

**STATE COASTAL CONSERVANCY
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**
Don Edwards SF Bay National Wildlife Refuge
Environmental Education Center – Auditorium
Alviso, CA
August 2, 2012 – 12:30 pm

MEMBERS PRESENT

Douglas Bosco (Public Member), Chairman
Peter Sadowski (Public Member)
Marisa Moret (Public Member)
Susan Hansch, (Designated Representative, Coastal Commission)

OVERSIGHT MEMBERS PRESENT

No Oversight members attended

OTHERS PRESENT

Sam Schuchat, Executive Officer
Elena Eger, Legal Counsel

1. ROLL CALL

2. APPROVAL of Minutes of Conservancy May 24, 2012 Public meeting

Moved and seconded. May minutes approved by a vote of 4-0.

3. CONSENT ITEMS

A. MIDDLE BAIR ISLAND

Resolution:

“The Conservancy hereby redirects funds authorized on September 24, 2009 for the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Phase I Implementation Project at Eden Landing Ponds E8A/9/8X in Alameda County to increase by \$200,000 (two hundred thousand dollars) the Conservancy’s May 19, 2011 authorization to Ducks Unlimited, Inc. to complete wetland restoration at Middle Bair Island. This authorization remains subject to the conditions of the Conservancy’s May 19, 2011 authorization.”

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Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed project remains consistent with the current Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
2. The proposed authorization remains consistent with the purposes and objectives of Chapter 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the Conservancy’s authority to protect, restore, and enhance natural habitats, watersheds, scenic areas, and other open-space resources of the San Francisco Bay Area.
3. Ducks Unlimited, Inc. is a nonprofit organizations existing under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, whose purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.”

B. BAHIA LAGOON

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to \$200,000 (two hundred thousand dollars) to Marin Audubon Society to complete the restoration of seasonal and tidal wetlands located at the Bahia Lagoon, Marin County, subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to disbursement of any funds under this authorization Marin Audubon Society shall submit the following for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy:
 - a. A detailed work plan for the project components, including a final budget and schedule.
 - b. The names and qualifications of any contractors to be retained to carry out the project components.
2. All project work shall be undertaken in compliance with the requirements of all permits and approvals and Marin Audubon Society shall assure implementation of the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the project (attached to the accompanying staff recommendation as Exhibit 4).”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed project is consistent with the Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines, last updated by the Conservancy on November 10, 2011.

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2. The proposed authorization is consistent with the purposes and objectives of Chapter 4.5 (Sections 31160-31165) of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code regarding the enhancement and restoration of wetlands in the San Francisco Bay Area.
3. Marin Audubon Society is a nonprofit organization existing under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and whose purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code."

C. STRAW - HAMILTON WETLAND RESTORATION PROJECT

Resolution:

"The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of an amount not to exceed two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,0000) to PRBO Conservation Science for its Students and Teachers Restoring a Watershed (STRAW) Project to implement native plant restoration at the Hamilton Wetland Restoration Project site in the City of Novato, Marin County, in cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, subject to the condition that no Conservancy funds shall be disbursed until the Executive Officer of the Conservancy has approved in writing:

1. A final work plan, including a budget and schedule.
2. The name and qualifications of any contractors that PRBO Conservation Science intends to retain to carry out the project."

Findings:

"Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed project is consistent with the current Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
2. The proposed authorization is consistent with the purposes and objectives of Chapter 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, Sections 31160-31165, regarding the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program.
3. PRBO Conservation Science is a non-profit organization existing under 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code whose purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code."

D. HARE CREEK BEACH

Resolution:

"The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) to the Mendocino Land Trust (MLT) to construct approximately .75 miles of coastal trail subject to the following conditions:

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1. Prior to the disbursement of funds for the project, MLT shall submit a work program, schedule and budget, and the names and qualifications of any contractors to be employed on the project for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy.
2. MLT shall provide documentation that permits and approvals necessary to the completion of the project has been obtained.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed project is consistent with the current Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
2. The proposed authorization is consistent with the purposes and objectives of Chapter 9 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding public access to the coast.
3. The Mendocino Land Trust is a private nonprofit organization, existing under the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Service Code and its purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.
4. The project serves greater than local needs.”

E. ALISO AND WOOD CANYON WILDERNESS PARK

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of one-hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$160,000) to the Laguna Canyon Foundation (“Foundation”) to develop and implement a signage program for the purpose of supporting, managing and enhancing public access to the Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park in partnership with the County of Orange (“County”), subject to the following conditions:

1. Prior to the disbursement of any Conservancy funds for the project, the Foundation shall submit for the review and approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy (“Executive Officer”):
 - a) A final work plan, including the names of any subcontractors to be used in the completion of the project, and a project schedule and budget.
 - b) A written agreement with the County for the installation and maintenance of signs.

