

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

STATE CAPITOL
Room 3120
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 319-2006
FAX (916) 319-2106

DISTRICT OFFICE
3501 Civic Center Drive
Suite 412
San Rafael, CA 94903
(415) 479-4920
FAX (415) 479-2123



Jared Huffman
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, 6TH DISTRICT

CHAIR, Subcommittee No.3 on Budget
Resources & Transportation

COMMITTEES
Budget
Subcommittee No.6 on Budget -
Budget Process Oversight &
Program Evaluation
Natural Resources
Water, Parks and Wildlife

<http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a06>

September 13, 2012

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

Subject: Letter of Support for Marin RCD Conserving Our Watershed: Wildlife on Working Lands Proposal

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am writing in support of the Marin RCD's grant proposal on **Conserving Our Watersheds: Wildlife on Working Lands (COW)**. This plan complements a multi-agency-community partnership to support agriculture and the environment by implementing voluntary environmental improvements on agricultural lands in the greater Tomales Bay watershed. The proposed projects will provide food and cover to support rangeland and upland riparian habitat for a variety of amphibians, mammals, fish and birds.

The Lawson and Boom Ranches will restore three project areas. The Lawson ranch, draining into Tomales Bay, will address two eroding gullies on the same tributary which will be graded to stable slopes, fenced, and planted with native willows and grasses. Two separate sites will be addressed on the Bloom Ranch: an intermittent tributary to Chileno Creek, stream crossings will be constructed, headcuts stabilized, critical areas planted and exclusionary fencing installed; and a major bank failure along mainstream Chileno Creek will be arrested and stabilized with biotechnical erosion control measures.

The authorization of Conservancy funding, in partnership with our partner agencies and organizations, will result in the completion of 40 conservation practices through the COW program, representing 56,852 feet of exclusionary fencing, 8 lined waterways, 22 grade stabilizations, 4 road repairs, numerous troughs, tanks, solar pumps, and 15 acres of re-vegetated critical habitat areas.

The work proposed in this grant will support ranchers in a steadfast effort to enhance the Tomales Bay watershed ecosystem, and I urge you to join me in support this important work. Thank you for your serious consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jared Huffman".

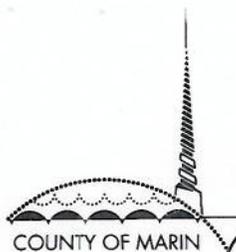
JARED HUFFMAN
Assemblymember, 6th District

RECEIVED

SEP 17 2012

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

Cc: Joel Gerwein, Project Manager, Coastal Conservancy



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

September 10, 2012

Susan L. Adams
1ST DISTRICT

Katie Rice
2ND DISTRICT

2ND VICE PRESIDENT
Kathrin Sears
3RD DISTRICT

PRESIDENT
Steve Kinsey
4TH DISTRICT

VICE PRESIDENT
Judy Arnold
5TH DISTRICT

Matthew H. Hymel
CLERK

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

RE: Support for Marin RCD Conserving Our Watershed: Wildlife on Working Lands Proposal

Dear Chairman Bosco:

As the Supervisor representing most of Marin County's agricultural lands, I am writing to support the Marin RCD's **Conserving Our Watersheds: Wildlife on Working Lands (COW)** proposal to the Coastal Conservancy. This proposal complements a multi-agency partnership to support agriculture and the environment by implementing voluntary environmental improvements on agricultural lands in the Tomales Bay watershed. The proposed projects will provide food and cover to support rangeland and upland riparian habitat for a variety of amphibians, mammals, fish and birds.

The Lawson and Bloom ranches will restore three project areas. The Lawson ranch, draining into Tomales Bay, will address two eroding gullies on the same tributary which will be graded to stable slopes, fenced, and planted with native willows and grasses. Two sites will be addressed on the Bloom Ranch: one an intermittent tributary to Chileno Creek where stream crossings will be constructed, headcuts stabilized, critical areas planted and fencing installed. In addition, a major bank failure along mainstem Chileno Creek will be stabilized with biotechnical erosion control measures.

The authorization of Conservancy funding, in partnership with our partner agencies and organizations, will result in the completion of 40 conservation practices through the COW program, representing 56,852 feet of exclusionary fencing, 8 lined waterways, 22 grade stabilizations, 4 road repairs, numerous troughs, tanks, solar pumps, and 15 acres of revegetated critical habitat areas.

