

August 18, 2014

State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Alameda County Rangeland Resilience Pilot Project

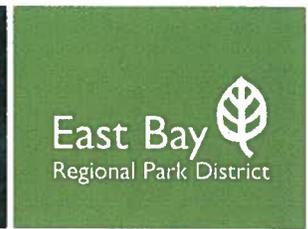
East Bay Regional Park District fully supports the Climate Ready Grant application being presented by the Alameda County Resource Conservation District (ACRCD) for the *Alameda County Rangeland Resilience Pilot Project*. Further, East Bay Regional Park District will participate in the project as a partner.

This grant will provide important financial support to an innovative program in which public landowners and agencies collaboratively enhance grazing management, improve habitat for sensitive species, and reduce wildfire risks. These actions increase ecologic and economic resilience on lands that provide agricultural, watershed, and in some cases recreational benefits. Funding for this project is important for the following reasons:

- The East Bay Regional Park District has been cooperatively working together over the last several years with San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) to develop a Grazing Unit Management Plan to develop best management practices and jointly manage lands grazed together.
- The funding would support improvements and management options beyond the GUMP including enhanced water facilities to improve animal distribution that will result in reduced impact on riparian areas; much needed water improvements to offer rangeland resiliency; the opportunity for streamlined permitting through partnership with ACRCD and URS; land stewardship; and sharing lessons learned with the larger community.
- East Bay Regional Park District will provide in-kind support for the project. Support will entail planning and participation in the full design, direction and oversight of the project, assistance with environmental permits, and recordkeeping equivalent to approximately \$55,360.
- East Bay Regional Park District will provide approximately \$54,350 in matching cash to fund construction for the project.
- East Bay Regional Park District will provide access to the GUMP project area in pursuit of the project goals.
- The project will increase the capacity to graze annual rangelands by providing water supplies necessary to utilize forage and cope with hot, dry conditions.
- The project will result in decreased livestock pressure on creeks and riparian areas, improving water quality.

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- The project will improve wetland habitat for common and listed species and will maintain healthy grassland communities while controlling the spread of noxious weeds and woody plants that contribute to wildfire fuels.
- The project will demonstrate public agencies' ability to promote agricultural resilience and adaptive management options on leased rangelands of importance to the ranching community in the Bay Area and across California.

The ACRCDD and its partners have the technical expertise and experience necessary to complete this important work.

Sincerely,

Denise Defreese

Acting Wildland Vegetation Program Manager

East Bay Regional Park District

Board of Directors

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San Francisco
Water Power Sewer

Operator of the Hetch Hetchy Regional Water System

525 Golden Gate Avenue, 10th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102
T 415.554.3265

Natural Resources and Lands Management Division

August 22, 2014

Ms. Amy Hutzel
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Alameda County Rangeland Resilience Pilot Project

Dear Ms. Hutzel,

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) supports the Climate Ready Grant application being presented by the Alameda County Resource Conservation District (ACRCD) for the *Alameda County Rangeland Resilience Pilot Project*, and will participate in the project as a partner.

This grant will provide important financial support to an innovative program in which public landowners and agencies collaboratively enhance grazing management, improve habitat for sensitive species, and reduce wildfire risks. These actions increase ecologic and economic resilience on lands that provide agricultural, ecological, and in some cases recreational benefits. Funding for this project is important for the following reasons:

- The SFPUC, in collaboration with the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD), is finalizing a revision of the Grazing Unit Management Plan (GUMP) which describes the approach to livestock grazing on approximately 6,260 acres of jointly managed contiguous lands partially owned by the SFPUC and the EBRPD in the Alameda Creek Watershed. Climate Ready Grant funds would further strengthen the collaboration and partnership between the SFPUC and EBRPD by providing both agencies the expanded capacity to implement rangeland Best Management Practices (BMPs) to achieve common goals associated with watershed management and resource protection.
- The Climate Ready Grant funds would expand water-related infrastructure options available to grazing tenants on SFPUC land to provide important water resources during drought conditions.
- The SFPUC will provide a cash match to the Climate Ready Grant of \$54,350 for associated construction costs through an existing agreement with the ACRCD. Additionally, the SFPUC will provide in-kind support of \$55,360 by providing staff hours and expertise dedicated to collaborating with EBRPD and ACRCD to complete final design, regulatory permit procurement and project implementation oversight.
- The SFPUC will provide access to the GUMP project area in pursuit of the project goals.
- The project will increase the capacity to graze annual rangelands by providing water supplies necessary to utilize forage and cope with hot, dry conditions.

