIRWOMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
WORKFORCE PROTECTIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD,
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY
AND ENVIRONMENT
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA
AND GLOBAL HEALTH

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0506

September 24, 2007

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2263 RAYBURN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-5161

DISTRICT OFFICES:
1101 COLLEGE AVENUE, SUITE 200
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404
TELEPHONE: (707) 542-7182

1050 NORTHGATE DRIVE, SUITE 354
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94903
TELEPHONE: (415) 507-9554

WEB PAGE AND E-MAIL:
<http://www.woolsey.house.gov>

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chair
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

**RE: Sonoma Land Trust (SLT) Roche Ranch acquisition in the Sonoma Baylands,
Sonoma County**

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I strongly urge you to support the Conservancy's contribution of \$3,000,000 in acquisition funds to be applied toward SLT's effort to purchase the 1,657-acre Roche Ranch in southern Sonoma County. Acquisition of the Roche Ranch will result in the protection and restoration of, and public access to, nearly an entire watershed. The Roche Ranch is a critically important puzzle piece linking the adjacent Tolay Lake Regional Park to approximately 40,000 acres of protected lands across the Sonoma, Napa and Marin Baylands. It will result in the only protected land in the North Bay where a complete riparian corridor connects tidal lowlands of San Francisco Bay with upland seasonal and freshwater wetlands.

Acquisition of Roche Ranch will result in nearly doubling the size of the adjacent Tolay Lake Regional Park. The public will be able to enjoy the associated expansion of trails, other passive recreational opportunities, and panoramic views of San Francisco Bay and the surrounding landscape. The connections provided north and south of Roche Ranch could allow for a 7-mile trail corridor from the Tolay Lake Regional Park south through the Roche Ranch property, ending with linkages to the San Francisco Bay Trail at the Conservancy supported Sears Point Restoration Project on San Pablo Bay.

Acquisition of the Roche Ranch will complement the conservation values of several connected Sonoma Baylands parcels the Coastal Conservancy has supported in the past. Since the early 1990s, the Conservancy has supported the acquisitions of the Lower Ranch, the Leonard Ranch (including the original Sonoma Baylands Wetlands Restoration Project), the Sears Point Restoration Project, and the Tolay Lake Regional Park. The Roche Ranch literally is the last puzzle piece amid these conservation properties.

Thus far, SLT has secured \$5 million in private funds to complete the Roche Ranch acquisition and has lined up commitments for an additional \$5 million in state and local

Exhibit 5: Letters of Support

public funds. The \$3 million in acquisition currently requested would close SLT's funding gap and allow them to complete this landmark acquisition.

SLT has proven to be an adept regional leader in protecting the unique open beauty that typifies the Sonoma Baylands region. A multitude of partners support this project including the San Francisco Bay Joint Venture, which places the acquisition of Roche Ranch as its top priority project. Additionally, thirteen adopted state, regional and local plans prioritize the protection of the Roche property and its conservation values.

I applaud SLT's conservation efforts in the Sonoma Baylands region and look forward to continuing to work with them in protecting and stewarding this unique landscape. Moreover, I am grateful for your leadership role in protecting and restoring Sonoma County's open space lands along the Bay. I urge you to continue to support SLT's efforts.

I encourage you to approve this grant. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lynn Woolsey".

Lynn Woolsey
Member of Congress

LW:esh

Exhibit 5: Letters of Support

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0006
(916) 319-2006
FAX (916) 319-2106

Assembly
California Legislature

COMMITTEES
CHAIR, ENVIRONMENTAL
SAFETY AND TOXIC MATERIALS
APPROPRIATIONS
UTILITIES AND COMMERCE
WATER, PARKS AND WILDLIFE

DISTRICT OFFICE
3501 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 412
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94903
(415) 479-4920
FAX (415) 479-2123



JARED HUFFMAN
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SIXTH DISTRICT

September 21, 2007

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chair
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Sonoma Land Trust (SLT) Roche Ranch acquisition in the Sonoma Baylands, Sonoma County

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am writing to urge your support for the Conservancy's contribution of \$3,000,000 in acquisition funds to be applied toward SLT's effort to purchase the 1,657-acre Roche Ranch in southern Sonoma County. Acquisition of the Roche Ranch will result in the protection and restoration of, and public access to, nearly an entire watershed. The Roche Ranch is a critically important puzzle piece linking the adjacent Tolay Lake Regional Park to approximately 40,000 acres of protected lands across the Sonoma, Napa and Marin Baylands. It will result in the only protected land in the North Bay where a complete riparian corridor connects tidal lowlands of San Francisco Bay with upland seasonal and freshwater wetlands.