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3. The Foundation shall incorporate into the signs an acknowledgement of Conservancy and Proposition 12 funding, subject to approval by the Executive Officer.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed project is consistent with the current Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
2. The proposed authorization is consistent with the purposes and objectives of Chapter 9 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code (Sections 31400-31409) with respect to public access. The proposed project will develop and implement a signage program for the trail system in the Aliso and Wood Canyons Wilderness Park, thereby supporting and enhancing public access to and within this area and to the larger connecting regional trail network that provides public access to and along the coast in southern Orange County.
3. The Laguna Canyon Foundation is a nonprofit organization, existing under the provisions of Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, whose purposes, which include the preservation, restoration or enhancement of land for habitat protection, public access and recreation, are consistent with Division 21 of the California Public Resources Code.
4. The proposed project serves a greater-than-local need.”

F. INVASIVE SPARTINA PROJECT

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the following:

1. Acceptance and disbursement of up to \$739,910 (seven hundred thirty nine thousand nine hundred and ten dollars) in Port of Oakland (Port) mitigation funds for the San Francisco Bay Invasive Spartina Project (ISP) for one year of revegetation project planning, mapping, and implementation, and for up to five years of monitoring activities at nine treatment sites in the San Francisco Estuary. The Port mitigation funds may be used to augment an existing grant to the California Wildlife Foundation (“CWF”) to undertake the revegetation and associated activities and to augment an existing contract with Olofson Environmental, Inc. for environmental services necessary to implement the revegetation projects. Any grant of funds for revegetation shall be subject to the following conditions:

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- a. Prior to undertaking work on any one or more revegetation projects and prior to disbursement of any funds for that project, the grantee shall submit for review and approval of the Executive Officer a plan detailing the site-specific work, including a list of identified mitigation measures, a work program for revegetation planning, implementation, and monitoring activities, if applicable, including a schedule and budget, and evidence that the contractor and grantee have obtained all necessary permits and approvals for the project.
- b. In carrying out any revegetation project, the grantee shall comply with all applicable mitigation and monitoring measures that are set forth in the approved site-specific plan, that are required by any permit, the amended ISP Biological Opinion or any other approval for the project, and that are identified in the “Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report, San Francisco Estuary Invasive *Spartina* Project: *Spartina* Control Program” (FEIS/R), adopted by the Conservancy on September 25, 2003.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. Disbursement of additional funds for the ISP revegetation projects, and planning and management, remains consistent with Public Resources Code Sections 31160-31165 and with the resolutions, findings and discussion accompanying the Conservancy authorizations of September 25, 2003, March 10, 2005, June 16, 2005, March 8, 2007, May 24, 2007, April 24, 2008, April 2, 2009, June 4, 2009, March 17, 2011, and September 22, 2011 as detailed in the September 22, 2011 staff recommendation, attached as Exhibit 2 to the accompanying staff recommendation.
2. The proposed authorization remains consistent with the Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines last updated by the Conservancy on November 10, 2011.
3. The California Wildlife Foundation is a nonprofit organization existing under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code, whose purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the California Public Resources Code.”

All consent items were moved and seconded. Approved by a vote of 4-0.

4. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT:

- A. Mary Small of the Coastal Conservancy gave an update on the Strategic Plan. Conservancy staff has conducted meetings with more than 100 stakeholders and partners to get input into the strategic plan and to discuss how the Conservancy can best work with our partners over the next five years. Based on these meetings, staff presented the Conservancy with draft goals and objectives for the new plan. A draft of the strategic plan will be presented to the Conservancy at its October meeting

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B. Deborah Ruddock of the Coastal Conservancy presented the August Legislative Report.

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

5. SEARS POINT WETLAND AND WATERSHED RESTORATION PROJECT

This item was removed from the agenda.

