

Exhibit 3: Project Letters
Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve (TRNERR)

"A Wetland of International Importance" *International Ramsar Convention, 2005*



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May 20, 2015

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chair
California State Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, Floor 13
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Letter of Support for "Regional Strategy for the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project"

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am pleased to provide this letter supporting the San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI) – Aquatic Science Center (ASC) grant application to provide technical assistance to update the "Regional Strategy for the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project". This grant would fund the development of decision-making guidance to support restoration and management of tidal wetlands in Southern California.

SFEI has been a vital project partner in the National Estuarine Research Reserve's Science Collaborative "Temporal Investigations of Marsh Ecosystems" (TIME) Project. For the past three years, the TIME Project has been synthesizing information from the past, present, and future to steer wetland recovery at the Tijuana Estuary. Lessons learned, including those from SFEI's historical ecology study and efforts to consider ecosystem services, are targeted to inform efforts at a regional level with the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project (WRP) as an intended user. Significant investment has been made at the Tijuana Estuary to consider climate change and future scenarios and we are encouraged to see such a strong commitment at the regional level to consider these challenges.

SFEI's continued leadership in engaging with efforts to advance efforts of the WRP and its *Regional Strategy* document, the core guidance document for the collaborative efforts of the many partner organizations that make up the WRP, is a natural transition. As a member of the WRP's *Regional Strategy* Update Committee, I am aware that the update will include the consideration of climate change, development of regional habitat goals for coastal wetlands and guidance for selection, and design and prioritization of site-specific restoration projects – and am confident that each of these areas can be well informed by ASC's technical expertise.

The project will also support local wetland regulatory and management programs in our region by providing products to help make more informed decisions about restoration of southern Californian wetlands – these tools will be very useful at the Tijuana Estuary for its future planning of the Tijuana Estuary Tidal Restoration Project. Additionally, integrating new science and future challenges into wetland restoration strategies in the Southern California region will help us to carry out the State's goals of increasing the abundance and diversity of California's wetlands and riparian areas, and sustaining and enhancing the delivery of ecosystem services.

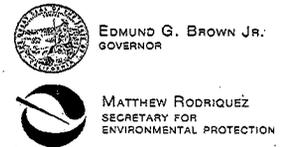
We look forward to the SFEI's Aquatic Science Center contribution to the regional resilience of our coastal ecosystems and encourage a favorable review of their application.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristen Goodrich".

Kristen Goodrich, Coastal Training Program Coordinator, TIME Project Coordinator
email: kgoodrich@trnerr.org; ph: 619.575.3613 x314



California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region

May 22, 2015

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chair
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Floor 13
Oakland, CA 94612

**SUBJECT: Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project
Regional Strategy Update
Proposed Grant and Disbursement of Funds**

Mr. Bosco:

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) is a signatory to the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project (WRP) working agreement and strongly supports the efforts of WRP to protect and restore wetlands in coastal southern California. I participate on the Wetlands Managers Group of the WRP on behalf of the San Diego Water Board.

I understand that the State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) is to consider accepting a grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency and disbursing funds from that grant to the San Francisco Estuary Institute – Aquatic Science Center for technical assistance in updating the WRP Regional Strategy (Project No. 97-001-02). I believe that updating the WRP Regional Strategy is an important part of moving forward with wetlands recovery in coastal southern California, and I support the proposed grant and disbursement of funds in support of that effort. I urge the SCC to favorably consider the proposed grant and disbursement of funds.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce Posthumus".

Bruce Posthumus
Senior Water Resource Control Engineer

BWP:bwp



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

May 20, 2015

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

RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR "REGIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WETLANDS RECOVERY PROJECT"

Dear Mr. Bosco:

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (LA Regional Board), is pleased to provide this letter of support for the San Francisco Estuary Institute – Aquatic Science Center (SFEI-ASC) grant application to provide technical assistance to update the “Regional Strategy for the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project.” This grant would fund the development of decision-making guidance to support restoration and management of coastal wetlands in Southern California.

Information developed through this work will become part of the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project’s (WRP’s) Regional Strategy document which will provide regional habitat restoration goals for the many partner organizations that make up the WRP. The update will also include the consideration of climate change, as well as, guidance for selection, design, and prioritization of site-specific restoration projects.

SFEI-ASC’s project will provide valuable information needed for planning wetlands management and protection. The project will also support local wetland regulatory and management programs by providing tools and products to help make more informed decisions about restoration of southern Californian wetlands. Integrating new science and future challenges into wetland restoration strategies in the Southern California region will help us to carry out the State’s goals of increasing the abundance and diversity of California’s wetlands and riparian areas, and sustaining and enhancing the delivery of ecosystem services.

The LA Regional Board would appreciate your favorable consideration of SFEI-ASC’s application to fund this project and the Board will be involved in its implementation through representation on the WRP’s Managers Group. Should there be any questions concerning this letter, please contact me at 213-576-6679 or Shirley.Birosik@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shirley A. Birosik".

Shirley A. Birosik
Watershed Coordinator