

# California State Senate

SENATOR  
NOREEN EVANS  
SECOND SENATE DISTRICT



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STATE CAPITOL  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
(916) 651-4002  
50 D STREET  
SUITE 120A  
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404  
(707) 576-2771  
710 E STREET  
SUITE 150  
EUREKA, CA 95501  
(707) 445-6508  
200 SOUTH SCHOOL STREET  
UKIAH, CA 95482  
(707) 468-8914  
1040 MAIN STREET  
SUITE 205  
NAPA, CA 94559  
(707) 224-1990  
444 GEORGIA STREET  
VALLEJO, CA 94590  
(707) 648-5312

October 25, 2011

Douglas Bosco, Chairman  
California Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 11<sup>th</sup> floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Conservation Easement and Trail Easement over the Bordessa Ranch

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing in support of The Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District's request for up to \$650,000 from the California Coastal Conservancy to assist with the acquisition of a both a conservation easement and trail easement over the Bordessa Ranch located on State Highway 1 scenic corridor (also known as Valley Ford Road), west of Valley Ford in Sonoma County.

Protection of the 495-acre Bordessa Ranch provides a unique land conservation opportunity in Sonoma County by furthering numerous local conservation goals:

**Farms and Ranches (Agricultural):** The ranch is one of last remaining parcels of this size representing the local agricultural heritage of the region. This working land is currently used for livestock grazing and continued agricultural use is anticipated.

**Scenic Hillsides (Scenic):** The rolling hills and open pasture lands are highly visible to travelers along Highway 1 as well as to recreational users in kayaks and canoes along the Estero Americano.

**Water, Wildlife and Natural Areas (Natural):** Natural resource habitats on the property include coastal prairie and coastal scrub. The grasslands on the property are used by short-eared owls and burrowing owls during winter months and periods of migration, from approximately November through April. In addition, the ranch is bordered by 1.3 miles of shoreline of the Estero Americano and contains two tributaries to the Estero Americano. The Estero Americano, which is up to the high tide line included in the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, provides important habitat for steelhead and resources for an abundance of

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OAKLAND, CALIF.**

other species of birds, including a wide variety of raptors and sea birds. The property provides for wildlife movement along the Estero Americano, as well as to other adjacent open grasslands. Areas of the property also provide habitat for California red-legged frog.

**Recreation and Education (Recreational):** The trail easement will create the only opportunity to offer public access to the Estero Americano within Sonoma County. The proposed trails will provide seasonal walk-in access to the Estero Americano and year-round access to views of the waterway.

The Bordessa Ranch easements will not only protect a valuable natural, agricultural and scenic resource but also will provide an opportunity to gain seasonal recreational access to the Estero Americano. Please give serious consideration to this grant proposal.

Sincerely,



Noreen Evans  
Senator, 2<sup>nd</sup> District

cc: Lisa Ames, Project Manager, California Coastal Conservancy  
William Keene, General Manager, SCAPOSD

Assembly  
California Legislature



WESLEY CHESBRO  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FIRST DISTRICT

COMMITTEES

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SELECT COMMITTEE ON DISABILITIES, CHAIR  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON WINE, CHAIR  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES AND  
AQUACULTURE, CHAIR

BUDGET

BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE #1  
JOINT LEGISLATIVE BUDGET  
ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY AND  
TOXIC MATERIALS  
GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. BOX 942849  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0001  
(916) 319-2001  
FAX (916) 319-2101

DISTRICT OFFICES

710 E. STREET, SUITE 150  
EUREKA, CA 95501  
(707) 445-7014  
FAX (707) 445-6607

50 "D" STREET, SUITE 450  
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404  
(707) 576-2526  
FAX (707) 576-2297

311 N. STATE STREET  
UKIAH, CA 95482  
(707) 463-5770  
FAX (707) 463-5773

October 25, 2011

Douglas Bosco, Chairman  
California Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 11<sup>th</sup> floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Acquisition of a Conservation Easement and Trail Easement over the Bordessa Ranch,

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to express my support of The Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District's request for up to \$650,000 from the California Coastal Conservancy to assist with the acquisition of both a conservation easement and trail easement over the Bordessa Ranch located on State Highway 1 scenic corridor (also known as Valley Ford Road), west of Valley Ford in Sonoma County.

Protection of the 495-acre Bordessa Ranch provides a unique land conservation opportunity in Sonoma County by furthering numerous local conservation goals:

**Farms and Ranches (Agricultural):** The ranch is one of last remaining parcels of this size representing the local agricultural heritage of the region. This working land is currently used for livestock grazing and the project structure anticipates continued agricultural use.

**Scenic Hillside (Scenic):** The rolling hills and open pasture lands are highly visible to travelers along Highway 1 as well as to recreational users in kayaks and canoes along the Estero Americano.

**Water, Wildlife and Natural Areas (Natural):** Natural resource habitats on the property include coastal prairie and coastal scrub. The grasslands on the property are used by short-eared owls and burrowing owls during winter months and periods of migration, from approximately November through April. In addition, the ranch is bordered by 1.3 miles of shoreline of the Estero Americano and contains two tributaries to the Estero Americano. The Estero Americano provides important habitat for steelhead and resources for an abundance of other species of birds, including a wide variety of raptors and sea birds. The property provides for wildlife movement along the Estero Americano, as well as to other adjacent open grasslands. Areas of the property also provide habitat for California red-legged frog.



