



KEVIN L. FAULCONER

MAYOR

April 15, 2014

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

RE: Letter of Support for the Mission Bay Wetland Restoration Feasibility Study

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing in support of the San Diego Audubon Society's (SDAS) effort to protect and restore critical wetland habitat in Mission Bay, San Diego, and recommend that the State Coastal Conservancy support SDAS's application to fund the Mission Bay Wetland Restoration Feasibility Study.

As a former chair of the Mission Bay Park Committee and councilmember for District 2 where this project is located, the restoration of wetland habitat in the northeast corner of Mission Bay will improve water quality and is a key environmental priority for my administration. When this project is funded, I am committed to assigning City of San Diego staff from relevant City departments to participate in this planning effort as appropriate. The project is consistent with the Mission Bay Park Master Plan Update and the Mission Bay Park Natural Resource Management Plan.

Wetland restoration is vital for the protection of Mission Bay's natural resources, including several threatened and endangered species and providing a buffer against rising sea levels. This project will develop approaches to protect, improve, or create 140 acres of tidal marsh habitat as well as 30 acres of transitional/upland habitat to allow for improved ecosystem connections. Enhanced public access for research, education, and recreation is another significant focus of the planning effort.

Such action is needed because development and large-scale alteration of Mission Bay has resulted in the loss of over 92% of this former estuarine complex's wetland habitat, including the destruction of habitat for the Light-footed Clapper Rail (federally listed endangered), and Belding's Savannah Sparrow (state listed) and a significant reduction of important ecosystem functions. Commitments for wetland restoration in the project area have been in place for almost 20 years, starting with the Mission Bay Master Plan (1996).



Mr. Douglas Bosco
April 15, 2014
Page 2

This project will convene cross-industry stakeholders, including members of the public, state and federal wildlife agencies, City of San Diego, University of California, San Diego Association of Governments, and many local nonprofit organizations, in seizing one of the last opportunities for large-scale wetland restoration in Southern California.

I appreciate your strong consideration in support of SDAS's application to fund the Mission Bay Restoration Feasibility Study.

Sincerely,



Kevin L. Faulconer
Mayor

cc: Chris Redfern, Executive Director, San Diego Audubon Society

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 4090
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TEL (916) 651-4039
FAX (916) 651-4939

DISTRICT OFFICE
701 B STREET, SUITE 1840
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101
TEL (619) 645-3133
FAX (619) 645-3144

WEBSITE
[HTTP://SD39.SENATE.CA.GOV](http://SD39.SENATE.CA.GOV)

California Legislature



MARTY BLOCK
SENATOR, THIRTY-NINTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
CHAIR, BUDGET & FISCAL
REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE
#1 ON EDUCATION
BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW
BUSINESS, PROFESSIONS
& ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
EDUCATION
PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT
& RETIREMENT
PUBLIC SAFETY
VETERANS AFFAIRS

April 11, 2014

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

Dear Chairman Bosco and Board Members of the State Coastal Conservancy:

I am writing in support of the San Diego Audubon Society's (SDAS) effort to protect and restore critical wetland habitat in Mission Bay, San Diego, and recommend that the State Coastal Conservancy support SDAS's application to fund the Mission Bay Wetland Restoration Feasibility Study.

Wetland restoration is vital for the protection of Mission Bay's natural resources, including several threatened and endangered species, as well as providing a buffer against rising sea levels. This project will develop approaches to protect, improve, or create 140 acres of tidal marsh habitat, as well as 30 acres of transitional/upland habitat to allow for improved ecosystem connections. Enhanced public access for research, education, and recreation will be another significant focus of the planning effort.

Such action is needed because development and large-scale alteration of Mission Bay has resulted in the loss of over 92% of this former estuarine complex's wetland habitat, including the destruction of habitat for the Light-footed Clapper Rail (federally-listed endangered) and Belding's Savannah Sparrow (state-listed) and a significant reduction of important ecosystem functions. Commitments for wetland restoration in the project area have been in place for almost 20 years, starting with the Mission Bay Master Plan (1996).

