

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

4050 TAYLOR STREET  
SAN DIEGO, CA 92110  
PHONE (619) 701-0472  
FAX (619) 688-2587



COPY

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January 27, 2009

Chairman Doug Bosco  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

RE: Funding for San Diego County Lagoon Restoration Efforts

Dear Mr. Bosco:

As the Interstate 5/State Route 76 Corridor Director, I am writing to express support for the ongoing efforts to restore the San Elijo Lagoon and Buena Vista Lagoons. As you know the region has identified the need to add capacity to both the rail and freeway infrastructure in this area. These important transportation improvements are included in the region's TransNet Program, a one-half cent sales tax to fund a variety of transportation projects throughout San Diego County. These transportation projects offer an exciting opportunity to work in partnership with key stakeholders, such as the Conservancy, to make the lagoon restoration projects a reality. In doing so the region can not only mitigate possible project impacts related to transportation improvements, but we can also enhance and preserve the overall health of the lagoons. However, for this opportunity to be realized, the closely related timing of both the lagoon studies and the transportation projects must be maintained.

It is our understanding that the December 4, 2008 action by the Coastal Conservancy, which allocated \$1,280,000 (\$600,000 for Buena Vista Lagoon and \$680,000 for San Elijo Lagoon) for preliminary design and environmental studies, only partially funded this phase estimated to have a total cost of \$2,800,000. Given the importance of completing these studies in a timely manner, we are proposing that the I-5 North Coast Corridor Project fund the remaining \$1,500,000 shortfall. This \$1,500,000 contribution will be Transnet funds currently budgeted as a part of the \$34M budgeted for preliminary engineering and environmental studies on the I-5 project.

Chairman Doug Bosco  
January 27, 2009  
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To authorize the use of these funds, Memorandum of Agreements (MOA) will need to be executed with the lead governmental agency of each restoration project. These MOAs will establish agency roles and responsibilities, scopes of work, reporting requirements, budgets, and schedules. We will be contacting the necessary parties in the near future to initiate the development of these agreements.

I look forward to successful partnership between Caltrans and the Conservancy to enhance the coastal environment and improve mobility in the I-5 corridor. If you have any questions please contact me at 619-688-3611.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allan Kosup". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Allan Kosup  
I-5 & SR 76 Corridor Director  
619.688.3611

cc: Arturo Jacobo  
Bruce April  
Susanne Glasgow  
Keith Greer  
Richard Chavez



# County of San Diego

## DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

RENÉE E. BAHL  
DIRECTOR

Administrative Office: (858) 694-3030  
Fax: (858) 495-5841  
Reservations: (858) 565-3600

[www.sdparks.org](http://www.sdparks.org)

November 13, 2008

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

Dear Mr. Bosco:

The County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) appreciates the continued efforts of the San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy's (SELCO) to preserve, protect, and enhance San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve and its watershed. We are committed to our continuing partnership and working with the SELCO and other agencies to enhance and restore the biological functions and values of the San Elijo Lagoon Reserve.

We support the SELCO in moving forward in the development of conceptual designs, technical studies, environmental review, and permitting for the San Elijo Lagoon Restoration Project. These studies and analyses are needed to identify a preferred design alternative for the Restoration Project.

In 2011, the County DPR will begin the preparation of a Resource Management Plan with the SELCO and other stakeholders for its ownership within the San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve and finalize it in June 2012. We look forward to our continued partnership with the SELCO to protect the sensitive habitat and flora and fauna of the Reserve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Renée E. Bahl".

RENÉE E. BAHL  
Director



**DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME**

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov>  
South Coast Region 5  
4949 Viewridge Avenue  
San Diego, California 92123



November 12, 2008

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

**Support for the San Elijo Lagoon Restoration Project**

Dear Mr. Bosco:

The Department of Fish and Game (Department) supports the continuing efforts to restore San Elijo Lagoon, and encourages the funding for the designs, studies, environmental review and permit applications requested by the San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy (Conservancy).