Edwin M. Lee
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Ann Moller Caen
Vice President

Francesca Vietor
Commissioner

Anson Moran
Commissioner

Art Torres
Commissioner

Harlan L. Kelly, Jr.
General Manager



Exhibit 3: Project Letters

- The project will result in decreased livestock pressure on creeks and riparian areas, improving water quality.
- The project will improve wetland habitat for listed species and will maintain healthy grassland communities while controlling the spread of noxious weeds and woody plants that contribute to wildfire fuels.
- The project will demonstrate public agencies' ability to promote agricultural resilience and adaptive management options on leased rangelands of importance to the ranching community in the Bay Area and across California.

The ACRCDC and its partners have the technical expertise and experience necessary to complete this important work.

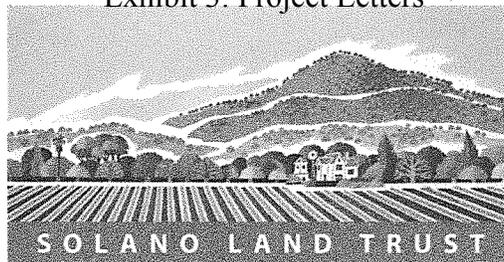
Sincerely,

 FOR

Tim Ramirez
Division Manager

Cc: Leslie Koenig, ACRCDC
Ian Howell, ACRCDC
Paul Miller, EBRPD
Denise Defreese, EBRPD
Gordon Willey, EBRPD
Carla Schultheis, SFPUC
Tim Koopmann, SFPUC

Exhibit 3: Project Letters



August 18, 2014

Pelayo Alvarez
Conservation Program Director
California Rangeland Conservation Coalition
Po Box 73470 Davis CA 95617

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Elizabeth Fry
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Steve Pressley
Gale D. Spears

Dear Pelayo:

Under the terms of the California State Coastal Conservancy's Climate Ready Grant Announcement, it is the intent of Solano Land Trust to support the research project "Native grassland restoration for resilient coastal ecosystems" proposed by The Regents of the University of California, Davis under the direction of Dr. Emilio Laca. Solano Land Trust (SLT) is pleased to support this project at our Rush Ranch facility located in Solano County, California. SLT will provide grassland areas for demonstration plots at Rush Ranch for the purpose of this study. If the proposed project is approved for funding by the California State Coastal Conservancy, Solano Land Trust pledges to make the contributions as indicated below.

SLT will contribute one staff member to coordinate monitoring and volunteers will be provided to perform the monitoring. As needed SLT will also provide a tractor, spray gear and incidental equipment for the purpose of the project. An estimate of these in-kind services is: \$ 250 for each day of equipment use estimated for two days a year for three years (\$ 1,500); one staff member o coordinate monitoring \$ 50/hour for two days a year for three years (\$ 2,400). Up to four volunteers for each monitoring at \$25/hour for two days a year for three years (\$ 1,200). (Total in-kind match \$ 5,100).

I attest that the information provided for the company is accurate and that I have the authority of Solano Land Trust to pledge the commitments noted herein. Please let me know if you require any other information. I can be reached at 707-432-0150 x 210 or Nicole@solanolandtrust.org.