This project will convene cross-industry stakeholders, including members of the public, state and federal wildlife agencies, City of San Diego, University of California, San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), and many local non-profits, in seizing one of the last opportunities for large-scale wetland restoration in Southern California.

Sincerely,


Senator Marty Block
39th District

CC: Chris Redfern, Executive Director, San Diego Audubon Society



STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0078
(916) 319-2078
FAX (916) 319-2178
DISTRICT OFFICE
2445 FIFTH AVENUE, SUITE 401
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101
(619) 645-3090
FAX (619) 645-3094

E-MAIL
assemblymember.atkins@assembly.ca.gov



COMMITTEES
AGRICULTURE
HEALTH
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
VETERANS AFFAIRS

JOINT COMMITTEES
JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT

April 4, 2014

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

Dear Chairman Bosco and Members of the State Coastal Conservancy,

RE: Letter of Support for the Mission Bay Wetlands Restoration Feasibility Study

I write in support of the San Diego Audubon Society's (SDAS) effort to protect and restore critical wetlands habitat in Mission Bay, San Diego, and request that the State Coastal Conservancy support SDAS's application to fund the Mission Bay Wetlands Restoration Feasibility Study.

Wetlands restoration is vital for the protection of Mission Bay's natural resources, including several threatened and endangered species, as well as providing a buffer against rising sea levels. This project will develop approaches to protect, improve, or create 140 acres of tidal marsh habitat, as well as 30 acres of transitional/upland habitat to allow for improved ecosystem connections.

Enhanced public access to the area for research, education and recreation is another significant focus of the planning effort. Development and large-scale alteration of Mission Bay over the decades has resulted in the loss of over 92% of this former estuarine complex's wetlands habitat, including the destruction of habitat for the federally-listed endangered Light-footed Clapper Rail and the state-listed Belding's Savannah Sparrow, plus a significant reduction of important ecosystem functions.

Commitments for wetlands restoration in the project area have been in place for almost 20 years, starting with the Mission Bay Master Plan adopted in 1994 by the San Diego City Council and updated in 2002, and the Mission Bay Park Natural Resources Management Plan adopted in 1990.

I was a member of the San Diego City Council when the Mission Bay Master Plan was updated in 2002, and am familiar with this important area of Mission Bay.

This project will convene cross-industry stakeholders, including members of the public, state and federal wildlife agencies, City of San Diego, University of California at San Diego, San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), and many local non-profits, in seizing one of the last opportunities for large-scale wetland restoration in Southern California.

There is local support for preserving and enhancing natural resources in Mission Bay. I urge the Coastal Conservancy to support the Mission Bay Wetlands Restoration Feasibility Study.

Warmly,

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

TONI ATKINS
Speaker-Elect
78th Assembly District

TA:ds



COUNCILMEMBER LORIE ZAPF

SIXTH DISTRICT
CITY OF SAN DIEGO

April 25, 2014

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

RE: Letter of Support for the Mission Bay Wetland Restoration Feasibility Study

Dear Mr. Bosco:

As Chair of the City of San Diego's Smart Growth and Land Use Committee, Vice-Chair of the City of San Diego's Environment Committee and as a member of the San Diego River Conservancy Governing Board, I fully support the efforts of the San Diego Audubon Society to protect, restore, and conserve our most precious marshland habitats in Mission Bay through the application of grant funds for the Mission Bay Wetland Restoration Feasibility Study.

For almost 20 years, the City of San Diego has been committed to this vision through the update and implementation of the Mission Bay Park Master Plan (1996). Having represented Mission Bay in the past, I understand the project area and the need for comprehensive restoration. This area, including the Kendall-Frost Reserve, is made up of mudflats, eelgrass beds, coastal sage scrub, tidal channels, and south coastal salt marsh- all of which need to be protected. This feasibility study will begin that important process.

