

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0502

February 5, 2015

The Honorable Douglas Bosco
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612
c/o Michael Bowen, Project Manager

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing in support of the Northcoast Regional Land Trust's proposal to the State Coastal Conservancy for its Freshwater Farms Reserve Nature Trail and Community Engagement Improvements project. This project builds on earlier investments by the Coastal Conservancy and other community partners to restore saltmarsh and coho salmon habitat around Humboldt Bay while maintaining sustainable agriculture at Freshwater Farms. This latest project focuses on providing public access to a place where families, students, and nature enthusiasts can learn about the compatibility of agriculture and restored coastal habitat.

The Freshwater Farms Nature Trail, which has already been designed and permitted with support from the Coastal Conservancy, will engage visitors with interpretive signs, while providing access to Humboldt Bay's land and water. A canoe and kayak launch will be part of the trail, inviting visitors to explore coastal environments beyond the property. The project includes rehabilitation of the historic Graham-Long Dairy Barn which will be used as a wet-weather classroom for educational programs. The former native plant nursery at Freshwater Farms will also be rehabilitated to serve agricultural, restoration, and public education needs.

This project will transform Freshwater Farms Reserve into an accessible resource for the community. Thank you for your full and fair consideration.

Sincerely,



JARED HUFFMAN
Member of Congress

Exhibit 2: Project Letters
Assembly
California Legislature



JIM WOOD
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SECOND DISTRICT

February 3, 2015

The Honorable Douglas Bosco
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612
c/o Michael Bowen, Project Manager

RE: Support for Freshwater Farms Nature Trail and Community Engagement Improvements

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing in support of the grant proposal by the Northcoast Regional Land Trust to the State Coastal Conservancy for accomplishing the Freshwater Farms Reserve nature trail and community engagement improvements. The Northcoast Regional Land Trust is requesting \$85,000 from the Coastal Conservancy and will match 100% of the funds.

Families, students, schoolchildren, neighbors of the property, and visitors from the North Coast and beyond will benefit from this project.. There will be enhanced public access to the Freshwater Farms Reserve property, where visitors can learn about and fully experience the successful story of agriculture, recreation, and coastal habitat restoration for coho salmon.

More than 1,500 students, hosted by Northcoast Regional Land Trust have taken part in curriculum-based environmental education programs at the Freshwater Farms Reserve since 2009. Additionally, more than 1,000 members of the general public have attended docent-led walks and kayak trips there. The Freshwater Farms Reserve is an asset to the Second Assembly District.

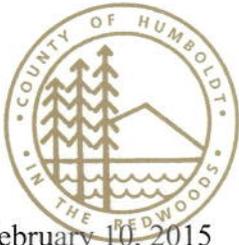
Thank you for your consideration of this worthwhile project. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Wood". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

JIM WOOD
Assemblymember, 2nd District

Exhibit 2: Project Letters



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
825 5TH STREET
EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 95501-1153 PHONE (707) 476-2390 FAX (707) 445-7299

February 10, 2015

The Honorable Douglas Bosco
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612
c/o Michael Bowen, Project Manager

Re: Support for Freshwater Farms Nature Trail and Community Engagement Improvements

Dear Mr. Bosco:

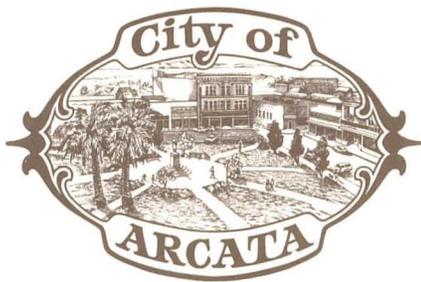
On behalf of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors, I am writing in support of the Northcoast Regional Land Trust's proposal to the State Coastal Conservancy for accomplishing the well-planned Freshwater Farms Reserve Nature Trail and Community Engagement Improvements. This project builds on a series of farsighted strategic investments by the Coastal Conservancy and other community partners to restore saltmarsh and Coho salmon habitat while demonstrating the compatibility of these habitat enhancements with ongoing sustainable agriculture at the Freshwater Farms Reserve property. This phase of the Freshwater Farms Reserve project is particularly exciting because it focuses on providing safe and meaningful public access to a place where our families, our students, and all of California's diverse communities can learn about the compatibility of agriculture and restored coastal habitat, and where we all can be a part of this Coastal Act success story.

The Freshwater Farms Nature Trail, which has already been planned and permitted thanks to support from the Coastal Conservancy, will wind across the property and engage visitors with a series of interpretive signs, while providing much-needed recreational access to Humboldt Bay's land and water. A canoe and kayak launch will be part of the trail, inviting visitors to explore coastal environments far beyond a single property. In addition to the trail, this project includes rehabilitation of the historic Graham-Long Dairy Barn, a symbol of our shared agricultural heritage that will be revived to meet multiple community needs, including use as a wet-weather classroom for education programs on the property. And finally, a former native plant nursery at Freshwater Farms will be rehabilitated to serve agricultural, restoration, and public education needs.