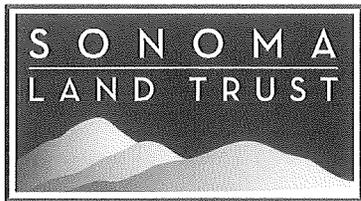
Sincerely,

Nicole Byrd

Executive Director

cc: University Project Director





822 Fifth Street
Santa Rosa, California 95404
(707) 526-6930
www.sonomalandtrust.org

August 21, 2014

Pelayo Alvarez Ph.D.
Conservation Program Director
California Rangeland Conservation Coalition
Po Box 73470
Davis, CA 95617

Dear Dr. Alvarez:

Under the terms of the California State Coastal Conservancy's Climate Ready Grant Announcement, it is the intent of the Sonoma Land Trust (SLT) to support the project "Nature grassland restoration for resilient coastal ecosystems" proposed by The California Rangeland Conservation Coalition for the period of May 1, 2015 to June 30, 2018. If the proposed project is approved for funding by the California State Coastal Conservancy, the Sonoma Land Trust pledges to support the project as indicated below.

SLT has at least two potential properties on which the study could be conducted. Both are located in the southern Sonoma County baylands region where we hold fee title and/or conservation interest on over 5,000 acres. SLT can also provide a staff member (\$60/hr) for two days per year for three years (\$2,880) to organize 4-5 citizen scientist volunteers (\$25/hr) that can assist in the monitoring and maintenance over the same period (\$1,200). SLT can also provide tools for the work.

I attest that the information provided for the company is accurate and that I have the authority of the Sonoma Land Trust to pledge the commitments noted herein. We are excited for this proposal as the proposed methods would further our goals on several if effective. Please let me know if you would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julian Meisler".

Julian Meisler
Baylands Program Manager

cc: University Project Director



August 18, 2014

Pelayo Alvarez, PhD
 Conservation Program Director
 California Rangeland Conservation Coalition
 Po Box 73470
 Davis CA 95617

Dear Dr. Alvarez:

Under the terms of the California State Coastal Conservancy’s Climate Ready Grant Announcement, it is the intent of the TomKat Ranch Educational Foundation (TKREF) to support the project “Native grassland restoration for resilient coastal ecosystems” proposed by the California Rangeland Conservation Coalition (CRCC) for the period of May 1, 2015 to June 30, 2018. If the proposed project is approved for funding by the California State Coastal Conservancy, TKREF pledges to make the contributions as indicated below.

| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Total |
|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Total Cash Contribution | \$2500 | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$2500 |
| Salaries & Benefits | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Equipment | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Travel | | | | | | |
| Supplies | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Other | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Total In-Kind Contribution | \$2800 | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$2800 |
| Salaries & Benefits | \$2000 | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$2000 |
| Equipment | \$800 | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$800 |
| Travel | | | | | | |
| Supplies | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |



| | | | | | | |
|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Other | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|

The TomKat Ranch Educational Foundation (TKREF) is pleased to support and collaborate with the “Native grassland restoration for resilient coastal ecosystems” project. CRCC and TKREF will partner for this project at TomKat Ranch located in Pescadero, San Mateo County, California.

I attest that the information provided for the company is accurate and that I have the authority of TKREF to pledge the commitments noted herein. If funded, TKREF pledges to make annual contributions within 30 days of the beginning of each budget period, unless agreed to otherwise and in writing by CRCC and third party.

Please let me know if you require any other information. I can be reached at 650-387-4803 or wendy@tomkatranch.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Wendy Millet'.

Wendy Millet
Director



August 19, 2014

To: State Coastal Conservancy

Subject: Letter of Match Commitment for Proposed **Demonstration of Climate Change Adaptive Management Strategies on Coastal Rangeland**, SCC Climate Ready Grant Program

This letter of commitment documents the cash and in-kind support the Natural Resources Conservation Service Templeton Field Office will provide to the Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District (CSLRCD) to support the proposed **Demonstration of Climate Change Adaptive Management Strategies Project**.