6. BREUNER MARSH

Marilyn Latta of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Brad Olsen, Director, Environmental Program with East Bay Regional Park District.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed two million one hundred seventy thousand dollars (\$2,170,000), of which nine hundred twenty thousand dollars (\$920,000) are grant funds from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, to East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) to implement the Breuner Marsh Restoration Project (the Project), subject to the following conditions:

1. The Project shall not commence and no Conservancy funds shall be disbursed for the project until the Executive Officer of the Conservancy has reviewed and approved in writing:
 - a. A project work program, budget, and schedule.
 - b. A sign plan that acknowledges the funding from the Conservancy and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
 - c. Documentation that EBRPD has obtained all permits and approvals required for the project under federal, state, and local law.
2. EBRPD shall insure compliance with and assist the Conservancy in complying with the grant terms of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
3. EBRPD shall ensure the provisions of the Mitigation and Monitoring Plan attached to the accompanying staff report as part of Exhibit 3 are implemented with the project.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

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1. The proposed project is consistent with Chapter 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding the resource goals of the San Francisco Bay Area Conservancy Program.
2. The proposed project is consistent with the Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines adopted on November 10, 2011.
3. The Conservancy has independently reviewed the environmental impact report for the “Breuner Marsh Restoration and Public Access Project” certified by EBRPD Board of Directors on July 3, 2012, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act, and finds no substantial evidence that the project, with the identified measures to avoid, reduce or mitigate the possible significant environmental effects, will have a significant effect on the environment.”

Moved and seconded. Approved by a vote of 4-0.

7. BLUE ROCK SPRINGS CREEK

Melanie Denninger of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Chris Rose, Solano Resource Conservation District.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of an amount not to exceed \$291,870 (two hundred seventy-one thousand eight hundred seventy dollars) to the Solano Resource Conservation District (Solano RCD) to restore approximately 53 acres of riparian and upland habitat along approximately 1.5 miles of Blue Rock Springs Creek in the City of Vallejo, subject to the condition that prior to the disbursement of any funds the Solano RCD shall submit the following for the review and written approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy:

1. A work program, budget and schedule.
2. The names and qualifications of any contractors that Solano RCD intends to retain to carry out the project.
3. A written agreement between Solano RCD and the owner of any property on which restoration project work will occur, permitting the work to be undertaken and the project to be monitored and maintained for a total period of at least 20 years, and allowing for access to the property for the purposes of undertaking the work and for subsequent monitoring and maintenance.”

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Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed authorization is consistent with the Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines last updated by the Conservancy on November 10, 2011.
2. The proposed authorization is consistent with the purposes and objectives of Chapter 4.5 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code (Sections 31160-31165).”

CENTRAL COAST

8. SAN CLEMENTE DAM REMOVAL PROJECT

Trish Chapman of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Paul Tilly, Trout Unlimited, Monica Hunter, Planning and Conservation League Foundation and Carmel River Watershed Conservancy.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes its Executive Officer to 1) disburse the \$4.5 million previously authorized for implementation of the San Clemente Dam Removal Project (the “Project”) on May 19, 2011 (see Exhibit 2) to California American Water (CAW) instead of the California Ocean Protection Council; 2) disburse to CAW for implementation of the Project an additional \$27.5 million; and 3) execute a grant agreement with CAW for the Project. The State Coastal Conservancy also hereby certifies Supplemental Environmental Impact Report Number 2 for the Project dated August 1, 2012 (Exhibit 3) and adopts the Coastal Conservancy Supplemental Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (MMRP) dated August 1, 2012 (Exhibit 4). This authorization is subject to the following conditions:

1. The net contribution of State of California funds to the Project shall not exceed \$25 million. Funds originating from local government, federal or private sources shall not count towards the \$25 million cap, even if such funds are contributed through a State agency.
2. Prior to the disbursement of funds, CAW shall submit for review and approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy a work program, budget, schedule and any contractors to be employed to implement the project.
3. CAW shall comply with the mitigation measures identified in 1) the MMRP adopted by DWR on March 11, 2011 (Exhibit 6, Exhibit D), and as it may be revised by DWR, and 2) the MMRP adopted by the Conservancy on August 2, 2012 (Exhibit 4).”

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Findings:

“As discussed in greater detail in the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed project remains consistent with Chapter 5.5 of Division 21 of the California Public Resources Code (Section 31220), regarding integrated marine and coastal resource enhancement.
2. The proposed project remains consistent with applicable local watershed management plans and water quality control plans.
3. The proposed project remains consistent with the current Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
4. The proposed project is of both regional and statewide significance.
5. A grant to a public agency or nonprofit organization would not be able to accomplish the project.
6. The Conservancy has independently reviewed and considered the information contained in the San Clemente Dam Seismic Safety Project July 2012 Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report that was certified by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) on July 27, 2012 (“July 2012 FSEIR”) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”), attached as Exhibit 5.
7. The Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report Number 2 (“FSEIR No. 2”) dated August 1, 2012, attached as Exhibit 3, has been completed in compliance with CEQA, has been reviewed and considered by the Conservancy and reflects the independent judgment of the Conservancy.
8. The July 2012 FSEIR identifies seven significant environmental effects of the proposed project that were not in the 2008 FEIR/EIS; of these, three effects have been avoided or reduced to less than significant through mitigation measures, three are unavoidable effects that cannot be mitigated to less than significant but have been mitigated to the extent feasible and one is an unavoidable effect for which no feasible mitigation measures exist. The Conservancy hereby incorporates into its findings the “Findings on Environmental Impacts” adopted by the Department of Water Resources on July 27, 2012 (Exhibit 6, Exhibit B).
9. The environmental benefits of the project outweigh the significant unavoidable effects and therefore, the Conservancy adopts the Statement of Overriding Considerations set forth in this staff report.”