This area is also home to the Light-footed Clapper Rail (federally-listed endangered) and the Belding's Savannah Sparrow (state-listed endangered) and both have seen Mission Bay lose over 92% of its wetland habitat. Using the proposed feasibility study, this project will enhance over 140 acres of tidal marshlands and create 30 acres of transitional/upland habitat connecting several ecosystems.

I am confident that with this grant money the San Diego Audubon Society will work effectively with numerous stakeholders and wildlife agencies including the City of San Diego, the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), and one of our premier universities, University of California San Diego to ensure the survival of this precious wetland. I urge you to support them in this utmost important endeavor.

Sincerely,

Lorie Zapf
District 6 Council Member
City of San Diego

CC: Chris Redfern, Executive Director, San Diego Audubon Society





COUNCILMEMBER ED HARRIS

SECOND DISTRICT
CITY OF SAN DIEGO

April 29, 2014

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

Dear Chairman Bosco and Board Members of the State Coastal Conservancy,

RE: Letter of Support for the Mission Bay Wetland Restoration Feasibility Study

As the Councilmember representing Mission Bay and the surrounding communities, I am writing in support of the San Diego Audubon Society's (SDAS) effort to protect and restore critical wetland habitat in this area. I highly recommend that the State Coastal Conservancy support SDAS's application to fund the Mission Bay Wetland Restoration Feasibility Study.

Wetland restoration is vital for the protection of Mission Bay's natural resources, including several threatened and endangered species, as well as providing a buffer against rising sea levels. This project will develop approaches to protect, improve, or create 140 acres of tidal marsh habitat, as well as 30 acres of transitional/upland habitat to allow for improved ecosystem connections.

Such action is needed because development and large-scale alteration of Mission Bay has resulted in the loss of over 92% of this former estuarine complex's wetland habitat, including the destruction of habitat for the Light-footed Clapper Rail (federally-listed endangered) and Belding's Savannah Sparrow (state-listed) and a significant reduction of important ecosystem functions. Commitments for wetland restoration in the project area have been in place for almost 20 years, starting with the Mission Bay Master Plan (1996).

This project will convene cross-industry stakeholders, including members of the public, state and federal wildlife agencies, City of San Diego, University of California, San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), and many local non-profits, in seizing one of the last opportunities for large-scale wetland restoration in Southern California.

Sincerely,

Ed Harris
District 2 Councilmember





NATURAL RESERVE SYSTEM
9500 GILMAN DRIVE
LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA 92093-0208

TELEPHONE: (858) 534-3579
e-mail: llevin@ucsd.edu
<http://nrs.ucsd.edu/kendall>

April 30, 2014

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

RE: Letter of Support for the Mission Bay Wetland Restoration Feasibility Study

Dear Chairman Bosco and Board Members of the State Coastal Conservancy,
I am writing to recommend that the State Coastal Conservancy fund the San Diego Audubon Society's (SDAS) Mission Bay Wetland Restoration Feasibility Study that includes the University of California's property within the Kendall-Frost Marsh Reserve.

Wetland restoration is critical for the protection of Mission Bay's natural resources, including several threatened and endangered species, as well as providing areas for marsh migration with rising sea levels. This project will develop approaches to protect, improve, or create 140 acres of tidal marsh habitat, as well as 30 acres of transitional/upland habitat to allow for improved ecosystem connections. Enhanced public access for research, education, and recreation will be another significant focus of the planning effort.

Such action is needed because development and large-scale alteration of Mission Bay has resulted in the loss of over 92% of this former estuarine complex's wetland habitat, including the destruction of habitat for the Light-footed Clapper Rail (federally-listed endangered) and Belding's Savannah Sparrow (state-listed) and a significant reduction of important ecosystem functions. Commitments for wetland restoration in the project area have been in place for almost 20 years, starting with the city of San Diego's Mission Bay Master Plan (1996).

This project will convene cross-industry stakeholders, including members of the public, state and federal wildlife agencies, City of San Diego, University of California, San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), and many local non-profits, in seizing one of the last opportunities for large-scale wetland restoration in Southern California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa A. Levin".

