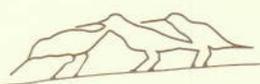
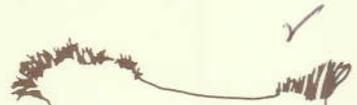




# MONTEREY DUNES COLONY



November 17, 2014

Trish Chapman:  
Climate Ready Grant, Central Coast Program Manager  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Ms. Chapman:

The Monterey Dunes Colony Association is writing to support the Central Coast Wetlands Group application titled "Coastal protection through dune restoration" being submitted to the State Coastal Conservancy's Climate Ready Grant Program.

This dune restoration project builds upon ongoing regional efforts to address sea level rise and evaluate coastal adaptation strategies. Coastal communities in the Monterey Bay region have increasing threats of coastal erosion and flooding due to sea level rise. Natural habitats, specifically sand dunes, provide numerous services such as helping to retain fresh water at the coast, preventing coastal flooding and protecting against storm damage from ocean storms, while also providing critical habitat to many species. Erosion of these dune systems compromises these services. This project seeks to: 1) restore and stabilize dune systems to reduce vulnerability to sea level rise through the eradication of exotic species and establishment of native plants in the project area, 2) protect coastal agricultural and wetland resources from the impacts of SLR; 3) work with CA State Parks to enhance public coastal access while also protecting the sensitive dune ecosystem, 4) provide community outreach and education to local communities about the importance of native plants and dune systems; and 5) provide a model to other coastal communities for a "green" sea level rise adaptation strategy.

The Monterey Dunes Colony is a community of 120 houses located along a mile of shoreline just north of the Salinas River. For nearly forty years, the residents of the Dunes Colony have worked to protect their dunes from the impacts of coastal erosion. The Dunes Colony has maintained and enhanced its native plant community, and has used shoreline drift fencing and sand nourishment to help rebuild its protective foredunes. The Central Coast Wetlands Group's proposed program of native plant restoration could help provide a significant benefit to the Dunes Colony's on-going dune protection initiatives.

We appreciate this opportunity to express our support for this proposal and urge the State Coastal Conservancy to approve the Central Coast Wetlands Group request for funds. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Bugary, CMCA CCAM  
General Manager

**RECEIVED**

DEC 08 2014

COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
2211 Garden Road  
Monterey, CA 93940

Lisa Ann L. Mangat, Acting Director

August 8, 2014

Trish Chapman:  
Climate Ready Grant, Central Coast Program Manager,  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Ms. Chapman:

I am writing to support the Central Coast Wetlands Group application titled "Restoring Dunes along Salinas River State Beach as a Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy" being submitted to the State Coastal Conservancy's Climate Ready Grant Program.

Coastal communities in the Monterey Bay region have increasing threats of coastal erosion and flooding due to sea level rise. Natural habitats, specifically sand dunes, provide numerous services such as helping to retain fresh water at the coast, retarding coastal flooding and minimizing storm damage from ocean storms, while also providing critical habitat to many species. Erosion of these dune systems compromises their protective services. This project seeks to: restore and stabilize dune systems to reduce vulnerability to sea level rise through the eradication of exotic species in the project area, reinforce and strengthen native coastal plant communities, develop interpretive signs for coastal habitats, and monitor restoration success.

California State Parks will work closely with the Central Coast Wetlands Group to ensure that this project is consistent with the resource management goals for Salinas River State Beach. Exotic plant removal, dune restoration and enhancement, and sensitive species conservation are State Parks' primary natural resource objectives at this unit.

I appreciate this opportunity to express my support for this proposal. Please contact me if you have any questions at [Amy.Palkovic@parks.ca.gov](mailto:Amy.Palkovic@parks.ca.gov) or 831-384-7420.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Amy Palkovic".

Amy Palkovic  
Environmental Scientist

CENTER FOR  
OCEAN  
SOLUTIONS

August 13, 2014

Trish Chapman:  
Climate Ready Grant, Central Coast Program Manager  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Ms. Chapman:

I am writing on behalf of the Center for Ocean Solutions in support of Central Coast Wetlands Group's application titled, "Restoring Dunes along Salinas River State Beach as a Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy" that is being submitted to the State Coastal Conservancy's Climate Ready Grant Program.

This dune restoration project aligns with recommendations reflecting the best available science from ongoing regional efforts to address sea-level rise and evaluate coastal adaptation strategies. Coastal communities in the Monterey Bay region have increasing threats of coastal erosion and flooding due to rising seas. Natural habitats—specifically sand dunes—provide numerous services, such as helping to retain fresh water at the coast, preventing coastal flooding and protecting against storm damage from ocean storms, while also providing critical habitat to many ecologically and economically important species. Erosion of these dune systems can compromise these services. This project seeks to: 1) restore and stabilize dune systems to reduce vulnerability to sea-level rise through the eradication of exotic species in the project area, 2) reinforce and strengthen native coastal plant communities, 3) work with California State Parks to establish foot trails over coastal dunes to reduce foot traffic in vulnerable areas prone to blow-outs, 4) develop interpretive signs for coastal habitats, and 5) monitor restoration success.

