



United States Department of the Interior
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex
1 Marshlands Road
Fremont, California 94555



January 29, 2013

Douglas Bosco, Board Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco,

On behalf of the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex, I would like to express our full support for the **San Francisco Estuary Invasive *Spartina* Project** to be discussed by the Board on February 14, 2013 under Board Authorization for 2013-15 funding. The Invasive *Spartina* Project (ISP) Control Program has been highly successful to date in eradicating invasive *Spartina* in order to protect the long-term health of the native marsh ecosystem and restore the native habitats of the San Francisco Estuary. Continued funding is absolutely critical to complete the eradication of invasive *Spartina* from the estuary. Any delays could allow this aggressive invader to regain a foothold and invade our estuary.

The subject authorization would enable the Coastal Conservancy to continue its essential leadership role in planning, management, native plantings, monitoring, and permit compliance activities needed to support treatment activities through March 31, 2015 as well as to carry out treatment and eradication work by grantees through the 2014 treatment season. This work is restoring and protecting habitat function, habitat diversity, and native ecological structure over more than 25,000 acres of tidal marsh and 20,000 acres of mudflats bay-wide. Eradication of this highly invasive plant is also a critical step in ensuring the future success of multiple large-scale tidal wetland restoration projects, including Hamilton, South Bay Salt Ponds, Bair Island, and many others.

As the federal lead on the project, the Refuge Complex supports the ISP because it helps to reach our regional goals of restoring native, diverse wetland habitats bay-wide for a variety of species in San Francisco Bay, including the federally endangered Clapper rail and salt marsh harvest mouse. We greatly appreciate the leadership role that the Conservancy has played in organizing dozens of landowners, resource managers, stakeholders, scientists, non-profits, and citizens in this extraordinary effort. The project is a recognized success, and continued funding is critical at this stage in the eradication effort with only 39 net acres left to treat in the entire estuary. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anne Morkill
Refuge Complex Manager

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January 28, 2013

Douglas Bosco, Board Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Project Letter of Support San Francisco Estuary Invasive Spartina Project

Dear Chairman Bosco,

I write in support of the San Francisco Estuary Invasive Spartina Project 2/14/13 Request for Board Authorization for 2013-15 funding.

The Invasive Spartina Project (ISP) Control Program, the purpose of which is to eradicate invasive Spartina in order to protect the long-term health of the native marsh ecosystem and restore the affected habitats of the San Francisco Estuary, is a successful project to date and continued funding is critical to completing eradication of invasive Spartina from the San Francisco Estuary.

This authorization would enable the Conservancy to continue critical ongoing planning, management, revegetation, monitoring, and permit compliance activities needed to support treatment activities through March 31, 2015 and to carry out treatment and eradication work by grantees through the 2014 treatment season. This work protects habitat function, habitat diversity, and native ecological structure for over more than 25,000 acres of tidal marsh and 20,000 acres of mudflats bay-wide. It's a critical step in ensuring the future success of multiple large-scale tidal wetland restoration projects, including the South Bay Salt Ponds Restoration Project, Palo Alto Baylands Nature Preserve, Cooley Landing Restoration Project, and many others.

I support the ISP because it helps to reach my environmental goals of restoring native, diverse wetland habitats bay-wide for a variety of species in San Francisco Bay. I highly value the key leadership coordination role that the Conservancy has played: organizing dozens of landowners, resource managers, stakeholders, scientists, non-profits, and citizens in this effort. The project is a recognized success, and continued funding is critical at this stage in the eradication with only 39 net acres left to treat in the estuary.

Sincerely,

Rich Gordon
California State Assemblyman
Twenty-Fourth District

**WEST COAST GOVERNORS
ALLIANCE on OCEAN HEALTH**
CALIFORNIA OREGON WASHINGTON

Spartina Action Coordination Team

February 3, 2013

Douglas Bosco, Board Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

**Re: Project Letter of Support
San Francisco Estuary Invasive *Spartina* Project: 2/14/13 Board Authorization for 2013-15 funding**

Dear Chairman Bosco:

The West Coast Governor's Alliance on Ocean Health *Spartina* Action Coordination Team supports the San Francisco Estuary Invasive *Spartina* Project's request to the Conservancy for 2013-15 funding.

The Invasive *Spartina* Project (ISP) Control Program, the purpose of which is to eradicate invasive *Spartina* in order to protect the long-term health of the native marsh ecosystem and restore the affected habitats of the San Francisco Estuary, is a successful project to date and continued funding is critical to completing eradication of invasive *Spartina* from the San Francisco Estuary.

This authorization would enable the Conservancy to continue critical planning, management, revegetation, monitoring, and permit compliance activities needed to support treatment activities through March 31, 2015 and to carry out treatment and eradication work by grantees through the 2014 treatment season. This work protects habitat function, habitat diversity, and native ecological structure over more than 25,000 acres of tidal marsh and 20,000 acres of mudflats in San Francisco Bay; and prevents the dispersal of non-native *Spartina* seed to areas further north on the West Coast.

