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# California State Senate

SENATOR  
**TONY STRICKLAND**  
ASSISTANT MINORITY LEADER  
NINETEENTH SENATE DISTRICT



STANDING COMMITTEES  
HEALTH  
VICE-CHAIR  
ENERGY, UTILITIES  
& COMMUNICATIONS  
ELECTIONS,  
REAPPORTIONMENT &  
CONSTITUTIONAL  
AMENDMENTS  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
  
SELECT COMMITTEES  
CALIFORNIA'S WINE  
INDUSTRY  
IMPROVING STATE  
GOVERNMENT  
OBESITY & DIABETES  
RENEWABLE ENERGY  
THE CENSUS

January 4, 2011

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

Re: Hollingsworth Ranch Acquisition  
(File No. 08-107-02) January 20, 2011 agenda

Dear Mr. Bosco,

I am writing to express support for the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy's acquisition of the Hollingsworth Ranch which will both protect important wildlife habitat and provide an opportunity for public access and enjoyment of the Ventura River. The acquisition of this property will provide permanent protection for approximately one mile of the Ventura River which provides habitat for the federally endangered southern steelhead trout and other rare species. Additionally, the acquisition of this historic ranch will enable the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy to welcome the public to the property for educational and recreational purposes.

As you are aware, the sellers (the Wallevik family) have reached an agreement with the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy for the 78 acres located at 9458 Santa Ana Road, commonly known as Hollingsworth Ranch. This project greatly depends on grant approval and acquisition of the property this year.

It is my view that the acquisition of this land, including the protection of the Ventura River, will greatly benefit this delicate local habitat and improve the quality of life in the Ojai Valley.

The Ojai Valley Land Conservancy has my full support in their request for funding this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tony Strickland".

Tony Strickland  
Senator, 19<sup>th</sup> District

TS: mg



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF VENTURA

GOVERNMENT CENTER, HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
800 SOUTH VICTORIA AVENUE, VENTURA, CALIFORNIA 93009

From the Desk of **STEVE BENNETT**  
SUPERVISOR, FIRST DISTRICT  
(805) 654-2703  
FAX: (805) 654-2226  
E-mail: [steve.bennett@ventura.org](mailto:steve.bennett@ventura.org)

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD  
STEVE BENNETT  
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December 15, 2010

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

Re: Hollingsworth Ranch Acquisition (File No. 08-107-02) January 20, 2011 agenda

Dear Chair Bosco and Commissioners:

I am writing to express support for the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy (OVLC) acquisition of the Hollingsworth Ranch.

This project will both protect important fish and wildlife habitat and provide an opportunity for public access and enjoyment of the Ventura River. The acquisition of this property will provide permanent protection for approximately one mile of the Ventura River including 78 acres of spawning and rearing habitat for the federally endangered southern steelhead trout.

This acquisition would tie in with other OVLC Ventura River preservation properties, thereby leveraging the benefits of this and prior conservation investments. The acquisition of the Hollingsworth Ranch would be another major milestone in the effort to conserve and restore the Ventura River, an effort that has been led admirably by the OVLC with the assistance of your Commission.

The acquisition of this historic ranch will create sufficient public access land to enable the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy to welcome the public to riverside property for educational and recreational purposes- an opportunity that has been lacking in this stretch of the river.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Commission for all of your support of conservation and restoration along the Ventura River, and to encourage this logical and important next step in this critical effort to preserve and restore a major coastal waterway.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve Bennett".

Steve Bennett,  
Supervisor, First District



**Stakeholders**

General Purpose Agencies

City of Camarillo  
City of Fillmore  
City of Moorpark  
City of Ojai  
City of Oxnard  
City of Port Hueneme  
City of Santa Paula  
City of Simi Valley  
City of Thousand Oaks  
City of Ventura  
Ventura County Executive Office  
Ventura County General Services Agency  
Ventura County Resource Management Agency

Water Suppliers/Wastewater Management/  
Special Districts

Calleguas Municipal Water District  
Camarillo Sanitary District  
Camrosa Water District  
Casitas Municipal Water District  
Fillmore Irrigation Company  
Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency  
Golden State Water Company  
Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency  
Ojai Valley Sanitary District  
Ojai Valley Water Conservation District  
Pleasant Valley County Water District  
Saticoy Sanitary District  
Triunfo Sanitation District  
United Water Conservation District  
Ventura County Watershed Protection District  
Ventura County Waterworks Districts  
Ventura Regional Sanitation District  
Zone Mutual Water Company

Business Organizations

Building Industry Association  
Farm Bureau of Ventura County  
Ventura County Economic Development Association