With broad community support and strategic, visionary investment by the Coastal Conservancy, Freshwater Farms Reserve can serve as an ambassador property for the Coastal Act, a living laboratory of compatible uses, and a place where we can bring our families to learn, experience, and explore. We deeply appreciate your past support of this project and your thoughtful consideration of this proposal from the Northcoast Regional Land Trust to transform Freshwater Farms Reserve into an accessible resource for the community.

Sincerely,

Estelle Fennell, Chair
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors



736 F Street
Arcata, CA 95521

Exhibit 2: Project Letters

City Manager (707) 822-5953	Environmental Services 822-8184	Police 822-2428	Recreation 822-7091
Community Development 822-5955	Finance 822-5951	Public Works 822-5957	Transportation 822-3775

The Honorable Douglas Bosco
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612
c/o Michael Bowen, Project Manager

February 10, 2015

Re: Support for Freshwater Farms Nature Trail and Community Engagement Improvements

Dear Chairman Bosco,

I am writing to express support for the Northcoast Regional Land Trust's proposal to the State Coastal Conservancy for accomplishing the well-planned Freshwater Farms Reserve Nature Trail and Community Engagement Improvements. This project is particularly exciting because it focuses on providing safe and meaningful public access to a place where our families, our students, and all of California's diverse communities can learn about the compatibility of agriculture and restored coastal habitat, and where we all can be a part of this Coastal Act success story.

The Freshwater Farms Nature Trail, will wind across the property and engage visitors with a series of interpretive signs, while providing much-needed recreational access to Humboldt Bay's land and water. A canoe and kayak launch will be part of the trail, inviting visitors to explore coastal environments far beyond a single property. In addition to the trail, this project includes rehabilitation of the historic Graham-Long Dairy Barn, a symbol of our shared agricultural heritage that will be revived to meet multiple community needs, including use as a wet-weather classroom for education programs on the property. And finally, a former native plant nursery at Freshwater Farms will be rehabilitated to serve agricultural, restoration, and public education needs.

As part of the City's Vision Statement in our General Plan, "Our priorities are natural...we pride ourselves on our continuing efforts to preserve the unique, natural beauty within and around the City." The City recognizes the great quality of life benefits that will be realized from this project; Freshwater Farms Reserve Nature Trail will be a place where we can bring our families to learn, experience, and explore.

The City offers its gratitude and support to the Northcoast Regional Land Trust and the State Coastal Conservancy for the important work of significantly enhancing the current ecological, educational, agricultural, and recreational values of the Freshwater Farm Reserve. If you have questions, please contact me at (707) 822-5953.

Sincerely,

Karen Diemer, City Manager
City of Arcata

CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS**Region One – Fortuna Center**

1500 Alamar Way, Fortuna, CA 95540
(707) 725-5106 FAX (855) 298-2034
www.ccc.ca.gov



January 29, 2015

The Honorable Douglas Bosco
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612
c/o Michael Bowen, Project Manager

Re: Support for Freshwater Farms Nature Trail and Community Engagement Improvements

Dear Mr. Bosco,

I am writing to convey my enthusiastic support for the Northcoast Regional Land Trust's proposal to the State Coastal Conservancy for accomplishing the well-planned Freshwater Farms Reserve Nature Trail and Community Engagement Improvements. This project builds on a series of farsighted strategic investments by the Coastal Conservancy and other community partners to restore saltmarsh and coho salmon habitat while demonstrating the compatibility of these habitat enhancements with ongoing sustainable agriculture at the Freshwater Farms Reserve property. This phase of the Freshwater Farms Reserve project is particularly exciting because it focuses on providing safe and meaningful public access to a place where our families, our students, and all of California's diverse communities can learn about the compatibility of agriculture and restored coastal habitat, and where we all can be a part of this Coastal Act success story.

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Mr. Douglas Bosco
January 29, 2015
Page 2 of 2

With broad community support and strategic, visionary investment by the Coastal Conservancy, Freshwater Farms Reserve can serve as an ambassador property for the Coastal Act, a living laboratory of compatible uses, and a place where we can bring our families to learn, experience, and explore. I deeply appreciate your past support of this project and your thoughtful consideration of this proposal from the Northcoast Regional Land Trust to transform Freshwater Farms Reserve into an accessible resource for the community.

Sincerely,



Raquel Ortega,
Conservation Supervisor
California Conservation Corps, Fortuna Center



CALIFORNIA
NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

North Coast Chapter
P.O. Box 1067
Arcata, CA 95521

The Honorable Douglas Bosco
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612

c/o Michael Bowen, Project Manager

February 16, 2015

Re: Support for Freshwater Farms Nature Trail and Community Engagement
Improvements

Dear Mr. Bosco:

The North Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society supports the Freshwater Farms Reserve Nature Trail and Community Engagement Improvements proposal by the Northcoast Regional Land Trust.