Acquisition of Roche Ranch will result in nearly doubling the size of the adjacent Tolay Lake Regional Park. The public will be able to enjoy the associated expansion of trails, other passive recreational opportunities, and panoramic views of San Francisco Bay and the surrounding landscape. The connections provided north and south of Roche Ranch could allow for a 7-mile trail corridor from the Tolay Lake Regional Park south through the Roche Ranch property, ending with linkages to the San Francisco Bay Trail at the Conservancy supported Sears Point Restoration Project on San Pablo Bay.

Acquisition of the Roche Ranch will complement the conservation values of several connected Sonoma Baylands parcels the Coastal Conservancy has supported in the past. Since the early 1990s, the Conservancy has supported the acquisitions of the Lower Ranch, the Leonard Ranch (including the original Sonoma Baylands Wetlands Restoration Project), the Sears Point Restoration Project, and the Tolay Lake Regional Park. The Roche Ranch literally is the last puzzle piece amid these conservation properties.



Exhibit 5: Letters of Support

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0006
(916) 319-2006
FAX (916) 319-2106

Assembly
California Legislature

COMMITTEES
CHAIR, ENVIRONMENTAL
SAFETY AND TOXIC MATERIALS
APPROPRIATIONS
UTILITIES AND COMMERCE
WATER, PARKS AND WILDLIFE

DISTRICT OFFICE
3501 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 412
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94903
(415) 479-4920
FAX (415) 479-2123



JARED HUFFMAN
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SIXTH DISTRICT

Thus far, SLT has secured \$5 million in private funds to complete the Roche Ranch acquisition and has lined up commitments for an additional \$5 million in state and local public funds. The \$3 million in acquisition currently requested will close SLT's funding gap and allow them to complete this landmark acquisition.

SLT has proven to be an adept regional leader in protecting the unique open beauty that typifies the Sonoma Baylands region. A multitude of partners support this project including the San Francisco Bay Joint Venture, which places the acquisition of Roche Ranch as its top priority project. Additionally, thirteen adopted state, regional and local plans prioritize the protection of the Roche property and its conservation values.

I applaud SLT's conservation efforts in the Sonoma Baylands region and look forward to continuing to work with them in protecting and stewarding this unique landscape. Moreover, I are grateful for your leadership role in protecting and restoring Sonoma County's open space lands along the Bay.

Again, I urge your support for this proposal. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jared Huffman".

JARED HUFFMAN
Assemblymember, 6th District

JH: lb



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
7715 Lakeville Highway
2100 Highway 37
Petaluma, CA 94954
(707)769-4200

Antioch Dunes - Marin Islands - San Pablo Bay - Alameda Proposed National Wildlife Refuge

September 14, 2007

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chair
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Sonoma Land Trust (SLT) Roche Ranch acquisition in the Sonoma Baylands,
Sonoma County

Dear Chairman Bosco:

The San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge urges you to support the Conservancy's contribution of \$3,000,000 in acquisition funds to be applied toward the Sonoma Land Trust's effort to purchase the 1,657-acre Roche Ranch in southern Sonoma County. Acquisition of the Roche Ranch will result in the protection and restoration of, and public access to, nearly an entire watershed. The Roche Ranch is a critically important puzzle piece linking the adjacent Tolay Lake Regional Park to approximately 40,000 acres of protected lands across the Sonoma, Napa and Marin Baylands and to the San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge. It will result in the only protected land in the North Bay where a complete riparian corridor connects tidal lowlands of San Francisco Bay with upland seasonal and freshwater wetlands.

Acquisition of Roche Ranch will result in nearly doubling the size of the adjacent Tolay Lake Regional Park. The public will be able to enjoy the associated expansion of trails, other passive recreational opportunities, and panoramic views of San Francisco Bay and the surrounding landscape. The connections provided north and south of Roche Ranch could allow for a 7-mile trail corridor from the Tolay Lake Regional Park south through the Roche Ranch property, ending with linkages to the San Francisco Bay Trail at the Conservancy supported Sears Point Restoration Project on San Pablo Bay.

Acquisition of the Roche Ranch will complement the conservation values of several connected Sonoma Baylands parcels the Coastal Conservancy has supported in the past. Since the early 1990s, the Conservancy has supported the acquisitions of the Lower Ranch, the Leonard Ranch (including the original Sonoma Baylands Wetlands Restoration Project), the Sears Point Restoration Project, and the Tolay Lake Regional Park. The Roche Ranch literally is the last puzzle piece amid these conservation properties.