Recreational and Open Space Entities

California Department of Parks and Recreation  
Conejo Recreation and Park District  
Pleasant Valley Recreation and Park District  
Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District  
Santa Monica Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority

Regulatory Agencies

California Coastal Commission  
California Department of Fish and Game  
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Other Agencies/Organizations

Association of Water Agencies of Ventura County  
California Coastal Conservancy  
California Department of Transportation  
California Department of Water Resources  
California Native Plant Society  
California Wildlife Conservation Board  
Environmental Defense Center  
Friends of the Santa Clara River  
Hansen Trust  
Matilija Coalition  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Nature Conservancy  
Ojai Valley Land Conservancy  
Naval Base Ventura County  
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy  
Surfrider Foundation  
Trust for Public Land  
U.S. Forest Service  
Ventura County Resource Conservation District  
Ventura Hillside Conservancy  
Wetlands Recovery Project

January 3, 2011

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

Re: Hollingsworth Ranch Acquisition - (File No. 08-107-02)  
January 20, 2011 agenda

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to express the strong support of the Ventura River Watershed Council (VRWC) for the allocation of funds to the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy (OVLC) for the acquisition of the Hollingsworth Ranch property in the Ventura River Watershed. The acquisition of this property and the preparation of a stewardship plan for the benefit of habitat and open space preservation is consistent with, and will help implement, the objectives of the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) for the Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County (WCVC). OVLC is a member of the VRWC and an active partner in the development and implementation of projects and programs that enhance the environment and protect the watershed.

The proposed property acquisition and stewardship plan will protect important spawning and rearing habitat for endangered southern steelhead along the Ventura River, link other OVLC preserves upstream with protected open space downstream, and assist the OVLC and its partners in promoting the larger community vision of a river parkway program for the Ventura River. The river parkway would conserve habitat, protect wildlife linkages, manage stormwater, provide trails and interpretive facilities, recharge groundwater, and reconnect the river to its floodplain.

This project is a vital element of the future vision for the Ventura River Watershed and will result in the enhancement and protection of one of the most pristine watersheds in Southern California.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this important project.

Sincerely,

Lynn Rodriguez, WCVC Project Manager  
On behalf of the Ventura River Watershed Council



# VENTURA COUNTY

PUBLIC WORKS AGENCY  
JEFF PRATT, P.E.  
Agency Director

# WATERSHED PROTECTION DISTRICT

**Norma Camacho**  
District Director

**Gerhardt Hubner**  
Water & Environmental  
Resources

**Peter Sheydayi**  
Design/Construction

**Sergio Vargas**  
Planning/Regulatory

**Karl Novak, P.E.**  
Operations/Maintenance

December 17, 2010

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

**SUBJECT: HOLLINGSWORTH RANCH ACQUISITION, FILE NO. 08-107-02, JANUARY 20, 2011 AGENDA**

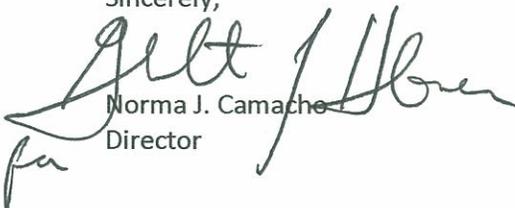
Dear Mr. Bosco,

On behalf of the Ventura County Watershed Protection District (District) I would like to express support for the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy's acquisition of the Hollingsworth Ranch. This acquisition will protect important wildlife habitat and will also provide additional opportunities for public access and enjoyment of the Ventura River. The acquisition of this property will provide permanent protection for approximately one mile of the Ventura River which provides habitat for the federally endangered southern steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and many other endangered and special status species. Additionally, the acquisition of this historic ranch will enable the Ojai Valley Land Conservancy to welcome the public to the property for educational and recreational purposes.

This acquisition provides an important link in our combined efforts to control non-native plants and restore the native riparian habitat and riparian buffers within the Ventura River Watershed. Non-native plants such as giant reed (*Arundo donax*), displace native riparian vegetation without providing the same habitat benefits to wildlife. Giant reed colonies use more water than native vegetation, leaving less water for fish and other wildlife. The District has been working on State grant funded projects since 2007 to remove non-native plants from the Highway 150 Bridge to the headwaters of Matilija Creek; and, more recently, from the headwaters of the San Antonio Creek Watershed to Soule Park.

The District firmly believes that acquisition of this land will contribute to the Ventura River Watershed stakeholder goal to create a greenway along the river that would conserve habitat, protect wildlife linkages, provide trails and interpretive facilities, and reconnect the river to its floodplain.

Sincerely,

  
Norma J. Camacho  
Director

**RECEIVED**

DEC 24 2010

**COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.**