In-Kind

Staff:

Soil Conservationist @\$60.00/hr for 50 hours = \$3000.00

Rangeland Management Specialist @\$60.00/hr for 50 hours = \$3000.00

Total: \$6000.00

Expected Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) financial assistance to rancher for implementation of conservation practices:

| Practice | Expected Payment |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Grazing Land Mechanical Treatment | \$ 446.00 |
| Mulching (compost) | \$4020.00 |
| Streambank Stabilization | \$13,000.00 |
| Diversion | \$7400.00 |
| Wetland Creation | \$1200.00 |
| Total | \$26066.00 |

Sincerely,

Margy Lindquist
District Conservationist
Margy.lindquist@ca.usda.gov

August 19, 2014

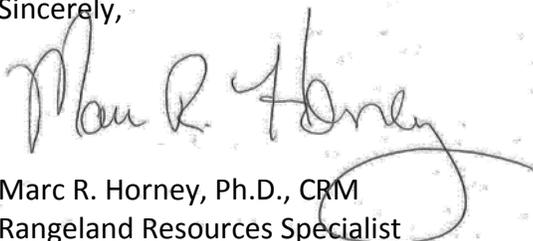
To: California Coastal Conservancy
From: Marc R. Horney, Associate Professor
Subject: Support for **Demonstration of Climate Change Adaptive Management Strategies on Coastal Rangeland**, SCC Climate Ready Grant Program

I am writing this letter to express my support for the Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District's climate ready grant proposal. I serve as co-chair of the state's Rangeland Management Advisory Committee in the Resources Agency. Motivating state agencies and private landowners to plan and prepare for climatic uncertainties has always been difficult, but our current drought has helped focus attention of both citizens and legislators on the need to anticipate change. What are needed are demonstrations of careful, tangible steps towards that uncertain future. I am pleased that the CSL RCD has found a landowner willing to allow his property to be used to explore practices which may, in some measure, help buffer his property against future floods and droughts – both of which are anticipated to increase in frequency and magnitude under current climate models for the Central Coast of California.

I have already initiated the process of establishing an MOU with the CSL RCD which should permit students and faculty to participate with them and the landowner in establishing and evaluating the effectiveness of the practices they are proposing. This is a good opportunity to train the next generation of land managers about the costs, difficulties, and benefits of practices intended to capture and retain moisture on rangeland soils.

I hope you will give this proposal serious consideration. Ranching remains an important part of many coastal communities, and could use support for developing and shaping land management practices that will be suitable for likely future conditions.

Sincerely,



Marc R. Horney, Ph.D., CRM
Rangeland Resources Specialist
Department of Animal Science, 10-101b
College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences
California Polytechnic State University
1 Grand Avenue
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407-0255
(805) 756-7543
(805) 756-5069 fax
mhorney@calpoly.edu



University of California
Agriculture and Natural Resources

San Luis Obispo County Cooperative Extension

350 N. Main Street, Suite B
Templeton, CA 93465
(805) 434-4106 office
(805) 434-4881 fax
<http://cesanluisobispo.ucdavis.edu>



August 21, 2014

To: State Coastal Conservancy

Subject: Letter of Match Commitment for Proposed **Demonstration of Climate Change Adaptive Management Strategies on Coastal Rangeland**, SCC Climate Ready Grant Program

This letter of commitment documents the cash and in-kind support that I will provide to the Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District (CSLRCD) to support the proposed **Demonstration of Climate Change Adaptive Management Strategies Project**.

This proposal has a great opportunity to help the landowners better understand the current management practices which will improve range management and meet the goals of the climate ready grant program. I will be part of the organizations that will be involved. As such I am writing this letter in support and to show my time involved for this proposal. I will be helping to refine the BMP's for this project. I will also be helping to refine the sampling procedures for the field work portion of this proposal. I will help with workshop development and dissemination of the results obtained from this project. This will take approximately \$4,000 of my time. In addition, I will have to travel an estimated 500 miles (\$250) to attend meetings, travel to the field site, and help prepare and deliver a workshop identifying best management practices. Therefore, my portion of this project's cost share will be approximately \$4,250 for time and mileage. I am looking forward to the opportunity of helping these landowners.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Royce Larsen".

Royce Larsen
Area Watershed / Natural Resource Advisor
University of California Cooperative Extension

August 19, 2014

To: State Coastal Conservancy

From: Renata Brillinger, Executive Director, California Climate and Agriculture Network

Subject: Letter of Match Commitment for Proposed **Demonstration of Climate Change Adaptive Management Strategies on Coastal Rangeland**, SCC Climate Ready Grant Program

This letter of commitment documents the in-kind support the California Climate and Agriculture Network (CalCAN) will provide to the Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District (CSLRCD) to support the proposed **Demonstration of Climate Change Adaptive Management Strategies Project**.