The West Coast Governor's Alliance on Ocean Health *Spartina* Action Coordination Team supports the ISP because it helps to reach our multi-state goals of eradicating non-native *Spartina* from the West Coast. We have been an ongoing partner in this effort, and highly value the key leadership role that the Conservancy has played: organizing dozens of landowners, resource managers, stakeholders, scientists, non-profits, and citizens in this effort. The project is a recognized success, and continued funding is critical at this stage in the eradication with only 39 net acres left to treat in the estuary.

Sincerely,



Joel Gerwein

Chair, West Coast Governor's Alliance on Ocean Health *Spartina* ACT



Cal-IPC
California Invasive Plant Council

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[Affiliations for identification only]

January 31, 2013

Douglas Bosco, Board Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco,

I am writing to strongly support the San Francisco Estuary Invasive Spartina Project's Request for Board Authorization for 2013-15 funding.

The Invasive Spartina Project (ISP) works to eradicate invasive cordgrass from San Francisco Estuary's native marsh ecosystem, protecting critical habitat for resident wildlife and migratory waterfowl. The Estuary provides critical habitat and ecosystem services, and the impacts of invasive cordgrass is important for the long-term health of the Estuary.

The ISP has been extremely effective to date. Its success stands as an example for others in the restoration field. In fact, Cal-IPC recognized the excellent work of the Coastal Conservancy and ISP with our 2012 "Wildland Stewardship Organization of the Year" award.

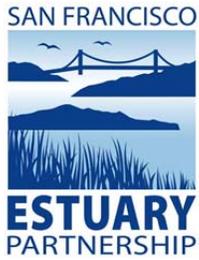
The ISP has come a long way already, with only 39 net acres left to treat. But eradication of an invasive species needs to be completed or the species will once again expand. Ongoing monitoring is essential to confirm eradication. Continued funding is critical to completing eradication of invasive Spartina in the San Francisco Estuary.

Cal-IPC works to control the spread of invasive plant species at the landscape level in regions throughout California. The ISP plays a strong role in accomplishing our regional goals in the Bay Area. We have been an ongoing partner and stakeholder in this effort, and highly value the key leadership coordination role that the Conservancy has played: organizing hundreds of landowners, resource managers, stakeholders, scientists, nonprofits, and citizens in the effort.

The California Invasive Plant Council strongly supports continued funding for the Invasive Spartina Project.

Sincerely,

Doug Johnson
Executive Director



February 4, 2013

Douglas Bosco, Board Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

Letter of Support

San Francisco Estuary Invasive Spartina Project:

2/14/13 Board Authorization for 2013-15 funding

Dear Chairman Bosco,

I am writing to affirm the support of the San Francisco Estuary Partnership for the *Estuary Invasive Spartina Project* per the February 14th Request for Board Authorization for 2013-15 funding.

The San Francisco Estuary Partnership supports the *Spartina Project* because it implements an important aspect of our Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan – the goal of eradicating invasive plants and restoring native, diverse wetland habitats bay-wide for a variety of species in San Francisco Bay. The San Francisco Estuary Partnership has been an on-going partner and stakeholder in this effort, and highly values the leadership and coordination role that the Conservancy has played: organizing dozens of landowners, resource managers, stakeholders, scientists, non-profits, and citizens to address this serious health threat to the baylands of our estuary.

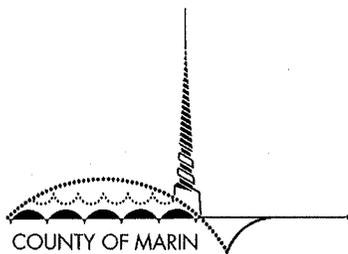
The *Invasive Spartina Project* is a recognized success, and continued funding is critically needed at this stage in the eradication effort. There are only 39 net acres left to treat in the estuary, but should those areas go untreated, the potential for this invasive species to once again expand would be a great setback to habitat restoration efforts throughout the region.

Thank you for your consideration of this pending request

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Judy A Kelly".

Judy Kelly, Director



DEPARTMENT OF

AGRICULTURE, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

Promoting and protecting agriculture, environmental quality, and ensuring equity in the marketplace.

Stacy K. Carlsen
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER
DIRECTOR OF WEIGHTS AND
MEASURES

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January 29, 2013

Douglas Bosco, Board Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

**Re: Project Letter of Support
San Francisco Estuary Invasive Spartina Project:
2/14/13 Board Authorization for 2013-15 Funding**

Dear Mr. Bosco,

The Marin County Department of Agriculture supports the San Francisco Estuary Invasive Spartina Project: 2/14/13 Request for Board Authorization for 2013-15 funding.

The Invasive *Spartina* Project (ISP) Control Program, the purpose of which is to eradicate invasive *Spartina* in order to protect the long-term health of the native marsh ecosystem and restore the affected habitats of the San Francisco Estuary, is a successful project to date and continued funding is critical to completing eradication of invasive *Spartina* from the San Francisco Estuary.