The analysis that our Center developed in collaboration with the Natural Capital Project for the Greater Monterey County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan supports this type of nature-based restoration to reduce social and ecological vulnerability. The dune systems in southern Monterey Bay—particularly in the project region—provide crucial protective services beyond erosion protection (e.g., habitat for critical species and opportunities for recreation) for the Salinas River area.

Jerry Yang & Akiko Yamazaki Environment & Energy Building  
473 Via Ortega | Room 193B | Stanford, CA 94305-4205  
650.723.4057 T | 650.725.3402 F  
[www.centerforoceansolutions.org](http://www.centerforoceansolutions.org)

4) provide education and outreach to the local community on the importance of dune habitats and the role they play in protecting against sea level rise; and 5) provide a model to other coastal communities for a “green” sea level rise adaptation strategy.

We appreciate this opportunity to express our support for this proposal and urge the State Coastal Conservancy to approve the Central Coast Wetlands Group’s request for funds. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Meg Caldwell  
Executive Director  
Center for Ocean Solutions  
megc@stanford.edu

# MONTEREY COUNTY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Benny J. Young, Director  
Carl P. Holm, AICP, Deputy Director

---



Michael A. Rodriguez, C.B.O., Chief Building Official  
Michael Novo, AICP, Director of Planning  
Robert K. Murdoch, P.E., Director of Public Works

168 W. Alisal Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901  
<http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/rma>

August 7, 2014

Ms. Trish Chapman  
Climate Ready Grant, Central Coast Program Manager  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: Letter of Support for Central Coast Wetlands Group's Grant Application

Dear Ms. Chapman:

The Monterey County Resource Management Agency is writing to support the Central Coast Wetlands Group application titled "Restoring Dunes along Salinas River State Beach as a Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy" being submitted to the State Coastal Conservancy's Climate Ready Grant Program.

This dune restoration project builds upon ongoing regional efforts to address sea level rise and evaluate coastal adaptation strategies. Coastal communities in the Monterey Bay region have increasing threats of coastal erosion and flooding due to sea level rise. Natural habitats, specifically sand dunes, provide numerous benefits such as helping to retain fresh water at the coast, preventing coastal flooding, protecting against storm damage from ocean storms, and providing critical habitat to many species. Erosion of these dune systems compromises these services.

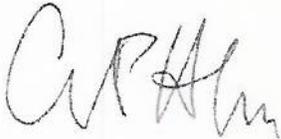
This project seeks to: 1) restore and stabilize dune systems to reduce vulnerability to sea level rise through the eradication of exotic species in the project area, 2) reinforce and strengthen native coastal plant communities, 3) work with CA State Parks to establish foot trails over coastal dunes to reduce foot traffic in vulnerable areas prone to blow-outs, 4) develop

CCWG Letter of Support  
August 7, 2014  
Page 2 of 2

interpretive signs for coastal habitats, and 5) monitor restoration success. This work program would complement ongoing efforts by Monterey County to identify and implement sea level rise adaptation strategies and to collaborate with partners when possible to restore and enhance natural coastal habitats.

We appreciate this opportunity to express our support for this proposal and urge State Coastal Conservancy to approve the Central Coast Wetlands Group request for funds. Please contact Martin Carver, in our offices at 831/796-6049 or at [carverm@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:carverm@co.monterey.ca.us), if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carl Holm', written in a cursive style.

Carl Holm, Deputy Director  
Monterey County Resource Management Agency

cc: Sarah Stoner-Duncan, CCWG



CA Coastal & Marine Program  
99 Pacific Street, Suite 200G  
Monterey, CA 93940

tel [831] 333-2046  
fax [831] 333-1736  
[nature.org](http://nature.org)  
[nature.org/california](http://nature.org/california)

August 21, 2014

Trish Chapman:  
Climate Ready Grant, Central Coast Program Manager  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Ms. Chapman:

The Nature Conservancy's California Coastal Project is writing to support the Central Coast Wetlands Group application titled "Restoring Dunes along Salinas River State Beach as a Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy" being submitted to the State Coastal Conservancy's Climate Ready Grant Program.

This dune restoration project builds upon ongoing regional efforts to address sea level rise and evaluate coastal adaptation strategies. Coastal communities in the Monterey Bay region have increasing threats of coastal erosion and flooding due to sea level rise. Natural habitats, specifically sand dunes, provide numerous services such as helping to retain fresh water at the coast, preventing coastal flooding and protecting against storm damage from ocean storms, while also providing critical habitat to many species. Erosion of these dune systems compromises these services. This project seeks to: 1) restore and stabilize dune systems to reduce vulnerability to sea level rise through the eradication of exotic species in the project area, 2) reinforce and strengthen native coastal plant communities, 3) work with CA State Parks to establish foot trails over coastal dunes to reduce foot traffic in vulnerable areas prone to blow-outs, 4) develop interpretive signs for coastal habitats, and 5) monitor restoration success.

The Nature Conservancy is leading an effort, funded by a State Coastal Conservancy Climate Ready Grant, to facilitate coastal climate change adaptation in Southern Monterey Bay by educating local stakeholders and coastal managers about the physical and economic impacts of various adaptation strategies. The primary goal of the project is to maximize the conservation and restoration of coastal ecosystems by demonstrating the value of nature-based adaptation solutions to the communities they protect.