CalCAN is a coalition of sustainable and organic agriculture organizations advancing policy at the nexus of climate change and sustainable agriculture. Agriculture is uniquely vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and will need innovative approaches and technical assistance from organizations such as the state's Resource Conservation Districts to effectively adapt to exacerbated water scarcity, extreme and unpredictable weather and increased pest and disease pressure.

We are in support of this project that seeks to develop a model for enhancing soil organic matter and the resilience of rangeland systems in the arid west. Our role in the project will focus on the outreach and education components. We will include the project partners as presenters at our 2017 California Climate and Agriculture Summit, attended by a diverse group of farmers, ranchers, agriculture professionals, researchers, advocates and policymakers. We will also feature the project findings in our blog and newsletter and will be available as consultants on the outreach aspects of the project. Finally, we will showcase the project with legislators and government agency representatives as an example of the types of climate-friendly agricultural management practices and technical assistance that public funding should support.

Our in-kind contribution will be valued as follows:

Outreach Coordinator at \$30/hour for 20 hours = \$600.00

Executive Director at \$40/hour for 10 hours = \$400.00

TOTAL: \$1,000.00

I urge your support of this project, and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Renata Brillinger, Executive Director



August 21, 2014

Trish Chapman
Coastal Conservancy

**Re: Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County's Climate Ready grant proposal
"Implementing Agricultural Climate Change Resiliency in the Pajaro Valley."**

Dear Ms. Chapman and Climate Ready grant proposal review committee,

On behalf of Driscoll's I am writing to express strong support for the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County's (RCD SCC) Climate Ready grant proposal "Implementing Agricultural Climate Change Resiliency in the Pajaro Valley." This project will accelerate the adoption of conservation practices on farms to improve resiliency to climate change impacts in an important agricultural region on California's central coast. Specifically, the RCD SCC will provide critically needed technical assistance for growers to implement practices to reduce demand on limited groundwater supplies, minimize erosion during severe storm events, and improve soil health and resiliency to extreme and changing weather patterns. This project holds huge potential for enhancing the resiliency of our coastal communities and ecosystems to the impacts of climate change while enhancing coastal working lands. The successes achieved through this project in the Pajaro Valley will have transferable value for other coastal agricultural regions who are similarly vulnerable to impacts from climate change.

As the Water Resources Manager for Driscoll's in the Northern Region, one of my primary focuses is our water supply and water quality in the Pajaro Valley. We face many water resources challenges in the Pajaro Valley which are exacerbated during times of drought or extreme rain events, both which may become more frequent with climate change. Our team strives to support our independent growers to irrigate as efficiently as possible, maintain their soil integrity, and minimize impacts on water quality. Support for our growers from the RCD SCC through projects like this helps both Driscoll's and our growers meet our goals to maintain our agricultural industry and grow as efficiently as possible in the Pajaro Valley.

Driscoll's commits to provide in-kind match contributions to this project in the following amount:

- Personnel time valued at \$15,000 per year
- Subscription fees for real time water use data collection: \$5,000 per year
- Grower Irrigation and Nutrient Management Workshops: \$1,000 per year

This project builds upon a strong history of collaboration with the RCDSCC in our community implementing local conservation solutions. Driscoll's has a long history of partnering with the RCD SCC in order to implement conservation work in the Pajaro Valley. We look forward to partnering with the

Exhibit 3: Project Letters

RCD SCC on this exciting and timely initiative. Thank you for your consideration of this proposal and this letter of support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Emily Paddock". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Emily Paddock
Driscoll's
1750 San Juan Road
Aromas, CA 95004
(831) 254-8386



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service
820 Bay Avenue, Suite 128
Capitola, CA 95010
831-475-1967; 475-3215 (fax)

"Helping People Help the Land"

August 18, 2014

Trish Chapman
Coastal Conservancy

**Re: Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County's Climate Ready grant proposal
"Implementing Agricultural Climate Change Resiliency in the Pajaro Valley."**

Dear Ms. Chapman and Climate Ready grant proposal review committee:

On behalf of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) I am writing to express strong support for the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County's (RCD SCC) Climate Ready grant proposal "Implementing Agricultural Climate Change Resiliency in the Pajaro Valley." This project will accelerate the adoption of conservation practices on farms to improve resiliency to climate change impacts in an important agricultural region on California's central coast. Specifically, the RCD SCC will provide critically needed technical assistance for growers to implement practices to reduce demand on limited groundwater supplies, minimize erosion during severe storm events, and improve soil health and resiliency to extreme and changing weather patterns.