Moved and seconded. Approved by a vote of 4-0.

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9. WHISTLESTOP LAGOON IN ELKHORN SLOUGH

Rachel Couch of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation. Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Monique Fountain, Elkhorn Slough Foundation.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes disbursement of an amount not to exceed \$404,162 (four hundred four thousand one hundred sixty-two dollars) to the Elkhorn Slough Foundation (ESF) to prepare final engineering and bid documents, reconstruct a damaged levee, and relocate and expand a dock at the Whistlestop Lagoon in Elkhorn Slough, as shown on Exhibit 1 to the accompanying staff recommendation. This authorization is subject to the following condition:

1. Prior to the disbursement of any Conservancy funds, ESF shall submit for review and approval of the Executive Officer of the Conservancy:
 - a. A work program, schedule and budget and any contractors to be employed for these tasks and evidence that ESF can provide all remaining funds needed to complete the final design documents and construction.
 - b. Evidence that all necessary permits and approvals have been obtained.
 - c. A signing plan for the project acknowledging Conservancy funding.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed project is consistent with the Conservancy Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines, last updated on November 10, 2011.
2. The proposed authorization is consistent with the purposes and objectives of Chapters 6 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding enhancement of coastal resources.
3. The Elkhorn Slough has been identified in the Certified Local Coastal Program of Monterey County as environmentally sensitive habitat area that requires public action to resolve existing resource protection problems.
4. Elkhorn Slough Foundation is a nonprofit organization existing under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, and whose purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.
5. As a responsible agency, the Conservancy independently reviewed and considered the information contained in the California Department of Fish and Game’s Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Whistlestop Levee Repair and Public

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Access Improvement Project, approved on June 4, 2012, and finds that the proposed project, as designed and mitigated, will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment.”

Moved and seconded. Approved by a vote of 4-0.

10. COMMUNITY WETLAND RESTORATION GRANT PROGRAM

Greg Gauthier of the Coastal Conservancy presented the Staff Recommendation.

Speaking in favor of the Staff Recommendation: Shawn Kelly, Program Manager, Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project, presented a Power Point presentation on the community- based restoration projects in Southern California.

Resolution:

“The State Coastal Conservancy hereby authorizes the disbursement of up to six hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$650,000) to Earth Island Institute to implement a suite of community-based resource enhancement projects along the Southern California coast, subject to the condition that, prior to the disbursement of funds for each project, Earth Island Institute shall submit for review and approval by the Executive Officer of the Conservancy:

- a. A work program, including a project plan, schedule and budget;
- b. All contractors to be employed for the project;
- c. Evidence that all necessary permits and approvals have been obtained.”

Findings:

“Based on the accompanying staff report and attached exhibits, the State Coastal Conservancy hereby finds that:

1. The proposed project is consistent with the current Project Selection Criteria and Guidelines.
2. The proposed authorization is consistent with the purposes and objectives of Chapter 6 of Division 21 of the Public Resources Code, regarding enhancement of coastal resources.
3. Earth Island Institute is a nonprofit organization existing under Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code and whose purposes are consistent with Division 21 of the Public Resources Code.”

Moved and seconded. Approved by a vote of 4-0.

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11. CONSERVANCY MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no Conservancy member comments

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

Greg Murphy, representing Supervisor Greg Cox, San Diego County Board of Supervisors distributed letters of support and discussed a proposal to the Conservancy regarding the Tijuana River Valley Regional Park. (documents attached to minutes)

13. CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 3:02 p.m.



GREG COX
SUPERVISOR, FIRST DISTRICT
San Diego County Board of Supervisors

July 30, 2012

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

Dear Mr. *Doug* Bosco:

In May I was fortunate to have the opportunity to speak in front of the California Coastal Conservancy regarding a proposal to encumber funds from the border fence settlement with the United States government for the benefit of trails and conservation efforts in the Tijuana River Valley Regional Park (TRVRP). While several members of your board had to leave the meeting on May 24th early, it is my hope this proposal will be vetted during your closed-session discussion of the federal settlement on your August 2nd agenda.