We appreciate this opportunity to express our support for this proposal and urge the State Coastal Conservancy to approve the Central Coast Wetlands Group request for funds. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kelly Leo".

Kelly Leo  
Coastal Project Manager



Exhibit 3: Project Letters

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE  
Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary  
99 Pacific Street, Bldg 455a  
Monterey, CA 93940

August 20, 2014

Climate Ready Grant, Central Coast Program  
CA State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612  
ATTN: Ms. Trish Chapman

Subject: Support for Central Coast Wetlands Group Project Proposal for Dune Restoration

Dear Ms. Chapman:

We at the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary are writing to support the Central Coast Wetlands Group application titled "Restoring Dunes along Salinas River State Beach as a Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy" being submitted to the State Coastal Conservancy's Climate Ready Grant Program.

This dune restoration project builds upon ongoing regional efforts to address sea level rise and evaluate coastal adaptation strategies. Coastal communities in the Monterey Bay region have increasing threats of coastal erosion and flooding due to sea level rise. Natural habitats, specifically sand dunes, provide numerous services such as helping to retain fresh water at the coast, retarding coastal flooding and minimizing storm damage from ocean storms, while also providing critical habitat to many species. Erosion of these dune systems compromises their protective services. This project seeks to: 1) restore and stabilize dune systems to reduce vulnerability to sea level rise through the eradication of exotic species in the project area, 2) reinforce and strengthen native coastal plant communities, 3) work with CA State Parks to establish foot trails over coastal dunes to reduce foot traffic in vulnerable areas prone to blow-outs, 4) develop interpretive signs for coastal habitats, and 5) monitor restoration success.

The benefits of this project align well with sanctuary goals of improving and increasing critical habitat for coastal species as well as stabilizing natural dune systems whereby reducing the need for coastal armoring. We urge the State Coastal Conservancy to approve the Central Coast Wetlands Group request for funds. Please contact me at (831) 647-4217 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Bridget Hoover  
Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

August 22, 2014

Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

**Re: Support for the Upper Newport Bay Living Shorelines Project**

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express support for the Upper Newport Bay Living Shoreline Project. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) has supported the efforts of the Orange County Coastkeeper's work on eelgrass education and restoration in Upper Newport Bay since 2009. In support of the Newport Bay Eelgrass Project, the Department has lent staff support, equipment, and the use of the Back Bay Science Center facility for educational purposes and for restoration staging areas. The Orange County Coastkeeper has been an integral part of educating the public on the ecological value of eelgrass in marine habitats.

The Department is committed to protecting and restoring critical habitats in Upper Newport Bay and supports the efforts of Orange County Coastkeeper to expand the restoration of eelgrass and oyster beds in Upper Newport Bay. The Department will continue to provide facility space and equipment for restoration activities and educational programming. By working collectively, we can fix these identified issues to improve health of the habitats in urbanized areas.

I thank you in advance for your consideration of funding for the Orange County Coastkeeper to help improve marine habitats and educate the public in Upper Newport Bay.

Sincerely,

Rick Mayfield  
Wildlife and Lands Program Supervisor  
South Coast Region

cc: California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Theresa Stewart, Environmental Program Manager (email)  
Carla Navarro, Reserve Manager (email)  
Lands Chron File, San Diego

**STEVE FRANKS**  
DIRECTOR  
OC COMMUNITY RESOURCES

**RYAN DRABEK**  
DIRECTOR  
OC ANIMAL CARE

**KAREN ROPER**  
DIRECTOR  
OC COMMUNITY SERVICES

**STACY BLACKWOOD**  
DIRECTOR  
OC PARKS

**HELEN FRIED**  
COUNTY LIBRARIAN  
OC PUBLIC LIBRARIES

August 21, 2014

**Re: Support for The Living Shorelines: Native Oyster and Eelgrass Restoration in Upper Newport Bay**

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express County of Orange OC Parks' support for the Upper Newport Bay Living Shorelines Restoration Project.

Orange County has a history of active involvement and stewardship of our natural heritage and resources. OC Parks is committed to managing land and facilities in a way that maximizes their enjoyment by the public, while properly maintaining and overseeing them so they are available for generations to come.

Through grants from the California Coastal Commission and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and funding from the City of Newport Beach, Coastkeeper was able to launch the Newport Bay Eelgrass Project in 2009. OC Parks has been a vital part of the eelgrass restoration component of the Project since its inception and recognizes the importance of eelgrass in Newport Harbor. As a manager of 60,000 acres of parkland, open space and shoreline we recognize the need to balance conservation of our harbor's natural resources with the need for recreation, enjoying nature or learning about the history of Orange County.

OC Parks supports Coastkeeper's efforts in restoring both oyster and eelgrass beds in Upper Newport Bay, as well as educate the public about the ecological value of these critical habitats.

Sincerely,



**Stacy Blackwood**  
Director



13042 OLD MYFORD ROAD  
IRVINE, CA 92602  
PHONE: 866.OC PARKS  
FAX: 714-667-6511



## **CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH**

### **RECREATION & SENIOR SERVICES**

August 19, 2014

#### **Re: Support for The Living Shorelines: Native Oyster and Eelgrass Restoration in Upper Newport Bay**

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to express The City of Newport Beach's support for the Upper Newport Bay Living Shoreline Project.