This project also holds huge potential for enhancing the resiliency of our coastal communities and ecosystems to the impacts of climate change while enhancing coastal working lands. The successes achieved through this project in the Pajaro Valley will have transferable value for other coastal agricultural regions that are similarly vulnerable to impacts from climate change.

I have worked with the RCD SCC on many important conservation projects over my 40 year history with NRCS, including projects that benefitted wildlife, water quality, endangered species, watersheds, soil and other related natural resources. This project builds upon a strong history of collaboration with the RCD SCC in our community implementing local conservation solutions and aligns neatly with NRCS's mission of helping people help the land. We are prepared to provide in-kind technical advice and support, educational outreach to land users, design assistance and other related staff time and resources to ensure the project is successful.

We look forward to partnering with the RCD SCC on this exciting and timely initiative. Once again I urge your consideration of this proposal. If you should need any details or further support then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rich Casale".

Rich Casale, CPESC #3
District Conservationist
richard.casale@ca.usda.gov



August 21, 2014

Trish Chapman
Coastal Conservancy

Re: Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County's Climate Ready grant proposal "Implementing Agricultural Climate Change Resiliency in the Pajaro Valley."

Dear Ms. Chapman and Climate Ready grant proposal review committee,

On behalf of Sustainable Conservation I am writing to express strong support for the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County's (RCD SCC) Climate Ready grant proposal "Implementing Agricultural Climate Change Resiliency in the Pajaro Valley." The emphasis of this project on water conservation and soil health are critical for enhancing the resiliency of coastal communities and ecosystems to the impacts of climate change while ensuring the viability of unique coastal farming regions.

Specifically, the RCD SCC will provide critically needed technical assistance for growers to implement practices to reduce demand on limited groundwater supplies, minimize erosion during severe storm events, and improve soil health and resiliency to extreme and changing weather patterns. The successes achieved through this project in the Pajaro Valley will have transferable value for other coastal agricultural regions that are similarly vulnerable to impacts from climate change.

This project aligns well with Sustainable Conservation's goal to replenish 5,000 acre-feet of groundwater per year in the Pajaro Valley through agricultural water conservation. We view this valley as an ideal place to demonstrate the effectiveness of these practices using new monitoring technologies from the nearby Silicon Valley and building on community interest in achieving water management solutions that don't rely on imports from outside of the region.

Sustainable Conservation will be working closely with the RCD SCC to build partnerships with the agricultural industry to develop and test conservation performance measures, assess the economic value of growers' conservation investments, and seek incentives to reward these changes in agricultural land management. We have budgeted approximately \$250,000 per year for the next three years for our work in the Pajaro and Salinas Valleys. These funds are from private foundations and individual donors. In addition, we have applied for several government grants from the USDA-NRCS and California Department of Food and Agriculture in partnership with the RCD SCC.

Sustainable Conservation has been working with the RCD SCC on water conservation for two years but we have a long history of working together on permit coordination for habitat restoration dating back to 2002. The RCD SCC has a strong history of



Sustainable Conservation

collaboration with the community implementing local conservation solutions and they are highly respected. We look forward to partnering with the RCD SCC on this exciting and timely initiative.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal and this letter of support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Daniel C. Mountjoy".