To reiterate what was previously mentioned, the County of San Diego proposes that the parties receiving settlement funds from the United States for impacts associated with the construction of the U.S./Mexico border fence reinvest those funds locally into the TRVRP. We strongly believe that settlement funds generated through local impacts ought to be reinvested into local projects. If the four parties to the settlement (County of San Diego, Coastal Conservancy, State Parks, and Wildlife Conservation Board) agree, then there would be \$7 million available, which is enough to fully complete an entire planned network of trails and related habitat restoration in the TRVRP.

When completed, the trail system will provide residents of South San Diego County access to recreational facilities and natural resources located along the Tijuana River Valley and the California coast. The project will formalize over 21 miles of trails with interpretive signage and fencing to protect natural resources. It will also close up to 70 miles of informal trails and restore and re-vegetate damaged habitat that has resulted from years of improper use. Furthermore, the trail system will provide an important link to the trail systems within the Border Field State Park, the Tijuana Estuary and the California Coastal Trail.

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Mr. Douglas Bosco
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My colleagues on the Board of Supervisors have already approved allocating 100% of San Diego County's portion of the settlement directly into the TRVRP, and plan to begin trail construction and conservation work immediately following receipt of funds. The County's \$2.5 million portion of the settlement will complete all trail work, fencing, signage, and related habitat restoration for segments A through G (shown in attachments), which accounts for 6.95 miles of the total 21.25 miles of planned trails.

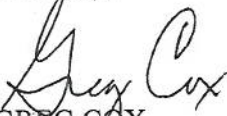
We appreciate the Conservancy's approval of \$450,000 this past May for the ¾-mile North East Trail Connection, which will connect to a 1-mile segment known as the Dairy Mart Ponds Loop Trail completed earlier this year. In August, representatives from the California River Parkways Grant Program will visit the TRVRP for a possible \$612,000 grant for the 1-mile Baseball Loop Trail. Pending approval of this grant and with the previously mentioned segments of trail already completed or funded, we have a unique opportunity to finalize this entire trail system.

The remaining construction of 11.55 miles and related habitat restoration work is estimated to cost \$4,455,000. Minus the County's portion of the settlement, which we have already allocated to the TRVRP, there is \$4.5 million left. State Parks and the Wildlife Conservation Board are seriously considering using their portion of settlement funds in the TRVRP. With your board's support and concurrence from the other two agencies, we will have a completely funded project!

Enclosed is a detailed breakdown of the trail segments that have been completed, funded, or remain to be funded. I have also attached letters from a broad range of supporters including the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board, Southwest Wetlands Interpretive Association, Environmental Health Coalition, and WILDCOAST.