I enthusiastically endorse this grant proposal, which will support ranchers in a steadfast effort to enhance the Tomales Bay watershed ecosystem, and strongly encourage the Conservancy's investment in this ongoing and highly successful program.

Sincerely,

Steve Kinsey, President
Marin County Board of Supervisors

Cc: Joel Gerwein, Project Manager, Coastal Conservancy

Marin County Civic Center
3501 Civic Center Drive
Suite 329
San Rafael, CA 94903
415 473 7331 T
415 473 3645 F
415 473 6172 TTY
www.marincounty.org/bos



Post Office Box 809
Point Reyes Station
California 94956
T 415 663-1158
F 415 663-1099
www.malt.org

September 1, 2012

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

Subject: Letter of Support for Marin Resource Conservation District's Conserving Our Watershed: Wildlife on Working Lands Proposal

Dear Chairman Bosco:

As the Executive Director of Marin Agricultural Land Trust (MALT), I am writing this letter in support of the Marin Resource Conservation District's Conserving Our Watersheds: Wildlife on Working Lands (COW) proposal to the Coastal Conservancy. This proposal complements a multi-agency-community partnership, including MALT, to support agriculture and the environment by implementing voluntary environmental improvements on agricultural lands in the greater Tomales Bay watershed. The proposed projects will provide food and cover to support rangeland and upland riparian habitat for a variety of amphibians, mammals, fish and birds on two working ranches.

The authorization of Conservancy funding for these projects will result in the completion of 40 conservation practices on Marin County farms and ranches through the Marin Resource Conservation District's COW program, representing 56,852 feet of exclusionary fencing, 8 lined waterways, 22 grade stabilizations, 4 road repairs, numerous troughs, tanks, solar pumps, and 15 acres of revegetated critical habitat areas.

The work proposed in this grant will support ranchers in a steadfast effort to enhance ecosystem services in Tomales Bay Watershed. The proposal has our full support and we thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Berner", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Robert Berner, Executive Director
Marin Agricultural Land Trust

Cc: Joel Gerwein, Project Manager, Coastal Conservancy

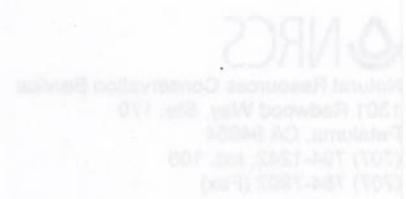
RECEIVED

SEP 04 2012
COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
1301 Redwood Way, Ste. 170
Petaluma, CA 94954
(707) 794-1242, ext. 105
(707) 794-7902 (Fax)



September 10, 2012

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

Subject: Letter of Support for Marin RCD Conserving Our Watershed: Wildlife on Working Lands Proposal

Dear Chairman Bosco:

The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service is writing in support of the Marin RCD's **Conserving Our Watersheds: Wildlife on Working Lands (COW)** proposal to the Coastal Conservancy. This proposal complements a multi-agency-community partnership to support agriculture and the environment by implementing voluntary environmental improvements on agricultural lands in the greater Tomales Bay Watershed. The proposed projects will provide food and cover to support rangeland and upland riparian habitat for a variety of amphibians, mammals, fish and birds.

The Lawson and Bloom ranches will restore three project areas. The Lawson ranch, draining into Tomales Bay, will address two eroding gullies on the same tributary which will be graded to stable slopes, fenced, and planted with native willows and grasses. Two separate sites will be addressed on the Bloom Ranch: an intermittent tributary to Chileno Creek, stream crossings will be constructed, headcuts stabilized, critical areas planted and exclusionary fencing installed. In addition, a major bank failure along mainstem Chileno Creek will be arrested and stabilized with biotechnical erosion control measures. The authorization of Conservancy funding, in partnership with our partner agencies and organizations, will result in the completion of 40 conservation practices through the COW program, representing 56,852 feet of exclusionary fencing, 8 lined waterways, 22 grade stabilizations, 4 road repairs, numerous troughs, tanks, solar pumps, and 15 acres of revegetated critical habitat areas.