Daniel Mountjoy, PhD
Director of Restoration on Private Lands
831-840-2328

CITY OF WATSONVILLE

"Opportunity through diversity; unity through cooperation"



August 21, 2014

Attn: Trish Chapman
Coastal Conservancy

**Re: Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County's Climate Ready grant proposal
"Implementing Agricultural Climate Change Resiliency in the Pajaro Valley."**

Dear Ms. Chapman and Climate Ready grant proposal review committee,
On behalf of City of Watsonville I am writing to express strong support for the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County's (RCD SCC) Climate Ready grant proposal "Implementing Agricultural Climate Change Resiliency in the Pajaro Valley." This project will accelerate the adoption of conservation practices on farms to improve resiliency to climate change impacts in an important agricultural region on California's central coast. Specifically, the RCD SCC will provide critically needed technical assistance for growers to implement practices to reduce demand on limited groundwater supplies, minimize erosion during severe storm events, and improve soil health and resiliency to extreme and changing weather patterns. This project holds huge potential for enhancing the resiliency of our coastal communities and ecosystems to the impacts of climate change while enhancing coastal working lands. The successes achieved through this project in the Pajaro Valley will have transferable value for other coastal agricultural regions that are similarly vulnerable to impacts from climate change.

The City of Watsonville has been actively working in the Pajaro River Watershed addressing Regional Water Quality Control Board sediment TMDL's and critical water quality issues related to toxic algal blooms in the Pinto Lake subwatershed. The RCD SCC grant proposal would contribute to the City's goal of reducing nutrient and sediment loadings in the watershed.

The RCD SCC's current proposal will support the City of Watsonville's 2014 Clean Water Act 319(h) implementation grant to treat internal and external nutrient loadings in Pinto Lake. The RCD SCC has been identified as a partner in providing public outreach and environmental coordination throughout the CWA project. The City's in-kind contributions include: integration of project activities with other efforts to reduce nutrient loading to Pinto Lake and dissemination of project results to an established network in the watershed.

The City of Watsonville has a successful history of partnership with RCD SCC. Beneficial activities include outreach and coordination assistance on the 2010 Clean Water Act 319(h) Planning and Assessment Grant to determine the cause of the harmful algal blooms at Pinto Lake. This project builds upon a strong history of collaboration with the RCD SCC in our community implementing local conservation solutions. We look forward to partnering with the RCD SCC on this exciting and timely initiative. Thank you for your consideration of this proposal and this letter of support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. Palmisano".

Steve Palmisano, Director of Public Works and Utilities
City of Watsonville



PAJARO VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

36 BRENNAN STREET • WATSONVILLE, CA 95076

TEL: (831) 722-9292 FAX: (831) 722-3139

email: info@pvwater.org • <http://www.pvwater.org>

August 21, 2014

Trish Chapman
Coastal Conservancy

**Re: Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County's Climate Ready grant proposal
"Implementing Agricultural Climate Change Resiliency in the Pajaro Valley."**

Dear Ms. Chapman and Climate Ready grant proposal review committee,

I am writing today on behalf of the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PV Water) to express our strong support for the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County's (RCD SCC) Climate Ready grant proposal "Implementing Agricultural Climate Change Resiliency in the Pajaro Valley." This project will help to accelerate the adoption of much needed on-farm conservation practices to improve resiliency to climate change impacts in one of the most productive agricultural regions in the country. Last year, the Pajaro Valley produced \$900 million worth of mostly fruit and vegetable crops on 28,000 irrigated acres (resulting in an average of \$32,000 per acre). While agricultural is the economic driver for the Pajaro Valley, growing these high value crops has taken about 50,000 acre-feet of water per year. Over 90% of the water used for agricultural and municipal purposes is groundwater. Long term groundwater overdraft has led to seawater intrusion; both conditions are serious threats to the valley's water resources.

Through this grant, RCD SCC will provide growers critically needed technical assistance to implement practices that reduce demand on over-taxed water resources, improve soil health, minimize erosion during severe storm events, and provide resiliency to extreme and changing weather patterns. This project holds a great deal of potential for enhancing the ability of our coastal communities and ecosystems endure to the impacts of climate change while enhancing coastal working lands. The successes achieved through this project in the Pajaro Valley will have transferable value for other coastal agricultural regions who are similarly vulnerable to impacts from climate change.