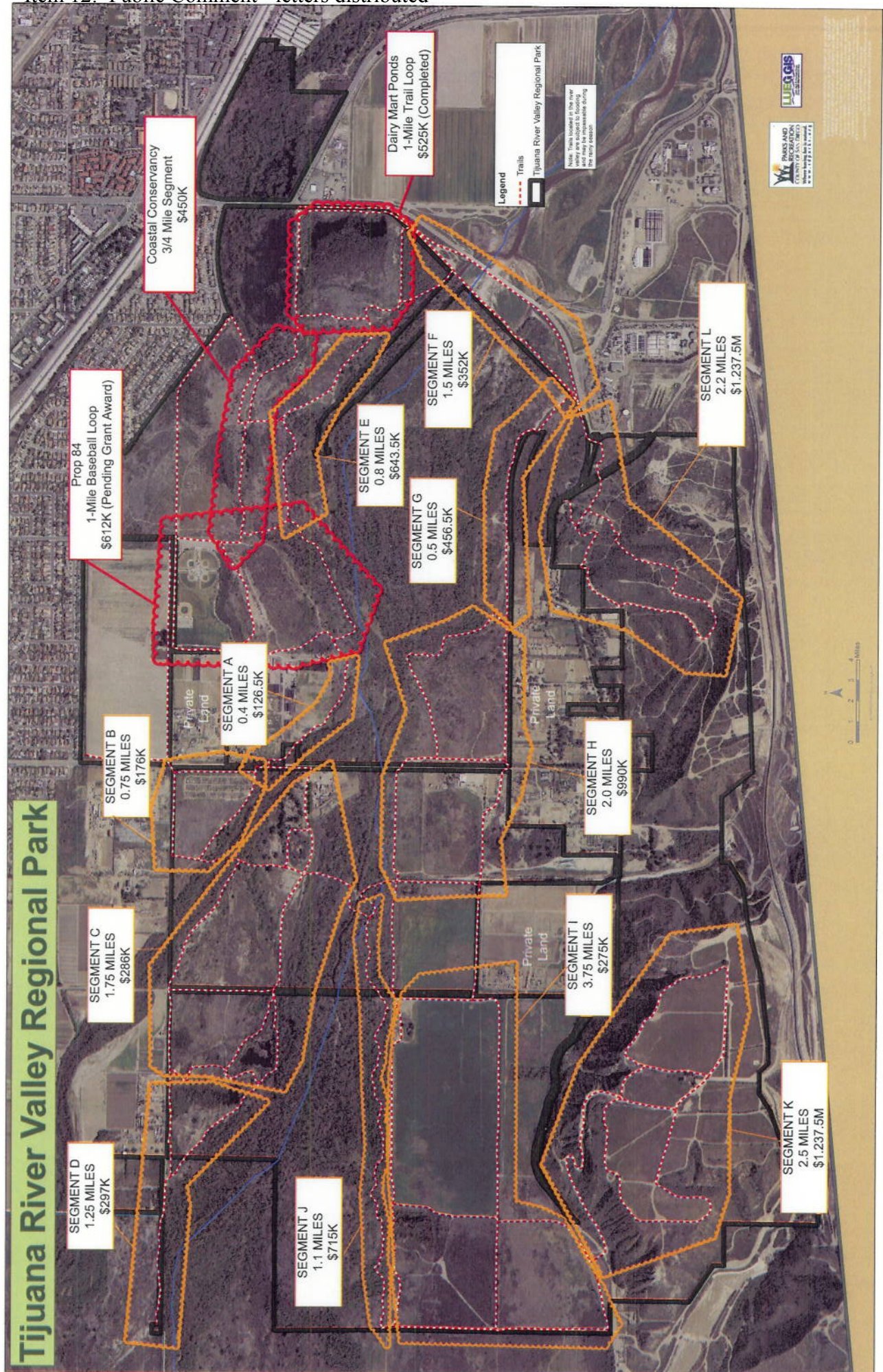
I respectfully reiterate my request to keep border fence settlement dollars in South San Diego County, and specifically request that your board allocate those funds to trail construction and habitat restoration in the Tijuana River Valley Regional Park. If I can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at (619) 531-5511.

Sincerely,


GREG COX
Vice Chairman

[enclosures]

cc: Sam Schuchat



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COMMITTEES
HOUSING AND
DEVELOPMENT
JOBS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND THE ECONOMY
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
RULES
WATER, PARKS AND WILDLIFE

August 2, 2010

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

Dear Chairman Bosco,

I recently learned that the County of San Diego, California Department of Parks and Recreation, and the California Coastal Conservancy successfully approved a \$7 million settlement with the federal government as a result of eminent domain action concerning the border fence project in the Tijuana River Valley. While the Regional Park was reduced in acreage, the settlement provides an opportunity to mitigate this loss by providing expanded opportunities for trails and environmental interpretation identified within the Tijuana River Valley Regional Park's Trails and Habitat Enhancement Project. Therefore, it is with great interest that I urge you to reinvest these settlement funds in the Tijuana River Valley Regional Park (TRVRP) to create a network of multi-use trails and related amenities in the TRVRP.

The Tijuana River Valley trail system will give residents of South San Diego County access to many recreational facilities and natural resources located along the Tijuana River Valley and the California coast. Once completed, the project will formalize 22 miles of trails with interpretive signage and fencing to protect natural resources. It will also close up to 70 miles of informal trails and restore and re-vegetate damaged habitat that has resulted from years of improper use. Furthermore, improvements will provide an important link to the trail systems within the Border Field State Park, the Tijuana Estuary and the California Coastal Trail.

For many years I have worked very closely with the state, county, local agencies and community leaders advocating for the restoration of recreational trails. Given the broad benefits of this project, I strongly support your efforts to target these funds for TRVRP and related park amenities.

If you have any questions or need to speak with me directly, please contact my office at (916) 319-2079.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ben Hueso', with a stylized flourish at the end.