Lisa A. Levin, Professor, SIO, and Faculty advisor, KF Marsh Reserve

cc: Chris Redfern, Executive Director, San Diego Audubon Society

April 28, 2014

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman

State Coastal Conservancy

1330 Broadway, 13th Floor

Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Bosco and Board Members of the State Coastal Conservancy,

RE: Letter of Support for the Mission Bay Wetland Restoration Feasibility Study

On behalf of the Friends of Mission Bay Marshes I wish to state our enthusiastic support for the WRP proposal you are heading to study the eastward expansion of the Kendall-Frost/Northern Wildlife Preserve

Our organization is a small informal one, made up of local residents interested in the K-F/NW marsh. Our main aim is to keep the marsh viable by and educating ourselves and the public about the importance of the marsh for the local ecology. In practice we do this by assisting UCSD in marsh activities and disseminating information locally. We are advocates of expanding the marsh to re-incorporate Rose Creek, to make the marsh more sustainable and in the long-term to ensure the marsh's future as sea level rises.

Your proposal fits very well into the overall WRP strategy and the City of San Diego's Mission Bay Improvements. The Campland lease expiration and the De Anza Cove expected availability makes this a unique opportunity to provide more wetlands in Mission Bay.

We will participate in your proposal and subsequent activities as best we can.

Yours sincerely,



Roy Little.

4003 Crown Point Drive, V22,

San Diego, CA 92019

Cc:Chris Redfern, Executive Director, San Diego Audubon Society.

April 24, 2014

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

Dear Chairman Bosco and Board Members of the State Coastal Conservancy,

RE: Letter of Support for the Mission Bay Wetland Restoration Feasibility Study

The Rose Creek Watershed Alliance is a group of organizations formed to help plan the future of the Rose Creek Watershed, which drains a 23,427-acre area of San Diego County into Mission Bay. We are writing in support of the San Diego Audubon Society's (SDAS) effort to protect and restore critical wetland habitat in Mission Bay, San Diego, and recommend that the State Coastal Conservancy support SDAS's application to fund the Mission Bay Wetland Restoration Feasibility Study.

The Alliance was established in 2005 to help create a plan to improve the watershed, and after almost five years of consideration and public input, the San Diego City Council accepted the Rose Creek Watershed Opportunities Assessment on October 21, 2008. The 16-member Alliance (including the Mission Bay Park Committee, Friends of Rose Creek, and the Pacific Beach Planning Group) has been working together since then to help implement its recommendations.

The Feasibility Study proposed by SDAS is not only consistent with this plan, but directly implements recommendations included in it. Specifically, the plan calls for action to "enhance the biological connection of the Rose Creek Watershed [RCW] to Mission Bay... restore and enhance native habitats within the RCW... assess potential for habitat enhancements for the light-footed Clapper Rail... [and] expand wetland and riparian habitats where feasible."

Wetland restoration is vital for the protection of Mission Bay's natural resources, including several threatened and endangered species, as well as providing a buffer against rising sea levels. This project will develop approaches to protect, improve, or create 140 acres of tidal marsh habitat, as well as 30 acres of transitional/upland habitat to allow for improved ecosystem connections. Enhanced public access for research, education, and recreation will be another significant focus of the planning effort.

Such action is needed because development and large-scale alteration of Mission Bay has resulted in the loss of over 92% of this former estuarine complex's wetland habitat, including the destruction of habitat for the Light-footed Clapper Rail (federally-listed endangered) and Belding's Savannah Sparrow (state-listed) and a significant reduction of important ecosystem functions. Commitments for wetland restoration in the project area have been in place for almost 20 years, starting with the Mission Bay Master Plan (1996).

This project will convene cross-industry stakeholders, including members of the public, state and federal wildlife agencies, City of San Diego, University of California, San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), and many local non-profits, in seizing one of the last opportunities for large-scale wetland restoration in Southern California.

Sincerely,

Ann Van Leer

Ann Van Leer
Rose Creek Watershed Alliance
ann@landconserve.com
858-442-0937

CC: Chris Redfern, Executive Director, San Diego Audubon Society