PV Water is a state-chartered water management district formed in 1984 to efficiently and economically manage existing and supplemental water supplies in order to prevent further increase in, and to accomplish continuing reduction of, long-term overdraft. To this end, and through community based stakeholder committees, we have developed a Basin Management Plan (i.e. groundwater management plan) that provides solutions to the problems of

Exhibit 3: Project Letters

groundwater overdraft and seawater intrusion. Conservation related efforts make up 40 % or 5,000 acre-feet of the goal of reducing groundwater production by 12,000 acre-feet per year. The remaining 7,000 acre-feet come from our existing water recycling facility, a managed aquifer recharge and recovery facility, future water supply facilities and a 20 mile long supplemental water conveyance system with the ability to serve 7,150 acres of farmland in the area most impacted and / or threatened by seawater intrusion.

PV Water regularly collaborates with the RCD SCC. Some recent, and highly successful examples include working together to complete separate hydrologic studies of the Watsonville Slough System and the College Lake Watershed. We've also teamed up to work on irrigation efficiency projects, including mobile labs. This project builds upon a strong history of collaboration with the RCD SCC in our community implementing local conservation solutions. We look forward to partnering with the RCD SCC on this exciting and timely initiative. Thank you for your consideration of this proposal and letter of support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian Lockwood". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brian" being more prominent than the last name "Lockwood".

Brian Lockwood, MS, PG, CHg
Senior Hydrologist



South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project

Restoring the Wild Heart of the South Bay

20 August 2014

Kelly Malinowski
State Coastal Conservancy, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Ms. Malinowski,

I am writing to express my strong support for Save The Bay's Climate Ready grant application for tidal marsh transition zone habitat restoration at the Eden Landing Ecological Reserve.

The South San Francisco Bay Salt Pond Restoration (SBSPR) Project is the largest wetland restoration project on the west coast of the United States. We are working to restore 15,100 acres of former industrial salt ponds to tidal salt marsh and a mosaic of other habitats for the benefit of wildlife, flood protection, and public access.

Save The Bay's transition zone restoration provides a critical habitat component to portions of the SBSPR Project. Restored tidal marsh in San Francisco Bay is vital to provide habitat connectivity for migratory birds and breeding sites for sensitive shorebirds and endangered species such as the California Ridgway's rail and the salt marsh harvest mouse. Retired salt ponds slated to be restored to functioning tidal marsh habitat often include an extensive remnant levee system with diminished native vegetation cover or freshly graded levees devoid of vegetation, which create artificial barriers within the transition zone. Save The Bay can provide this larger restoration project with the transition zone restoration along these levees; activities which are consistent with, but not being implemented by, the current SBSPR program.

Restoration of transition zone habitat at the Eden Landing Ecological Reserve is integral for the overall success of the SBSPR Project's restoration activities, and Save The Bay has a proven track record of successful partnership with our project. We welcome any opportunity to be able to expand their efforts into new projects within our overall footprint.

Therefore, I strongly support Save The Bay's proposal, and look forward to a continued strong partnership with them. Thank you for your consideration of funding Save The Bay's proposed project at the Eden Landing Ecological Reserve, and please feel free to contact me if you have further questions at jbougeois@scc.ca.gov or 408.314.8859.

Sincerely,

John Bourgeois
Executive Project Manager
South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project

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Assembly
California Legislature



NANCY SKINNER
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FIFTEENTH DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
CHAIR, BUDGET
BUSINESS, PROFESSIONS AND
CONSUMER PROTECTION
NATURAL RESOURCES
PUBLIC SAFETY
UTILITIES AND COMMERCE

August 8, 2014

Ms. Kelly Malinowski
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Ms. Malinowski:

I am writing in strong support a grant proposals submitted by The Watershed Project to the Climate Ready program.

Both of these proposals help bolster community resilience to climate change. *Booker T. Bioswales: Beads on a Green Necklace* uses green infrastructure to improve water quality and sequester carbon in a low-income, disadvantaged community in the flatlands of Richmond. This project furthers the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan for the San Francisco Estuary. This project also has important educational components that help people better understand their connection to their local watershed, including San Francisco Bay.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nancy Skinner".

Nancy Skinner
Assemblymember, 15th District