The work proposed in this grant will support ranchers in a steadfast effort to enhance the Tomales Bay watershed ecosystem. The proposal has our full support and we thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Charlette Epifanio, NRCS District Conservationist, Marin-Sonoma Counties

Cc: Joel Gerwein, Project Manager, Coastal Conservancy

Helping People Help the Land
An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer



RECEIVED

SEP 13 2012
COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

PRBO Conservation Science
3820 Cypress Drive #11
Petaluma, CA 94954

tel 707.781.2555
email prbo@prbo.org
www.prbo.org



September 10, 2012

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

Subject: Letter of Support for Marin RCD Conserving Our Watershed: Wildlife on Working Lands Proposal

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am writing on behalf of PRBO Conservation Science (PRBO) to urge your support of the Marin Resource Conservation District's (RCD) proposal to the Coastal Conservancy: **Conserving Our Watersheds: Wildlife on Working Lands (COW)**. This proposal complements a multi-agency-community partnership to support agriculture and the environment by implementing voluntary environmental improvements on agricultural lands in the greater Tomales Bay watershed. We are proud to have been part of this partnership for the last twenty years. The proposed projects will provide food and cover for a variety of amphibians, mammals, fish and birds in rangeland and upland riparian habitat.

The Lawson and Boom ranches represent three major restoration sites. The Lawson Ranch, draining into Tomales Bay, addresses two eroding gullies on the same tributary, which will be graded to stable slopes, fenced, and planted with native willows and grasses. Two separate sites will be addressed on the Bloom Ranch. On an intermittent tributary to Chileno Creek, stream crossings will be constructed, headcuts stabilized, critical areas will be planted and exclusionary fencing will be installed. In addition, a major bank failure along the main stem of Chileno Creek will be arrested and stabilized with biotechnical erosion control measures.

The authorization of Conservancy funding for the COW program, in collaboration with our partner agencies and organizations, will result in the completion of 40 conservation practices, representing 56,852 feet of exclusionary fencing, 8 lined waterways, 22 grade stabilizations, 4 road repairs, numerous troughs, tanks, solar pumps, and 15 acres of re-vegetated critical habitat areas. In addition, our Students and Teachers restoring A Watershed (STRAW)

Project, which engages over 3500 students and community members annually in watershed restoration, will install many of the revegetation practices.

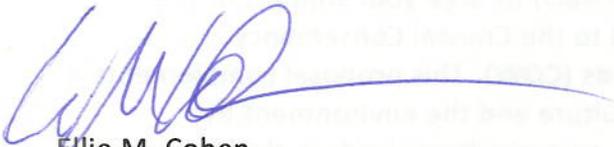
The work proposed in this grant helps ranchers enhance the Tomales Bay watershed ecosystem. In addition, we have a history of success working with the Marin RCD. Our wildlife monitoring of RCD projects has shown remarkable success, with many projects experiencing a two-fold increase in wildlife diversity and abundance in only five years.

PRBO advances conservation of birds, other wildlife and ecosystems through innovative research, restoration, outreach and extensive partnerships. Our highest priority is to reduce the impacts of habitat loss, climate change and other threats to wildlife and people, while promoting adaptation to the changes ahead.

Working with the RCD to restore watersheds and help landowners implement voluntary conservation practices on agricultural lands is a critical step towards enhancing nature's benefits, ecologically and economically.

We fully support the Marin RCD's proposal. Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any further information at 707-781-2555, ext. 318 or ecohen@prbo.org

Sincerely,



Ellie M. Cohen
Executive Director

Cc: Joel Gerwein, Project Manager, Coastal Conservancy
Melissa Pitkin, PRBO Conservation Science

*Thank you again for your
swift consideration!
Warm wishes —
Ellie*

University of California
Agriculture and Natural Resources

Cooperative Extension, Marin County

1682 Novato Blvd., Suite 150B
Novato, California 94947
(415) 473-4204 office
(415) 473-4209 fax
<http://cemarín.ucdavis.edu>



September 13, 2012

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

Subject: Letter of Support for Marin RCD Conserving Our Watershed: Wildlife on Working Lands Proposal

Dear Chairman Bosco:

The University of California Cooperative Extension is writing in support of the Marin RCD's **Conserving Our Watersheds: Wildlife on Working Lands (COW)** proposal to the Coastal Conservancy. This proposal complements a multi-agency-community partnership to support agriculture and the environment by implementing voluntary environmental improvements on agricultural lands in the greater Tomales Bay watershed. The proposed projects will provide food and cover to support rangeland and upland riparian habitat for a variety of amphibians, mammals, fish and birds.