The City of Newport Beach has a history of active involvement and stewardship of our natural heritage and resources. The Natural Resources Office within the City's Recreation and Senior Services Department works to protect habitat, maintain biological diversity and preserve natural areas for research, education and recreation.

Through grants from the California Coastal Commission and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and funding from the City of Newport Beach, Coastkeeper was able to launch the Newport Bay Eelgrass Project in 2009. The City of Newport Beach has been a vital part of the eelgrass education component of the previous Upper Newport Bay Eelgrass Restoration Project since its inception and acknowledges the importance of eelgrass both ecologically and economically in Newport Harbor within its adopted Land Use Plan. We recognize the need to balance conservation of our harbor's natural resources with the need to maintain the economic viability of Newport Harbor as one of the largest recreational boat harbors on the U.S. west coast.

We support the expansion of this project in coming years, with the goal of protecting and restoring not only eelgrass beds, but also shorelines in Upper Newport Bay. The City of Newport Beach supports Coastkeeper's oyster and eelgrass restoration project to restore oyster and eelgrass beds in Upper Newport Bay, as well as educate the public about the ecological value of these critical habitats.

Sincerely,

**Michelle Claud-Clemente**

Natural Resource Management Specialist

City of Newport Beach



Department of Biological Science

College of Natural Sciences & Mathematics

McCarthy Hall-282

800 N. State College Blvd., Fullerton, CA 92831 / Tel: 657-278-3614 / FAX: 657-278-3426 / <http://biology.fullerton.edu>

August 18, 2014

To: California State Coastal Conservancy

Subject: Letter of support for proposed project, "Living Shorelines: Native Oyster and Eelgrass Restoration in Newport Bay"

To whom it may concern:

I am Dr. Danielle Zacherl, Associate Professor in the Department of Biological Science at California State University Fullerton. This letter is in support of Orange County Coastkeeper's "Living Shorelines: Native Oyster and Eelgrass Restoration in Newport Bay."

The Zacherl lab has been pursuing science-based oyster restoration projects in southern California since 2010 with partners Dr. Christine Whitcraft, (CSU Long Beach), [Orange County Coastkeeper](#), and KZO Education. Our objective is to use a science-based approach to explore which factors affect the ability of native Olympia oysters to recover. We accomplish this both through extensive [monitoring](#) of the demographics and ecology of oyster species throughout southern CA, and through manipulative restoration studies aimed at examining which restoration practices result in the best outcomes for oysters and their associated community.

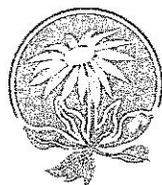
"Living Shorelines: Native Oyster and Eelgrass Restoration in Newport Bay" is a special opportunity to continue successful restoration efforts while exploring new methods for achieving erosion control, carbon sequestration, and cost-effective environmental balance. More than just supporting this project, I will be working closely with the Orange County Coastkeeper staff on restoration and monitoring to help ensure its success. Our Technicians from the Zacherl Lab will also be contributing their time, skills, and expertise to the project.

The potential to leverage multi-species restoration to achieve measurable and varied benefits, for both people and the greater environment, is unique and well deserving of funding.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need further information.

Sincerely,

Danielle Zacherl, Associate Professor  
Department of Biological Science  
California State University, Fullerton  
(657) 279-7510; [dzacherl@fullerton.edu](mailto:dzacherl@fullerton.edu)



CALIFORNIA  
NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

North Coast Chapter  
P. O. Box 1067  
Arcata, CA 95518

13 March 2015

re: Coastal Dune Vulnerability and Adaptation, a proposal by Friends of the Dunes,  
Arcata, CA

The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) has a strong tradition of basing conservation on good science. We readily support this project to continue good science in the dunes of Humboldt Bay and Eel River area.

The parties to this proposal have been studying dunes for years and have built a good base on which to pursue questions of climate change effects. This network of agency, non-profit, university, and private scientists has good respect for each others' strengths, making a productive collaboration. This group also has a record of successful restoration of native dune vegetation.

CNPS has a strong education component in its mission. We readily support the education component of this proposal and recognize Friends of the Dunes as the premiere outdoor education organization in our area.

CNPS is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to protecting California's native plant heritage and preserving it for future generations. Our nearly 10,000 members promote native plant appreciation, research, education, and conservation through our five statewide programs and 34 regional chapters in California.

Sincerely,

Carol Ralph  
President  
North Coast Chapter

*Protecting California's native flora since 1965*

COMMISSIONERS

1st Division  
Aaron Newman  
2nd Division  
Greg Dale  
3rd Division  
Mike Wilson  
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Richard Marks  
5th Division  
Patrick Higgins

**HUMBOLDT BAY  
HARBOR, RECREATION, AND CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT**

**(707) 443-0801  
P.O. Box 1030  
Eureka, California 95502-1030**



March 6, 2015

Doug Bosco, Chair  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Bosco:

The Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District (District) has management authority over Humboldt Bay tidelands. The District has been working with state, federal and local partners to develop a sea level rise adaptation plan for the bay. A key data gap for development of this comprehensive plan is information regarding how the dune complexes on the west side of the bay will be effected by sea level rise and related adaptation options. As such, the District strongly supports the proposal for a Climate Ready grant submitted by Friends of the Dunes for Coastal Dune Vulnerability and Adaptation at the Humboldt Bay and Eel River dunes in Humboldt County. The project will establish a dune and beach surveying network that will extend along the entire Eureka littoral cell. The information collected on coastal beach and dune processes, including littoral drift and sediment budgets, will fill very urgent data gaps. Several sea-level rise adaptation projects are also proposed, which will encourage local coastal land management entities to begin adaptation efforts. There are few if any projects of this type occurring on the west coast. The modeling that will ultimately come out of this project will guide adaptation efforts along the entire Eureka littoral cell, and will serve as a model for other regions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack Crider", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Jack Crider  
Executive Director



## HUMBOLDT BAY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

828 SEVENTH STREET, PO BOX 95 • EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 95502-0095

OFFICE 707-443-5018 ESSEX 707-822-2918

FAX 707-443-5731 707-822-8245

EMAIL [OFFICE@HBMWD.COM](mailto:OFFICE@HBMWD.COM)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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KAITLIN SOPOCI-BELKNAP, DIRECTOR  
SHERI WOO, DIRECTOR

March 6, 2015

### GENERAL MANAGER

CAROL RISCHÉ

Doug Bosco, Chair  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-2512

RE: Climate Ready Grant for Coastal Dune Vulnerability and Adaptation

Dear Mr. Bosco,

We are writing in support of the proposal for a Climate Ready grant for Coastal Dune Vulnerability and Adaptation at the Humboldt Bay and Eel River dunes in Humboldt County.

This proposal has been developed with involvement from many collaborators including: the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Wildlands Conservancy, Bureau of Land Management, CA Department of Fish and Wildlife, CA Conservation Corps, and Friends of the Dunes.

The water district is pleased to support these organizations to advance the important work they propose. Our District is a regional water supplier for the greater Humboldt Bay Area. We serve approximately 88,000 people through our municipal partners. We have three water transmission pipelines located in the dunes environment which are critical to our water supply operation.

We support the project, especially establishment of a scientifically-based monitoring program to capture current and future conditions on the north spit. We also support the work aimed at understanding how the dune barrier may respond to the effects of climate change (sea-level rise or extreme storm events). The monitoring program and modeling effort should help the District and other agencies understand possible outcomes which will support adaptation planning.

If the Coastal Conservancy funds this grant proposal, we commit a \$10,000 match (\$2,000 for five years) to support the monitoring component.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carol Rische".

Carol Rische,  
General Manager



State of California – Natural Resources Agency  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
Region 1 – Northern  
601 Locust Street  
Redding, CA 96001  
[www.wildlife.ca.gov](http://www.wildlife.ca.gov)

*EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor*  
*CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director*



March 11, 2015

Doug Bosco, Chair  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

**Subject: Letter of Support for Friends of the Dunes Climate Ready Grant Proposal for Coastal Dune Vulnerability and Adaptation at the Humboldt Bay and Eel River dunes in Humboldt County**

Dear Chairman Bosco:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife strongly supports the proposal for a Climate Ready grant submitted by Friends of the Dunes for Coastal Dune Vulnerability and Adaptation at the Humboldt Bay and Eel River dunes in Humboldt County. The information on coastal beach and dune processes to be collected as part of this grant will fill very urgent data gaps, and the demonstration adaptation projects proposed in this grant will enable our Department to begin sea level rise (SLR) adaptation efforts on our Eel River Wildlife Area.

There are few if any SLR modeling projects of this type occurring on the west coast. In addition to the direct benefit to the Eel River Wildlife Area, this project will help to develop adaptation efforts in Humboldt Bay that will indirectly benefit our Mad River, Elk River, and Fay Slough Wildlife Areas. The modeling that will ultimately come out of this project will guide SLR adaptation efforts along the entire Eureka littoral cell, and will serve as a model for other regions.

If you have any questions, please contact Senior Environmental Scientist Specialist Michael van Hattem at 707-445-5368 or [Michael.vanHattem@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Michael.vanHattem@wildlife.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Neil Manji".

**Neil Manji**  
Regional Manager

cc: Andrea Pickart  
Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge  
6800 Lanphere Road  
Arcata, CA 95521  
[andrea\\_pickart@fws.gov](mailto:andrea_pickart@fws.gov)

Name  
Company  
Date  
Page 2

cc: Ms. Karen Kovacs  
Department of Fish and Wildlife  
[Karen.Kovacs@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Karen.Kovacs@wildlife.ca.gov)

Mr. Craig Shuman  
Regional Manager  
Department of Fish and Wildlife  
[Craig.Shuman@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Craig.Shuman@wildlife.ca.gov)

Ms. Sandra Morey  
Deputy Director  
Department of Fish and Wildlife  
[Sandra.Morey@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Sandra.Morey@wildlife.ca.gov)

RECEIVED

MAY 19 2015

COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.

Uri Driscoll  
1578 Fickle Hill Rd  
Arcata Ca 95521

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

May 12, 2015

RE: Climate Ready Grant Related to Friends of the Dunes for Coastal Dune Vulnerability and Adaptation at Humboldt Bay and Eel River Dunes

Dear Mr. Bosco,

This letter is meant to bring forward concerns related to the grant proposal submitted by Friends of the Dunes (FOD) and Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) for the Coastal Conservancy's Climate Ready Grant program.