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OAKLAND, CALIF.

Mr. Bosco  
Page 2  
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**Recreation and Education (Recreational):** The trail easement will create the only opportunity to offer public access to the Estero Americano within Sonoma County. The proposed trails will potentially provide seasonal walk-in access to the Estero Americano and year-round access to views of the waterway.

I strongly support the preservation efforts of the District and the Conservancy in the Coastal area of Sonoma County. The protection of the Bordessa Ranch will not only protect a valuable natural, agricultural and scenic resource but also will provide only opportunity to gain seasonal recreational access to the Estero Americano. Thank you for your serious consideration of this grant proposal.

Respectfully,



WESELY CHESBRO  
Assemblyman, 1<sup>st</sup> District

Cc: Lisa Ames, Project Manager, California Coastal Conservancy  
William Keene, General Manager, SCAPOSD

STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. BOX 942849  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0007  
(916) 319-2007  
FAX (916) 319-2107

# Assembly California Legislature



**MICHAEL ALLEN**  
ASSISTANT MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER  
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SEVENTH DISTRICT

**COMMITTEES**  
BUDGET  
BUSINESS, PROFESSIONS AND  
CONSUMER PROTECTION  
LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT  
PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT, RETIREMENT  
AND SOCIAL SECURITY

**SUBCOMMITTEES**  
BUDGET SUBCOMMITTEE #4 ON  
STATE ADMINISTRATION  
OVERSIGHT AND PERFORMANCE  
EVALUATION

**SELECT COMMITTEES**  
CHAIR: STATE HOSPITAL SAFETY

October 27, 2011

Douglas Bosco, Chairman  
California Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 11<sup>th</sup> floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Acquisition of a Conservation Easement and Trail Easement over the Bordessa Ranch

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am writing to express my support for the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District's request for up to \$650,000 from the California Coastal Conservancy to assist with the acquisition of a both a conservation easement and trail easement over the Bordessa Ranch located on State Highway 1 scenic corridor (also known as Valley Ford Road), west of Valley Ford in Sonoma County.

Protection of the 495-acre Bordessa Ranch provides a unique land conservation opportunity in Sonoma County by furthering numerous local conservation goals:

- **Farms and Ranches (Agricultural)** – The ranch is one of last remaining parcels of this size representing the local agricultural heritage of the region. This working land is currently used for livestock grazing and the project structure anticipates continued agricultural use;
- **Scenic Hillside (Scenic)** – The rolling hills and open pasture lands are highly visible to travelers along Highway 1 as well as to recreational users in kayaks and canoes along the Estero Americano;
- **Water, Wildlife and Natural Areas (Natural)** – Natural resource habitats on the property include coastal prairie and coastal scrub. The grasslands on the property are used by short-eared owls and burrowing owls during winter months and periods of migration, from approximately November through April. In addition, the ranch is bordered by 1.3 miles of shoreline of the Estero Americano and contains two tributaries to the Estero Americano. The Estero Americano provides important habitat for steelhead and resources for an abundance of other species of birds, including a wide variety of raptors and sea birds. The property provides for wildlife movement along the Estero Americano, as well as to other adjacent open grasslands. Areas of the property also provide habitat for California red-legged frog;

**DISTRICT OFFICES**

50 D STREET, SUITE 301 • SANTA ROSA, CA 95404 • (707) 546-4500 • FAX (707) 546-9031  
1040 MAIN STREET, SUITE 205 • NAPA, CA 94559 • (707) 258-8007 • FAX (707) 258-8205  
1713 SONOMA BOULEVARD • VALLEJO, CA 94590 • (707) 649-2307 • FAX (707) 649-2311

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OAKLAND, CALIF.**



- **Recreation and Education (Recreational)** – The trail easement will create the only opportunity to offer public access to the Estero Americano within Sonoma County. The proposed trails will potentially provide seasonal walk-in access to the Estero Americano and year-round access to views of the waterway.

In summation, protection of the Bordessa Ranch will not only protect a valuable natural, agricultural and scenic resource but also will provide only opportunity to gain seasonal recreational access to the Estero Americano.

Please give serious consideration to this grant proposal.

Respectfully,



MICHAEL ALLEN

Assistant Majority Floor Leader  
Assemblymember, 7<sup>th</sup> District

C: Lisa Ames, Project Manager, California Coastal Conservancy  
William Keene, General Manager, SCAPOSD

EXHIBIT D

COUNTY OF SONOMA  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

575 ADMINISTRATION DRIVE, RM. 100A  
SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95403

(707) 565-2241  
FAX (707) 565-3778



EFREN CARRILLO  
SUPERVISOR FIFTH DISTRICT

ecarrillo@sonoma-county.org

October 26, 2011

Douglas Bosco, Chairman  
California Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 11<sup>th</sup> floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Acquisition of a Conservation Easement and Trail Easement over the Bordessa Ranch,

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support of The Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District's request for up to \$650,000 from the California Coastal Conservancy to assist with the acquisition of a both a conservation easement and trail easement over the Bordessa Ranch located on State Highway 1 scenic corridor (also known as Valley Ford Road), west of Valley Ford in Sonoma County.

