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California State Senate

January 4, 2008

ABEL MALDONADO
FIFTEENTH SENATE DISTRICT

Mr. Doug Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to express my support for the proposed State Coastal Conservancy grant in the amount of \$1.27 million to The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County for their planned acquisition of the 143-acre Gragnani Property. The property is located on Paradise Beach adjacent to the existing Pt. Sal Reserve Management Area, which is owned and operated by California State Parks, the Bureau of Land Management, and Santa Barbara County Parks.

The Land Conservancy's acquisition of the property will serve to permanently protect the site's outstanding coastal dunes, wildlife habitat, and cultural resource values, including several state and federally listed plant and animal species, as well as a documented marine mammal haulout area.

This acquisition project takes advantage of a rare opportunity to expand the Pt. Sal Reserve Management Area, protect a contiguous area of coastal dunes, and broaden the current visitor-serving and restoration programs being administered by the Dunes Collaborative, of which the Land Conservancy is a partner. The Land Conservancy is well positioned to carry out this project having undertaken numerous projects of a similar nature within the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes area over the past 20 years.

The Pt. Sal area is truly one of the central coast's most remote, rugged, and dramatic landscapes. Thank you for your consideration of this project at your January 17th meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Abel", written over a faint circular stamp.

ABEL MALDONADO
Senator, 15th District

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SAM BLAKESLEE
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, THIRTY-THIRD DISTRICT

January 7, 2008

Mr. Doug Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

***RE: The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County – Paradise Beach / Pt. Sal
Land Acquisition Project***

Dear Mr. Bosco,

I am writing to express our support for, and urge your board to approve, the proposed State Coastal Conservancy grant to The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County for their planned acquisition of the 143-acre Gragnani Property located on Paradise Beach adjacent to the existing Pt. Sal Reserve Management Area, which is owned and operated by California State Parks, the Bureau of Land Management, and Santa Barbara County Parks. The Land Conservancy's acquisition of the property will serve to permanently protect the site's outstanding coastal dunes, wildlife habitat, and cultural resource values, including several state and federally listed plant and animal species, as well as a documented marine mammal haulout area.

This acquisition project takes advantage of a rare opportunity to expand the Pt. Sal Reserve Management Area, protect a contiguous area of coastal dunes, and broaden the current visitor serving and restoration programs being administered by the Dunes Collaborative, of which the Land Conservancy is a partner. The Land Conservancy is well positioned to carry out this project having undertaken numerous projects of a similar nature within the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes area over the past 20 years.

The Pt. Sal area is truly one of the central coast's most remote, rugged, and dramatic landscapes. We are in agreement that its conservation is well-warranted and offer our support for this acquisition. Thank you for your consideration of this project at your January 17th meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sam Blakeslee", written over a horizontal line.

Sam Blakeslee
Assemblyman, 33rd District