The Department, County of San Diego, San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy and many other Federal, State and Local agencies have worked together for several years in the discussions and planning towards the goal of restoring San Elijo Lagoon. Through these efforts, the planning group has reached a general consensus on the how to restore the lagoon. This funding will enable the Conservancy to move forward to complete the planning phase so we may begin the restoration of the lagoon. Thank you for considering the request and we hope you will join us in the completion of this restoration effort.

Tim Dillingham is our contact for San Elijo Lagoon and can be reached at the letterhead address, email at [TDilling@dfg.ca.gov](mailto:TDilling@dfg.ca.gov), by telephone at (858) 467-4204 or by fax at (858) 467-4299.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Miner".

Karen Miner  
Senior Environmental Scientist  
Lands Program Supervisor  
South Coast Region

Cc: Tim Dillingham, San Diego

Chron



# United States Department of the Interior



## FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services

Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office  
6010 Hidden Valley Road, Suite 101  
Carlsbad, California 92011

In Reply Refer To:  
FWS-CP-09B0046-09TA0079

NOV 07 2008

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

Subject: Letter of Support for Funding Planning Documents to Restore San Elijo Lagoon  
in San Diego County, California.

Dear Chair Bosco:

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Service) would like to express our appreciation for the California Coastal Conservancy's (Conservancy) efforts to protect and restore San Elijo Lagoon (lagoon) in San Diego County, California. More specifically, the Service supports the Conservancy's authorization of \$680,000 to the San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy to fund conceptual designs, technical studies, environmental review, and permit applications for the San Elijo Lagoon Restoration Project, San Diego County.

Land development has significantly altered the ecology of the lagoon. Over the past several decades San Elijo Lagoon has gradually deteriorated due to the cumulative effects of hydrological and land use changes within the watershed, increased sedimentation, sewage spills, poor water quality, growth of invasive species, severely limited tidal flushing, and frequent closures of the ocean inlet. The lagoon offers an opportunity to restore marine, intertidal coastal salt marsh, and transitional wetland-upland fringe habitats. Restoration would provide a regional benefit to coastal resources, particularly many birds, fishes, and invertebrates that utilize these scarce habitats for nesting, rearing, and foraging. The Service is dedicated to this restoration effort, which is demonstrated by our participation in the San Elijo Lagoon Working Group, and partnership with the County of San Diego and California Department of Fish and Game to prepare a joint Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement for the project.

Please contact Susan Wynn of my staff at 760-931-9440, extension 216, if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Scott A. Sobiech  
Deputy Field Supervisor

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Linda S. Adams  
Secretary for  
Environmental Protection

Exhibit 3: Project Letters

# California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Diego Region



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[http:// www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego)

November 13, 2008

In reply refer to: **WMC:17-0005.02:bpost**

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

Dear Mr. Bosco:

**SUBJECT: SAN ELIJO LAGOON RESTORATION**

I understand that, at its December 4, 2008 meeting, the California Coastal Conservancy board will consider approval of a grant in the amount of \$680,000 to partially fund environmental and technical studies needed to complete environmental documents for restoration of San Elijo Lagoon. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (SDRWQCB) strongly supports restoration of San Elijo Lagoon and the proposed authorization of funding in support of restoration.

San Elijo Lagoon is one of several ecologically important coastal lagoons in the San Diego region. Restoration of the lagoon is a priority project of the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project, in which the SDRWQCB participates. SDRWQCB also participates in the San Elijo Lagoon Restoration Committee. The SDRWQCB is working to ensure that water quality standards for San Elijo Lagoon are met.

The heading portion of this letter includes a SDRWQCB code number noted after "In reply refer to:" In order to assist us in the processing of your correspondence please include this code number in the heading or subject line portion of all correspondence and reports to the SDRWQCB pertaining to this matter.

If you have any questions about SDRWQCB support for restoration of San Elijo Lagoon, please contact Mr. Bruce Posthumus at 858-467-2964 or [bposthumus@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:bposthumus@waterboards.ca.gov).

Respectfully,

JOHN H. ROBERTUS  
Executive Officer

JHR:bwp

cc: Doug Gibson, SELC                      Mike McCann, SDRWQCB  
David Gibson, SDRWQCB                  Chiara Clemente, SDRWQCB  
Mike Porter, SDRWQCB

*California Environmental Protection Agency*