The Lawson and Boom ranches will restore three project areas. The Lawson ranch, draining into Tomales Bay, will address two eroding gullies on the same tributary which will be graded to stable slopes, fenced, and planted with native willows and grasses. Two separate sites will be addressed on the Bloom Ranch: an intermittent tributary to Chileno Creek, stream crossings will be constructed, head cuts stabilized, critical areas planted and exclusionary fencing installed. In addition, a major bank failure along mainstem Chileno Creek will be arrested and stabilized with biotechnical erosion control measures.

The authorization of Conservancy funding, in partnership with our partner agencies and organizations, will result in the completion of 40 conservation practices through the COW program, representing 56,852 feet of exclusionary fencing, 8 lined waterways, 22 grade stabilizations, 4 road repairs, numerous troughs, tanks, solar pumps, and 15 acres of revegetated critical habitat areas.

The work proposed in this grant will support ranchers in a steadfast effort to enhance the Tomales Bay watershed ecosystem. The proposal has our full support and we thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David J. Lewis'.

David J. Lewis, Director
UCCE – Marin

cc: Joel Gerwein, Project Manager, Coastal Conservancy

EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNORMATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board**

September 17, 2012

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

Subject: Letter of Support for Marin RCD Conserving Our Watershed: Wildlife on Working Lands Proposal

Dear Chairman Bosco:

We understand that the Marin Resource Conservation District (Marin RCD) is applying for funding through their **Conserving Our Watersheds: Wildlife on Working Lands (COW)** proposal to the California Coastal Conservancy. San Francisco Bay Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) staff strongly endorse these proposed COW projects which will provide food and cover to support rangeland and upland riparian habitat for a variety of amphibians, mammals, fish and birds. Further, these proposed COW projects will have numerous added water quality benefits, including the reduction of sediment and pathogen discharges to Tomales Bay and its tributaries. This Coastal Conservancy grant would complement a multi-agency-community partnership to support agriculture and the sensitive Tomales Bay ecosystem by implementing voluntary environmental improvements on agricultural lands in the greater Tomales Bay watershed. This funding will directly supplement current Water Board grant funding efforts in the Tomales Bay watershed. We currently provide funding to the Marin RCD for COW projects that directly benefit water quality in the Tomales Bay watershed through the SWRCB's 319(h) grant funding program.

As a member of the TAC that reviews potential grant projects included in the COW program, I am very familiar with the specific projects that this funding would support on the Lawson and Bloom ranches. These Projects will achieve important habitat and water quality goals in the watershed and are technically well designed. The Lawson and Bloom ranches will restore three project areas. The Lawson ranch, draining into Tomales Bay, will address two eroding gullies on the same tributary which will be graded to stable slopes, fenced, and planted with native willows and grasses. Two separate sites will be addressed on the Bloom Ranch: 1) an intermittent tributary to Chileno Creek: stream crossings will be constructed, headcuts stabilized, critical areas planted and exclusionary fencing installed; 2) Mainstem Chileno Creek: a major bank failure will be arrested and stabilized with biotechnical erosion control measures. In both projects, the fencing will reduce cattle access to the creeks thus reducing pathogen delivery to Tomales Bay, and reducing stream bank and riparian habitat degradation.

In summary, we are very supportive of the proposed COW projects on the Bloom and Lawson ranches and believe they will lead to important habitat and water quality improvements in Tomales Bay and its tributaries. Implementation of these projects is consistent with the goals of many agencies charged with protecting aquatic resources and water quality, including the Water Board's.

JOHN MULLER, CHAIR | BRUCE H. WOLFE, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

1515 Clay St., Suite 1400, Oakland, CA 94612 | www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay



If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 510-622-2344 or lferguson@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Leslie Ferguson P.E.
Grant Program Manager, Planning Division
San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board

Cc: Joel Gerwein, Project Manager, Coastal Conservancy

RECEIVED
SEP 18 2012
COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.