BEN HUESO
California State Assemblymember, 79th District



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR



MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region

July 25, 2012

The Honorable Greg Cox
Supervisor, First District
County of San Diego
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 335
San Diego, CA 92101

In reply refer to / attn:
trvrtgdgibson07252012

Supervisor Cox:

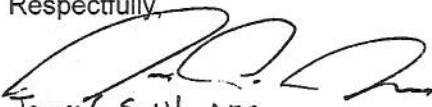
It is with great interest that I learned that the County of San Diego, the State Department of Parks and Recreation, and the California Coastal Conservancy successfully approved a \$7 million settlement with the federal government as a result of eminent domain action concerning the border fence project in the Tijuana River Valley.

It is my hope that the funds from this settlement may be reinvested in the Tijuana River Valley Regional Park (TRVRP). In particular, I support your efforts to encumber these funds to create a network of multi-use trails and related amenities in the TRVRP. Enhancing recreational use of the Tijuana River Valley is one of the important goals of the Tijuana River Valley Recovery Strategy.

When completed, the Tijuana River Valley trail system will provide residents of South San Diego County access to many recreational facilities and natural resources located along the Tijuana River Valley and the California coast. The project will formalize 22 miles of trails with interpretive signage and fencing to protect natural resources. It will also close up to 70 miles of informal trails and restore and re-vegetate damaged habitat that has resulted from years of improper use. Furthermore, the trail system will provide an important link to the trail systems within the Border Field State Park, the Tijuana Estuary and the California Coastal Trail.

I appreciate your determination in creating meaningful opportunities for recreationalists, conservationists and outdoor enthusiasts in South County. On behalf of the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board, please feel free to forward my enthusiastic support for reinvesting "Border Fence" settlement dollars into trails in the Tijuana River Valley.

Respectfully,


for James G. Smith, AEO
David Gibson
Executive Officer

DG:cw

GRANT DESTACHE, CHAIR | DAVID GIBSON, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92123-4353 | (858) 467-2952 | www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego





United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
San Diego National Wildlife Refuge Complex
1080 Gunpowder Point Drive
Chula Vista, CA 91910



May 22, 2012

The Honorable Greg Cox
Supervisor, First District
County of San Diego
1600 Pacific Hwy, Room 335
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Supervisor Cox:

The Tijuana River Valley Regional Park, together with the Tijuana Slough National Wildlife Refuge, Border Field State Park, and the Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve, protect and manage lands that provide significant biological and recreational values to the residents of and visitors to south San Diego County. The shared landscape within the Tijuana River Valley protects a diversity of wildlife habitats, including riparian woodlands that provide important habitats for a variety of migratory birds, such as the endangered least Bell's vireo. The County of San Diego, California Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Refuge also manage their lands to provide opportunities for the public to access these areas on trails and to appreciate the natural heritage of the Tijuana River Valley.

I understand that the County of San Diego, California Department of Parks and Recreation, and the California Coastal Conservancy successfully approved a \$7 million settlement with the federal government as a result of eminent domain action regarding the construction of the border fence in the Tijuana River Valley Regional Park. While the Regional Park was reduced in acreage, the settlement provides an opportunity to mitigate this loss by providing expanded opportunities for trails and environmental interpretation identified within the Tijuana River Valley Regional Park's Trails and Habitat Enhancement Project.

The Trails and Habitat Enhancement Project will complete the Tijuana River Valley trail system and provide residents of and visitors to South San Diego County access to many recreational facilities and natural resources located along the Tijuana River Valley and the California coast. The project will provide 22 miles of trails with interpretive signage and fencing to protect natural resources and will close approximately 70 miles of informal trails and restore and revegetate habitat that have been damaged from years of improper use. Significantly, the trail system will provide an important link to the trail network within the Tijuana Slough National Wildlife Refuge, Border Field State Park, Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve and the California Coastal Trail.

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Given these broad benefits to the Tijuana Slough Refuge and restoration of wildlife habitats in the Tijuana River Valley, I strongly support your efforts to target these funds in the area impacted by the construction of the border fence and to use these funds to create a network of multi-use trails and related amenities in the Tijuana River Valley Regional Park.

I appreciate your determination in creating meaningful opportunities for recreationalists, conservationists and outdoor enthusiasts in South San Diego County. Please feel free to forward my enthusiastic support for reinvesting "Border Fence" settlement dollars into trails and habitat improvements in the Tijuana River Valley.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Yuen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Andrew Yuen
Project Leader



2727 HOOVER AVE., SUITE 202 • NATIONAL CITY, CA 91950 • (619) 474-0220 • WWW.ENVIRONMENTALHEALTH.ORG

June 19, 2012

The Honorable Greg Cox
County of San Diego
1600 Pacific Hwy, Room 335
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Supervisor Cox:

Environmental Health Coalition is (EHC) is a 32-year-old nonprofit organization. EHC builds grassroots campaigns to confront the unjust consequences of toxic pollution, discriminatory land use, and unsustainable energy policies. Through leader development, organizing and advocacy, EHC improves the health of children, families, neighborhoods and the natural environment in the San Diego/Tijuana region.