Thus far, SLT has secured \$5 million in private funds to complete the Roche Ranch acquisition and has lined up commitments for an additional \$5 million in state and local

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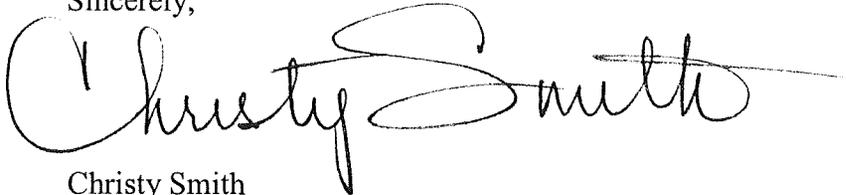
public funds. The \$3 million in acquisition currently requested will close SLT's funding gap and allow them to complete this landmark acquisition.

SLT has proven to be an adept regional leader in protecting the unique open beauty that typifies the Sonoma Baylands region. A multitude of partners support this project including the San Francisco Bay Joint Venture, which places the acquisition of Roche Ranch as its top priority project. Additionally, thirteen adopted state, regional and local plans prioritize the protection of the Roche property and its conservation values.

We applaud SLT's conservation efforts in the Sonoma Baylands region and look forward to continuing to work with them in protecting and stewarding this unique landscape. Moreover, we are grateful for your leadership role in protecting and restoring Sonoma County's open space lands along the Bay. We urge you to continue to support SLT's efforts.

I encourage you to approve this grant. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Christy Smith". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Christy Smith
Refuge Manager

cc: John Brosnan



SONOMA
COUNTY
REGIONAL
PARKS

MARY E. BURNS
DIRECTOR

September 17, 2007

Douglas Bosco
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Roche Ranch Acquisition

Dear Chairman Bosco:

Sonoma County Regional Parks strongly supports Sonoma Land Trust's request for \$3 million to acquire Roche Ranch. Acquisition of this 1,657-acre property will immediately protect and ultimately allow for the restoration of and public access to most of the entire Tolay Creek watershed.

Thus far, Sonoma Land Trust has secured \$5 million in private funds and has commitments for \$5 million in state and local public funds. The \$3 million requested from the Conservancy will allow Sonoma Land Trust to complete this landmark acquisition.

The Roche Ranch is a critical link between the adjacent Tolay Lake Regional Park and approximately 40,000 acres of protected lands across the Sonoma, Napa and Marin Baylands. This acquisition will result in the only completely protected North Bay riparian corridor, linking the tidal lowlands of San Francisco Bay to upland seasonal and freshwater wetlands.

Acquisition of Roche Ranch will nearly double the size of the adjacent Tolay Lake Regional Park. Ultimately, the public will be able to enjoy expanded trails, other passive recreational opportunities including panoramic views of San Francisco Bay and the surrounding landscape. The project allows for a 7-mile trail corridor from Tolay Lake south through the Roche Ranch property and creates the opportunity for linking to the San Francisco Bay Trail.

Sonoma Land Trust has proven to be an adept regional leader in protecting the unique open beauty that typifies the Sonoma Baylands region. We commend their conservation efforts and look forward to

2300

County Center Drive

Suite 120A

Santa Rosa

CA 95403

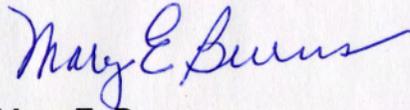
Tel: 707 565-2041

Fax: 707 579-8247

continuing to work with them in protecting and stewarding this unique landscape.

We are grateful for your leadership role in protecting and restoring Sonoma County's open space lands along the Bay. I encourage you to approve this grant, furthering regional stewardship efforts. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Mary E. Burns
Director

MB/et

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cc: Maxene Spellman, Coastal Conservancy
John Brosnan, Sonoma Land Trust

The Bay Institute

Over a Quarter Century of Protecting and Restoring San Francisco Bay from the Sierra to the Sea

500 Palm Drive, Suite 200 • Novato, CA 94949

415-506-0150 • fax 415-506-0155 • www.bay.org • bayinfo@bay.org

RECEIVED
SEP 20 2007

September 18, 2007

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chair
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Sonoma Land Trust (SLT) Roche Ranch acquisition in the Sonoma Baylands, Sonoma County

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Carol K. Lind, Chair
- Bruce Bochte
- Nancy Carlson
- Janet Cohen
- Harrison C. ("Hap") Dunning
- Robert J. Erickson
- Gary J. Falls
- Michael A. Law
- Karen E. Losee
- Steven N. Machtinger
- John C. Racanelli
- M. Morgan Rissel
- Jane Rogers
- Nancy P. Werner
- Arlene Wong

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Grant Davis

FOUNDER

Bill Davoren

Dear Chairman Bosco:

On behalf of the Board and staff of The Bay Institute (TBI) we urge you to support the Conservancy's contribution of \$3,000,000 in acquisition funds to be applied toward SLT's effort to purchase the 1,657-acre Roche Ranch in southern Sonoma County. Acquisition of the Roche Ranch will result in the protection and restoration of, and public access to, nearly an entire watershed. The Roche Ranch is a critically important puzzle piece linking the adjacent Tolay Lake Regional Park to approximately 40,000 acres of protected lands across the Sonoma, Napa and Marin Baylands. It will result in the only protected land in the North Bay where a complete riparian corridor connects tidal lowlands of San Francisco Bay with upland seasonal and freshwater wetlands.

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Acquisition of the Roche Ranch will complement the conservation values of several connected Sonoma Baylands parcels the Coastal Conservancy has supported in the past. Since the early 1990s, the Conservancy has supported the acquisitions of the Lower Ranch, the Leonard Ranch (including the original Sonoma Baylands Wetlands Restoration Project), the Sears Point Restoration Project, and the Tolay Lake Regional Park. The Roche Ranch literally is the last puzzle piece amid these conservation properties.



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We applaud SLT's conservation efforts in the Sonoma Baylands region and look forward to continuing to work with them in protecting and stewarding this unique landscape. Moreover, we are grateful for your leadership role in protecting and restoring Sonoma County's open space lands along the Bay. We urge you to continue to support SLT's efforts.

I encourage you to approve this grant. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Grant Davis", written in a cursive style.

Grant Davis
Executive Director

Exhibit 5: Letters of Support



September 20, 2007

MANAGEMENT BOARD:

Bay Area Audubon Council
Bay Area Open Space Council
Bay Planning Coalition
Citizens Committee to
Complete the Refuge
Ducks Unlimited
National Audubon Society
PRBO Conservation Science
PG&E Corporation
Save San Francisco Bay
Association
Sierra Club
The Bay Institute
The Conservation Fund
Urban Creeks Council

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: Sonoma Land Trust Roche Property Acquisition in the Sonoma Baylands

Dear Chairman Bosco,

I am writing on behalf of the San Francisco Bay Joint Venture (SFBJV) in support of the Conservancy providing \$3,000,000 in funding for the acquisition the 1, 657-acre Roche Ranch by the Sonoma Land Trust (SLT).

The SFBJV is a partnership of non-governmental organizations, utilities, landowners, and non-voting agencies working to acquire, restore and enhance wetlands on San Francisco Bay and on the coasts of San Mateo, Marin, and Sonoma Counties. The San Francisco Bay Joint Venture is one of the fourteen wetland habitat Joint Ventures operating under the certification of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, a Congressional agreement between the United States, Canada, and Mexico. The SFBJV also implements all federal bird conservation plans with a focus on securing and restoring habitat for migratory birds, endangered species, and other wildlife.

Acquisition of the Roche property is a high priority of the SFBJV in the North Bay. The property is identified in the Baylands Ecosystem Habitat Goals Report as a recommended site for vitally important habitat restoration. Protection of the Roche property, which lies below the headwaters of Tolay Lake (now owned by the Sonoma Parks District), will ensure restoration of the entire landscape from the headwaters through the riparian corridor of Tolay Creek, to the restored wetlands of San Francisco Bay. This is the only location in the North Bay where tidal wetlands and seasonal and freshwater wetlands can be connected by a riparian corridor and adjacent upland habitats. Acquisition of the Roche Ranch will significantly enhance the conservation values of a number of adjacent nearby parcels including the Sears Point restoration project (owned and managed by the Sonoma Land Trust), Department of Fish and Game properties, and the San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge. In sum, the acquisition of the Roche property will make possible one of the most exciting restoration efforts in the Bay Area.

The SLT has proven to be an adept leader in land conservation and restoration in San Pablo Bay. We are grateful to the Conservancy for its support of a number of SLT projects and encourage you to provide funding for the acquisition of Roche Ranch. If you have questions about the SFBJV or our endorsement of support for funding for acquisition of the Roche property, please contact the SFBJV Coordinator, Beth Huning. Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Arthur Feinstein
Chair

Ex-Officio Members:

Bay Conservation &
Development Commission
California Department
of Fish and Game
California Resources Agency
Coastal Conservancy
Coastal Region, Mosquito &
Vector Control District
National Fish and Wildlife
Foundation
National Marine Fisheries
Service
Natural Resources
Conservation Service
Regional Water Quality Control
Board, SF Bay Region
San Francisco Estuary Project
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Environmental
Protection Agency
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Wildlife Conservation Board