This authorization would enable the Conservancy to continue critical ongoing planning, management, revegetation, monitoring, and permit compliance activities needed to support treatment activities through March 31, 2015 and to carry out treatment and eradication work by grantees through the 2014 treatment season. This work protects habitat function, habitat diversity, and native ecological structure over more than 25,000 acres of tidal marsh and 20,000 acres of mudflats bay-wide. It's a critical step in ensuring the control of a key noxious weed, *Spartina alterniflora* and *densiflora* spp., which is listed in Marin County and of high priority to control for flood control, mosquito abatement, and habitat protection.

The Marin County Department of Agriculture supports the ISP because it helps to reach our regional goals of restoring native, diverse wetland habitats bay-wide for a variety of species in San Francisco Bay. We have been an ongoing partner and stakeholder in this effort, and highly value the key leadership coordination role that the Conservancy has played: organizing dozens of landowners, resource managers, stakeholders, scientists, non-profits, and citizens in this effort. The project is a recognized success, and continued funding is critical at this stage in the eradication with only 39 net acres left to treat in the estuary.

Sincerely,

Stefan Parnay, Deputy Agricultural Commissioner/Director
Marin County Department of Agriculture



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January 31, 2013

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Board Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Letter of Support for San Francisco Estuary Invasive Spartina Project: 2/14/13 Board Authorization for 2013-15 funding

The East Bay Regional Park District supports the San Francisco Estuary Invasive Spartina Project: 2/14/13 Request for Board Authorization for 2013-15 funding. The Invasive *Spartina* Project (ISP) Control Program, the purpose of which is to eradicate invasive *Spartina* to protect the long-term health of the native marsh ecosystem and restore the affected habitats of the San Francisco Estuary, is a successful project to date and continued funding is critical to completing eradication of invasive *Spartina* from the San Francisco Estuary.

Throughout its participation in the ISP, the East Bay Regional Park District has consistently expressed its continuing concerns over the decline of Clapper Rail in the Bay due to the loss of habitat. This authorization is seen by the District as an essential step in enabling the Conservancy to continue critical re-vegetation and monitoring activities needed to provide new and alternative Clapper Rail habitat, as well as support treatment activities through March 31, 2015 and to carry out treatment and eradication work by grantees through the 2014 treatment season. This project protects habitat function, habitat diversity, and native ecological structure over more than 25,000 acres of tidal marsh and 20,000 acres of mudflats bay-wide. It's a critical step in ensuring the future success of multiple tidal wetland restoration projects on our own lands, located at Breuner Marsh, Cogswell Marsh, Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline and other shoreline sites.

The East Bay Regional Park District greatly appreciates the key leadership and coordination role that the Conservancy has played: organizing dozens of landowners, resource managers, stakeholders, scientists, non-profits, and citizens in this effort. The project is a recognized success, and continued funding is critical at this stage in the eradication with only 39 net acres left to treat in the estuary.

Most sincerely,

Mike Anderson
Assistant General Manager, Planning/Stewardship & Development
510-544-2303

c. R. Doyle
M. Graul
P. Alexander
M. Mattingly

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February 4, 2013

Douglas Bosco, Board Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

**Re: Project Letter of Support
San Francisco Estuary Invasive *Spartina* Project: 2/14/13 Board Authorization for 2013-15 funding**

Save The Bay is pleased to support the San Francisco Estuary Invasive *Spartina* Project: 2/14/13 Request for Board Authorization for 2013-15 funding.

The Invasive *Spartina* Project (ISP) Control Program, the purpose of which is to eradicate invasive *Spartina* in order to protect the long-term health of the native marsh ecosystem and restore the affected habitats of the San Francisco Estuary, is a successful project to date and continued funding is critical to completing eradication of invasive *Spartina* from the San Francisco Estuary.

The requested Board authorization would enable the Conservancy to continue critical ongoing planning, management, revegetation, monitoring, and permit compliance activities needed to support treatment activities through March 31, 2015 and to carry out treatment and eradication work by grantees through the 2014 treatment season. This work protects habitat function, habitat diversity, and native ecological structure over more than 25,000 acres of tidal marsh and 20,000 acres of mudflats bay-wide. It's a critical step in ensuring the future success of multiple large-scale tidal wetland restoration projects, including Hamilton, South Bay Salt Ponds, Bair Island, and many others.

Save The Bay supports the work of the ISP because it helps to reach our regional goals of restoring native, diverse wetland habitats bay-wide for a variety of species in San Francisco Bay. We have been an ongoing partner and stakeholder in this effort, and highly value the key leadership coordination role that the Conservancy has played: organizing dozens of landowners, resource managers, stakeholders, scientists, non-profits, and citizens in this effort. The project is a recognized success, and continued funding is critical at this stage in the eradication effort with only 39 net acres left to treat in the estuary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David Lewis". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue horizontal line.

David Lewis, Executive Director
Save The Bay