We understand that the County, the State Department of Parks and Recreation, and the California Coastal Conservancy successfully approved a \$7 million settlement with the federal government as a result of eminent domain action concerning the border fence project in the Tijuana River Valley.

We are writing today to urge that the funds from this settlement be reinvested in the Tijuana River Valley Regional Park (TRVRP). In particular, we support your efforts to encumber these funds to create a network of multi-use trails and related amenities in the TRVRP.

When completed, the Tijuana River Valley trail system will provide the currently underserved residents of South San Diego County access to many recreational facilities and natural resources located along the Tijuana River Valley and the California coast. The project will formalize 22 miles of trails with interpretive signage and fencing to protect natural resources. It will also close up to 70 miles of informal trails and restore and re-vegetate damaged habitat that has resulted from years of improper use. Furthermore, the trail system will provide an important link to the trail systems within the Border Field State Park, the Tijuana Estuary and the California Coastal Trail.

Thank you for your efforts and determination in creating meaningful opportunities for our residents to enjoy this recreational asset. Please feel free to forward our enthusiastic support for reinvesting "Border Fence" settlement dollars into trails in the Tijuana River Valley.

Sincerely,

Diane Takvorian
Executive Director

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www.wildcoast.net

www.costasalvaje.c

May 23, 2012

The Honorable Greg Cox
Supervisor, First District
County of San Diego
1600 Pacific Hwy, Room 335
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Supervisor Cox:

It is with great interest that I learned that the County of San Diego, the State Department of Parks and Recreation, and the California Coastal Conservancy successfully approved a \$7 million settlement with the federal government as a result of eminent domain action concerning the border fence project in the Tijuana River Valley.

It is my hope that the funds from this settlement may be reinvested in the Tijuana River Valley Regional Park (TRVRP). In particular, I support your efforts to encumber these funds to create a network of multi-use trails and related amenities in the TRVRP.

WiLDCOAST works to conserve coastal and marine ecosystems and wildlife. Through our Border Coastal Program, WiLDCOAST has worked for over five years restoring recreational trails and open space areas in the Tijuana River Valley that have been impacted by cross-border pollution by engaging local community residents and stakeholders in its restoration.

When completed, the Tijuana River Valley trail system will provide residents of South San Diego County access to many recreational facilities and natural resources located along the Tijuana River Valley and the California coast. The project will formalize 22 miles of trails with interpretive signage and fencing to protect natural resources. It will also close up to 70 miles of informal trails and restore and re-vegetate damaged habitat that has resulted from years of improper use. Furthermore, the trail system will provide an important link to the trail systems within the Border Field State Park, the Tijuana Estuary and the California Coastal Trail.

I appreciate your determination in creating meaningful opportunities for recreationalists, conservationists and outdoor enthusiasts in South County. Please feel free to forward my enthusiastic support for reinvesting "Border Fence" settlement dollars into trails in the Tijuana River Valley.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Serge Dedina".

Serge Dedina
Executive Director
WiLDCOAST



May 18, 2012

Supervisor Greg Cox, District 1
County of San Diego
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 335
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Supervisor Cox:

It is my understanding that the County of San Diego, State Parks and the State Coastal Conservancy have reached a settlement with the Federal Government related to the Border Fence Project.

The Southwest Wetlands Interpretive Association (SWIA) has been involved in the restoration of the TJRV for over 30 years. It is our strong recommendation that all settlement funds remain in the valley and be utilized for the completion of the County of San Diego's Trails and Habitat Restoration Plan. Completion of this project will offer many unique educational and interpretive opportunities that will serve to inform the public of the importance of California wetlands.

Since 1979, SWIA has managed \$30 million of wetlands projects in the Tijuana Estuary. SWIA works in collaborative partnerships with federal, state, and local agencies and is a cooperating association with California State Parks and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Additionally, SWIA supports education programs at the Tijuana Estuary Visitor Center and serves as a public member of the Management Authority plus various committees countywide. SWIA's volunteer Board of Directors is committed to preserving wetlands and working wherever needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Michael A. McCoy", is written over the printed name.

DR. MICHAEL A. MCCOY
President

Southwest Wetlands Interpretive Association • P.O. Box 575 • Imperial Beach, CA 91933
tel. (619) 575-0550 • fax (619) 424-6420 • www.swia4earth.org