The California Native Plant Society is a statewide organization of about 10,000 professionals and amateurs united in their interest in native plants. The North Coast Chapter is centered in Eureka and Arcata. We lead many field trips in this area, as well as offer evening speakers and native plant sales, along with horticultural advice. All of our activities are open to the public; all are planned and run by volunteers.

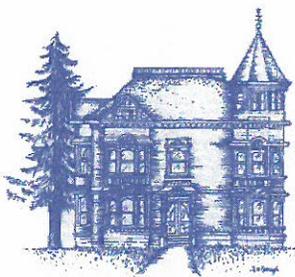
Education and horticulture are important parts of the mission of The California Native Plant Society. We believe familiarity breeds appreciation. Getting people out into the habitats we want to preserve is the best way to get them to care about them. Helping people grow our native species outside their back doors is a great way to get them to know these species intimately and care about them in their wild homes.

The nature trail and canoe launch at Freshwater Farms will offer good public access to get to know bay-side habitats and species. The nursery awaiting rehabilitation is the original center of native plant horticulture in this wide area. It is where many of us bought our first native plants and caught the enthusiasm from Rick Storre. It is in a good location and has some good infrastructure. We are excited that it could be a native plant nursery again.

Sincerely,

Carol Ralph
President

Protecting California's native flora since 1965



Simpson-Vance House 1892

Redwood Community Action Agency

ADMINISTRATION
Information & Referral
(707) 269-2001

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS
(707) 269-2052
AFACTR AMERICORPS
(707) 269-2020
TOOTH PROGRAM
(707) 269-2051

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
(707) 444-3831
Weatherization, Ext. 204
Lead Based Paint Hazard
Reduction & Inspection, Ext. 204
Home Energy Assistance Program
(HEAP) Info (707) 444-3834

FAMILY SERVICES
Multiple Assistance Center
Family Shelter Program
(707) 269-9590 Ext. 201

NATURAL RESOURCES SERVICES
(707) 269-2066
Landscape Contractor
License # 518874

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
Affordable Rentals (707) 269-2014

YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU
24-Hour Youth & Family Hotline
(707) 444-CARE
YSB Administration
Launch Pad TLP
Our House Emergency Shelter
(707) 443-8322
Raven Street Outreach Program
(707) 443-7099

ZURETTI GOOSBY
Board President

VAL MARTINEZ
Executive Director

January 28, 2015

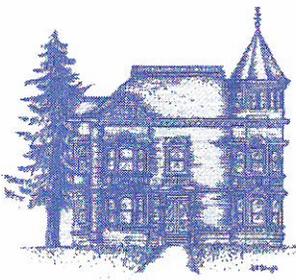
The Honorable Chairman Douglas Bosco
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300
Oakland, CA 94612
c/o Michael Bowen, Project Manager

Re: Support for Freshwater Farms Nature Trail and
Community Engagement Improvements

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am writing to convey my enthusiastic support for the Northcoast Regional Land Trust's proposal to the State Coastal Conservancy for accomplishing the well-planned Freshwater Farms Reserve Nature Trail and Community Engagement Improvements. This project builds on a series of strategic investments by the Coastal Conservancy and other community partners to restore saltmarsh and coho salmon habitat. Further, it demonstrates that these habitat enhancements are compatible with ongoing sustainable agriculture at the Freshwater Farms Reserve property.

This phase of the Freshwater Farms Reserve project is particularly exciting because it focuses on providing safe and meaningful public access to a place where California's diverse communities can learn about the compatibility of agriculture and restored coastal habitat. Redwood Community Action Agency has worked with the Northcoast Regional Land Trust previously in developing a management plan for the Freshwater Farms Reserve, developing a trail plan for the Reserve, and designing and implementing the tidal marsh enhancement project. We believe the Land Trust has a sustainable vision for the property that will enhance agriculture, coastal wetlands, and public access. It will also



Redwood Community Action Agency

model how the compatibility of habitat restoration, coastal access, and sustainable agricultural practices work together for the benefit of the environment and community.

The Freshwater Farms Nature Trail, which has already been planned and permitted thanks to support from the Coastal Conservancy, will wind across the property and engage visitors with a series of interpretive signs. It will also provide much-needed, recreational access to Humboldt Bay's land and water. A canoe and kayak launch will be part of the trail, inviting visitors to explore coastal environments far beyond a single property. In addition to the trail, this project includes rehabilitation of the historic Graham-Long Dairy Barn, a symbol of our shared agricultural heritage that will be renovated to meet multiple, community needs including use as a wet-weather classroom for education programs on the property. Lastly, the former native plant nursery at Freshwater Farms will be rehabilitated to serve agricultural, restoration, and public education needs.

In closing, I strongly urge the State Coastal Conservancy to fund the Northcoast Regional Land Trust's proposal for the Freshwater Farms Reserve Nature Trail and Community Engagement Improvements. The Freshwater Farms Reserve can serve as an ambassador property for the Coastal Act, a living laboratory of compatible uses, and a place where members of the community can learn, experience, and explore. I deeply appreciate your past support of this project and request that the Commission fund the next phase of this worthwhile project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Val Martinez', is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Val Martinez,
Executive Director