The 495-acre Bordessa Ranch will be a crown jewel in Sonoma County's efforts to protect and conserve rural Coastal lands. Acquisition of a conservation and trail easement over this unique property provides a multi-faceted opportunity to further our goals:

**Recreation and Education (Public Access):** The trail easement will create the only opportunity to offer public access to the **Estero Americano** within Sonoma County. The proposed trails will potentially provide seasonal walk-in access to the Estero Americano and year-round access to views of the waterway.

**Water, Wildlife and Natural Areas (Natural):** Natural resource habitats on the property include coastal prairie and coastal scrub. The grasslands on the property are used by **short-eared owls and burrowing owls** during winter months and periods of migration, from approximately November through April. In addition, the ranch is bordered by 1.3 miles of shoreline of the Estero Americano and contains two tributaries to the Estero Americano. The Estero Americano provides important habitat for **steelhead** and resources for an abundance of other species of birds, including a wide variety of raptors and sea birds. The property provides for wildlife movement along the Estero Americano, as well as to other adjacent open grasslands. Areas of the property also provide habitat for **California red-legged frog**.

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OAKLAND, CALIF.**

Exhibit 4: Project Letters

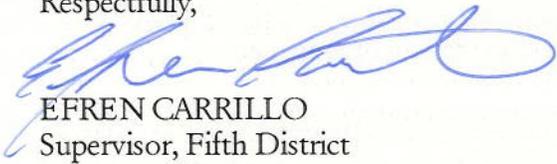
**Farms and Ranches (Agricultural):** The ranch is one of last remaining parcels of this size representing the local agricultural heritage of the region. This property is currently threatened by a subdivision of the tract into three parcels. This working land is currently used for livestock grazing and the project anticipates continued agricultural use.

**Scenic Hillside (Scenic):** The rolling hills and open pasture lands are highly visible to travelers along Highway 1 as well as to recreational users in kayaks and canoes along the Estero Americano.

I strongly support the preservation efforts of the District and the Conservancy in the Coastal area of Sonoma County. The protection of the Bordessa Ranch will not only protect a valuable natural, agricultural and scenic resource but also will provide only opportunity to gain seasonal recreational access to the Estero Americano.

Thank you for your serious consideration of this grant proposal.

Respectfully,



EFREN CARRILLO  
Supervisor, Fifth District

C: Lisa Ames, Project Manager, California Coastal Conservancy  
William Keene, General Manager, SCAPOSD



SONOMA  
COUNTY  
REGIONAL  
PARKS

CARYL HART, Ph.D.  
DIRECTOR

October 26, 2011

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

RE: Acquisition of a Conservation Easement and Trail Easement over  
the Bordessa Ranch

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am writing to express Sonoma County Regional Parks' support of the Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District's request for up to \$650,000 from the California Coastal Conservancy to assist with the acquisition of a both a conservation easement and trail easement over the Bordessa Ranch. This ranch is located on the State Highway 1 scenic corridor, west of the unincorporated community of Valley Ford in rural Sonoma County.

Protection of the 495-acre Bordessa Ranch provides a unique land conservation opportunity in Sonoma County and furthers numerous local conservation goals. The ranch is one of last remaining parcels of this size representing the agricultural heritage of the region and the project anticipates continued agricultural use. The rolling hills and open pasture lands are highly visible to travelers along Highway 1 as well as to recreational users in kayaks and canoes along the Estero Americano.

Natural resource habitats on the property include coastal prairie and coastal scrub. The property provides habitat for California red-legged frog. The grasslands are used by short-eared owls and burrowing owls. The ranch is bordered by 1.3 miles of Estero Americano shoreline and contains two of its tributaries. The Estero provides important habitat for steelhead and resources for an abundance of species of birds, including a wide variety of raptors and sea birds. The property provides for wildlife movement along the Estero, as well as to other adjacent open grasslands.

2300  
County Center Drive  
Suite 120A  
Santa Rosa  
CA 95403  
Tel: 707 565-2041  
Fax: 707 579-8247

The trail easement will create an important opportunity to offer public access to the Estero Americano within Sonoma County. The proposed trails will potentially provide seasonal walk-in access to the Estero Americano and year-round access to views of the waterway. With this funding, Regional Parks will partner with the District and prepare a plan for public recreation access crossing the Bordessa property.

Sonoma County Regional Parks strongly supports the preservation efforts of the District and the Conservancy in the coastal area of Sonoma County. The protection of the Bordessa Ranch will not only protect a valuable natural, agricultural and scenic resource but also will provide recreational access to the Estero Americano. Thank you for giving serious consideration to this grant proposal.

Sincerely,



Caryl Hart  
Director

cc: Lisa Ames, Project Manager, California Coastal Conservancy  
William Keene, General Manager, SCAPOSD