While the (FWS) and FOD have been involved in coastal vegetation removal throughout Humboldt County for nearly 30 years much of it funded through Coastal Conservancy monies, there have been some unaddressed problems with numerous projects they have been involved with either directly or indirectly. Although there is a claim of success surrounding these projects those claims warrant examination.

FOD under an obligation as contractors (Manila Community Service District's MOU) failed to complete or even start required monitoring (Manila Long Term Monitoring Plan) that would include pretreatment transects, topographical monitoring, wildlife effects etc. They have yet to submit any such monitoring although the project started several years ago. Fortunately they ceased digging grasses on the coastal foredunes in MDRA after questioned about the lack of monitoring last year. It is not clear if they returned monies to the Five Star restoration grant program after apparently abandoning the project.

After a lawsuit settlement associated with dune destabilization directly related to vegetation removal in Manila, California FOD agreed to refrain from removing

beachgrass in hind dune areas “for now into the foreseeable future” (County code compliance officer Young 2010). The year following and since this agreement FOD has continued to remove grasses in hind dunes areas directly adjacent to Manila’s community waste water treatment facility which depend on a stable wetland to complete its effluent treatment.

FOD’s coastal development permits 06-49 and 06-49MMX (2007-09) for removing grasses were both written by county planner Trevor Estlow who is currently a director of FOD as well as married to FOD’s restoration manager. That specific coastal development permit needs to be called into question for this clear conflict of interest along with these other reasons. Neither the permit nor the extension were written to recognize the close proximity to the waste water treatment facility, nor do the permits indicate that sand migration and erosion would result from the digging out of stabilizing vegetation that has been taking place on the treatment facility’s adjacent foredune or backdune areas. Also the 06-49 permit was written without any of the monitoring goals outlined in the Manila Long Term Management and Monitoring Plan that is required on adjacent lands. It also will likely need to be modified or an entirely new permit developed to create a propagation area as described in the Climate Ready grant proposal because replanting was not indicated in the 06-49 CDP. However, that was not addressed in the application.

Coastal development permits and consistency determinations that these and similar projects have been conducted under, clearly state there would be no erosion or destabilization of soils. Conversely, it now appears that the stated goal includes the destabilization of dunes that results in massive sand migration into deflation plain wetlands and towards the industrial water main and waste water treatment facility that depend on a stable wetland. The change in management actions has not been addressed through new permit applications nor has there been a change in the Local Coastal Plan that would encourage destabilizing coastal dunes.

Current FOD literature posted on their website and this proposal both contain language that indicates that both sand erosion and inland migration are a desired

result of ammophila removal. "...to optimize sediment transport to allow for inland and upland translation of foredune". That is easy to translate into destabilizing and intentionally eroding coastal foredunes. Again the permits associated with these projects claim there would be no erosion or destabilization of these areas. Some of the permits have specific mitigation measures to prevent erosion such as replanting, returning topography to original contours and only removing grasses in a patchwork fashion.

After receiving Coastal Conservancy monies for property acquisition FOD also attempted to close historic trails that have always had strong support from the local community reflected in a petition containing 200 signatures. Fortunately the County was able to clarify that such closures were not permitted and insisted that the illegal signs be removed.

These are some of the examples of FOD's lack of commitment to honoring agreements, misrepresenting expected results, and lack of respect for public process.

250 foot coastal wetland buffer areas have also been repeatedly violated while removing vegetation on property owned by both FOD and MCSD as well as other agencies in the region. Many of these projects included State Coastal Conservancy monies as you may know. Losses of localized wetlands and their functions are an unacceptable effect particularly while preparing for climate change and its projected effects. Monitoring of wetland functions has been a glaring omission of these projects. Unfortunately such critical monitoring goals are not a part of this grant proposal. Other areas around the country have recognized the significant value of freshwater wetlands for storm and sea level rise protection as well as the immense value as wildlife habitat.

A full assessment of wetland effects that result from removing a grass that establishes and enhances coastal wetlands (Pickart 1992) needs to be done prior to continuing such efforts.

It should be noted that last year the longtime president of FOD Mr. Weaver resigned. Earlier this year Executive Director VandeMeer also resigned. Both had

been in their position since the inception of their organization. The current president Mike Wilson obligated himself to only six months and as far as I am aware there has been no new executive director hired. It has thus been difficult to obtain relevant information regarding this grant and other aspects of their management policies.

Replanting of areas where ammophila removal has occurred has been infrequent and often non-existent in almost all of the attempted eradication projects. FOD's experience in propagating native vegetation is very slim at best. There currently exists a propagation site on BLM land adjacent to FOD property so the actual need for another propagation site is in question. That particular BLM (Ma-lel) site also exhibits significant erosion that has caused considerable maintenance requirements for the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District. HBWMD has the responsibility to protect an industrial water main in the deflation plain east of the primary foredune. At least four times in the last 20 years the district has had to use heavy equipment to push eroded sand back onto the exposed water mains for reburial, at the cost of tens of thousands of dollars to local ratepayers. Additional efforts will need to be undertaken again this year. Such massive erosion problems have not occurred in areas where the ammophila retains the stability of the foredune. Fortunately the grant proposal includes planting stabilizing vegetation after the heavy equipment reburies the water mains.

