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California State Senate

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SHEILA JAMES KUEHL
TWENTY-THIRD SENATE DISTRICT
CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

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JOINT COMMITTEE ON RULES



December 5, 2007

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

Dear Chairman Bosco

RE: Malibu Creek Habitat Enhancement, Phase II
(File No. 00-117-38) January 17, 2008

I am writing to strongly request the State Coastal Conservancy to approve a grant for the Mountains Restoration Trust (MRT) to remove *Arundo donax* and other invasive species from Malibu Creek. These funds would allow the MRT to follow up on the work that it has already done to eradicate arundo and restore the Creek. Among the serious effects of the recent wildfires that ravaged Malibu canyon this season is the exposure of live arundo patches, which has made it easier for the arundo to spread. At the same time, we have more accessibility to these exposed patches, which means that, if timely action is taken, it's possible to truly rid us of this longstanding problem.

I am confident that MRT has proved itself to be both highly competent in arundo eradication and also careful of Malibu environment. As the State Senator for the 23rd District, which includes Malibu, I strongly urge you to help our District by awarding this grant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sheila Kuehl".

Sheila James Kuehl
California State Senate
District 23

Exhibit 4: Letters of Support

COMMITTEES:

AGING AND LONG-TERM CARE
BUDGET
BUDGET, SUBCOMMITTEE No. 3 ON
RESOURCES
EDUCATION
NATURAL RESOURCES

Assembly
California Legislature



JULIA BROWNLEY
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FORTY-FIRST DISTRICT
CHAIR, BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE No. 2 ON EDUCATION FINANCE

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December 12, 2007

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

**Re: January 17, 2008 Meeting File No. 00-117-38
Malibu Creek Habitat Enhancement, Phase II
SUPPORT**

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am pleased to write in strong support of the disbursement of up to \$52,785 to the Mountains Restoration Trust (MRT) for removal of *Arundo donax* along Malibu Creek.

The MRT points out that the timing could not be better to complete this project that has been ongoing for the past five years and has successfully removed 85% of the *Arundo*. The wildfires that burned through Malibu Creek State Park last month have now exposed re-growth of *Arundo*, making it easy to access and re-treat, and providing good prospects for total eradication.

This is a very important project for the health of Malibu Creek and its habitats, and I respectfully urge your favorable action. Please don't hesitate to call on me at any time if I may be of assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Julia Brownley".

JULIA BROWNLEY
Assemblywoman, 41st District

JB:lr



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area
401 West Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, California 91360-4207

In reply refer to:
S7417 (SAMO)

December 13, 2007

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th floor
Oakland, California 94612

RE: Malibu Creek Habitat Enhancement, Phase II
File No. 00-117-38; January 17, 2008 agenda

Dear Chairman Bosco:

The National Park Service, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area supports the Mountains Restoration Trust (MRT) proposal to continue and expand their project to eradicate *Arundo donax* (giant reed) in lower Malibu Creek. *Arundo* is recognized by the California Invasive Plant Council as an aggressive invader that displaces native plants and disrupts natural habitats. It is a significant threat to Malibu Creek and its associated wildlife.

The MRT has recently completed a five-year control project for *Arundo* in Malibu Creek. This project was partially funded by the National Park Service and we believe our funds were very effectively utilized by MRT. *Arundo* has large storage reserves, is a prolific sprouter and readily establishes from fragments. As such, it takes years of treatment to eradicate. The 85% kill achieved in this project is excellent and hope that MRT can obtain the funds to complete the control work.

The need for MRT to continue their work is made urgent by the Canyon Fire that burned through Malibu Canyon this October. *Arundo*, if untreated, can spread rapidly after fire. In fact, the untreated rapid spread after a 1993 fire is how *Arundo* came to dominate lower Malibu Creek. At the same time, the recent fire offers an excellent opportunity for MRT to finish the eradication work. Plants previously hidden by native vegetation have been revealed and can be easily accessed and treated in the post-fire environment, before the natives grow back.

In summary, we believe that MRT has a proven capability with *Arundo* control and given the opportunity afforded by the recent fire, this project can provide significant environmental benefits with minimum environmental impacts. We strongly recommend you approve this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Woody Smeck".

Woody Smeck
Superintendent



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
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ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

SUPERVISOR, THIRD DISTRICT

December 7, 2007

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

RE: Malibu Creek Habitat Enhancement, Phase II
California Coastal Conservancy January 17, 2008
Agenda Item No. 00-117-38

Dear Mr. Bosco. 

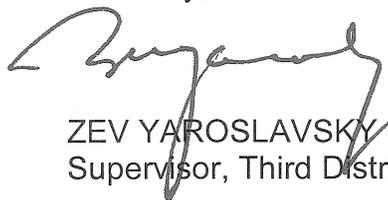
I am writing in support of the grant application from the Mountains Restoration Trust (MRT) to be considered at your January 17, 2008 meeting.

The approval of this grant will enable the MRT to complete the eradication of the *Arundo donax* invasive species in Malibu Creek from the mouth of the estuary up the creek and into Malibu Creek State Park.

The initial removal project began in 2000 as the Malibu Creek Habitat Enhancement Removal with funding provided by a grant from the California Habitat Conservation Fund to Los Angeles County and administered by the MRT. Although the treatment was highly successful, review has shown that the assumption that *Arundo donax* could be completely eradicated within five years was incorrect in Malibu Creek sites. It is, therefore, essential that the continuation of the project be funded.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Supervisor, Third District