Agencies participating in this grant proposal including the Coastal Conservancy, FWS and FOD are each members the Humboldt Dune COOP (founded in 2004). The Coop is required by its bylaws to hold annual public meetings to address community concerns with projects related to dune management. Those bylaws have been repeatedly violated. The meeting held last April was the first in over 3 years and none have been scheduled yet for this year. Requests for information from the Dune Coop relating to dune management are largely ignored and legitimate questions asked last year were refused.

The Dune Coop also does not allow public participation despite several attempts by myself and others to join as stakeholders. Meetings are held in secret and no agenda is made available. Ms. Corbally of the State Coastal Conservancy is a

regular attendee of these meetings. Her representation of the Conservancy as a major funding source to other Dune Coop members should be called into question considering the significant lack of transparency.

We have repeatedly asked for a full assessment of the effects of ammophila removal and acknowledgment that there are benefits of ammophila that need to be considered. Wetland and wildlife habitat development, terrestrialization, carbon sequestration, drought tolerance, infrastructure protection are among the attributes associated with ammophila enhanced dunes. The replacement grass *E. mollis* is an inferior grass in all of those categories. NOAA funded university studies completed recently in Oregon have shown the benefits of ammophila dunes for those reasons.

Below are a few references from some of the studies related to dune grasses in our region including Washington and Oregon.

***Ammophila arenaria builds taller, narrower dunes, Ammophila. breviligulata builds lower, wider dunes, and (native) E. mollis builds the shortest, widest dunes. (Zarnetske et al 2012)***

***“Decrease in dune height may translate into a significant decrease in coastal protection from storms and Tsunamis” (Seabloom 2007)***

***“Plover habitat restoration has had the unintentional effect of reducing the richness and abundance of native plants.” (Zarnetske et al 2010)***

***“Ammophila created foredunes increase coastal protection in the Pacific North West” (Ruggiero et al 2001)***

***“Ammophila may have increased native species diversity through creating wetland habitats and decreasing sand scouring” (Wiedeman and Pickart 2004)***

While it was stated in the updated Climate Ready grant proposal that an Environmental Assessment had been completed, it actually was not at the time and only recently a draft has been prepared over a month later, leaving little time for a full review by the public and the Conservancy review board. This simply means that no complete evaluation had been provided to the agencies, municipalities and the public. Additionally many of the municipalities, agencies and the public that have supplied a letter of support are not aware that \$250,000

of this initial request for funding is directed to the removal of 2- 4 acres of ammophila.

It should also be noted that at the dune forum held in April 2011 the public was promised a white paper from members of the Dune Coop that same summer. The white paper was to draw upon current information that would look at the effects both good and bad of these coastal vegetation removal projects. That important document has not been forth coming.

The seemingly intentional prevention of public participation in dune management is but one of many reasons to deny support for this proposal. It would benefit the Conservancy to instead insist on full and transparent public process to address the myriad of related concerns with current and questionable dune management practices.

While many of us agree that gathering data to be able to make informed decisions is vital, the question needs to be asked what data has been gathered in the last 30 years with the millions of dollars of public money spent on these projects. Once that data is reviewed we will understand what gaps are in need of filling and be able to evaluate what we have learned so far. My requests to receive monitoring reports completed by the FWS for their dune projects, has not been fulfilled.

The three dune development projects associated with this grant proposal need to be first vetted with sea level projections in mind. They have not. Nor is there any stated support other than a vague hypothesis to consider them “adaptation projects”. It is unclear why the projects would in any way benefit our coastline in adapting for sea level changes. So far all local coastal vegetation removal and dune destabilization has not considered those projections. Continuing to destabilize dunes by digging out a highly effective and naturalized dune building grass and replacing it with a much less effective one, is likely to not be in our best interest to say the least.

Should the board consider offering grant monies under their Climate Ready grant program I would encourage you to make clear that *prior* to the onset of any project that involves the removal of stabilizing vegetation such as ammophila, all

relevant studies such as have been mentioned above and the data associated with this grant proposal be carefully reviewed in a transparent manner that includes public participation.

There are alternative methods being used on the East Coast that focus on building and stabilizing dunes to develop and maintain coastal protections that should be fully considered. To date they have not.

It is important to note that there is a growing concern over purposely destabilizing coastal dunes. Our County Supervisors have raised legitimate questions as to the wisdom of continuing such practices and the public is growing restless over the continued exclusion from what needs to be and was promised to be a public process. The attempt to principally permit these vegetation removal projects was fortunately struck down unanimously by the Supervisors during general plan update vote last July. Language was recently added to a support letter sent to the Conservancy regarding this proposal that included concerns regarding ammophila removal and the importance of studying areas that have already had ammophila removed before those areas are expanded. Other areas that the Conservancy is aware of in Point Reyes and Sonoma have also had disastrous effects from ammophila removal.

In closing I encourage the board to fully consider implementing conditions to this grant allocation should they decide to disperse public monies associated with FOD's and FWS proposal to the Climate Ready program. Those conditions, I would hope, would include welcoming active public participation, evaluating FOD's credentials for carrying out such an ambitious monitoring program and making absolutely certain projects that include disturbing or destabilizing coastal dunes in anyway, are eliminated from this proposal.

Instead, a thorough evaluation of the effects to coastal wetlands that removing ammophila needs to be conducted. Those effects should include soil chemistry changes, hydrological effects, wildlife populations and wind/sand scour damage to native plants.

Additionally Manila Dunes Recreation Area (MDRA) should be established as a control to evaluate foredune stability, wetland development and protection as it pertains to established and semi established ammophila dunes. I would encourage the Conservancy to specifically instruct that no action be taken in all FWS identified wetlands and within our local coastal plan's required 250 foot buffer zones. It would also be appropriate to explicitly memorialize the long trough-wetland in Celestre (MDRA) as protected by EPA and the state water-control board because of the 1988 restrictions that preserve the wetland for its required function as part of a sanitary sewer system.

Thank you for your consideration



Uri Driscoll

[Humboldthorse@yahoo.com](mailto:Humboldthorse@yahoo.com)

707 496 2122

Cc Annie Nottoff, Peter Sadowski, Sara Ramirez Giroux, John Laird, Steve Kinsey, Michael Cohen, Susan Hansch, Bryan Cash, Karen Finn, Estelle Fennel, Rex Bohn, Ryan Sundburg, John Driscoll, Dennis Mayo, Carol Riche, Eric Nelson, Mike McGuire, Jim Wood

**June 25, 2015 Conservancy meeting; agenda item 17  
(Climate Ready: Friends of the Dunes project)**

Staff responses to Mr. Uri Driscoll's 5/12/15 letter to the Conservancy

(Responses are primarily to allegations potentially pertaining to the Conservancy)

1. Friends of the Dunes (FOD) has failed to conduct dune monitoring under a memorandum of understanding as a contractor to a local district.

[Response: Conservancy staff are not familiar with the commenter's allegation, but note that it does not have to do with the presently proposed project. The Conservancy's approvals are implemented through Conservancy grant agreements, and Conservancy staff assure that the requirements are met. FOD has indicated to staff that it completed monitoring in the manner required by the contracting district.]

2. In a lawsuit settlement, FOD agreed to stop removing beachgrass "in hind dune areas" "for now into the foreseeable future," but has continued to remove grass in some areas.

[Response: According to FOD, the lawsuit settlement in question pertained only to land owned by a public district. FOD has continued to remove beach grass on its own land. The allegation has nothing to do with the currently proposed project.]

3. The commenter alleges various conflicts of interest between a county planner married to FOD's restoration manager.

[Response: This has nothing to do with the currently proposed project. Nonetheless, FOD responds that the two were not married at the time, and anyway had taken other steps to avoid any conflict. Further, the referenced permits do not pertain to the current project.]

4. Permits for work on the dunes have stated that there should be no erosion. The stated goal [of the current project?] is destabilization of dunes, resulting in massive sand migration into wetlands.

[Response: According to FOD, the existing permits state that there should be no significant erosion, rather than no erosion. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has responded at length to similar allegations contained in Mr.

Driscoll's comments on FWS's environmental document for the currently proposed project, and those responses are contained in the FWS environmental document. FWS concludes that while there will be some sand movement from the current project, it will be beneficial and will not adversely affect wetlands. In any event, one of the purposes of the project is to study the effects of replacing invasive grasses with native plants.]

5. FOD closed to horses some "historic trails" on property acquired with Conservancy funds. The county required that they be reopened to horses.

[Response: This has nothing to do with the presently proposed project. FOD did designate various trails on its property for different uses. The county asked that the signs be removed, and FOD complied.]

6. The commenter makes various allegations about losses of wetlands, lack of monitoring goals, failure to replant in unspecified areas, erosion caused by removal of exotic grasses, and the inferiority of native grasses.

[Response: Mr. Driscoll made similar claims in his comments on FWS's environmental document for the currently proposed project, which is attached to the staff recommendation. FWS responded in the environmental document detail that the claims are counterfactual.]

7. A draft of the FWS Environmental Assessment provided little time for "a full review by the public and the Conservancy review board," meaning that "no complete evaluation had been provided to the agencies, municipalities and the public."

[Response: Staff believes that the substantive and procedural requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act and the California Environmental Quality Act have been properly met. The Environmental Assessment/Finding of No Significant Impact adequately address potential environmental effects and find that the project will not have a significant adverse effect. The project is fully described in the environmental documents and in the Conservancy's staff recommendation, and will be considered at a public meeting. The public has had a full and usual right to comment on the environmental documents and, indeed, Mr. Driscoll himself submitted extensive written comments.]

8. The proposed projects "need to be first vetted with sea level projections in mind." Destabilizing dunes and replacing invasive grass with inferior native grass is "not in our best interest."

[Response: The purpose of the project is to collect data and analyze two demonstration sites. Information from FWS regarding the demonstration site on its property and included in the environmental documents attached to the Conservancy's staff recommendation and in FWS's responses to Mr. Driscoll's comments indicates that the proposed actions will benefit the natural resources and allow improved adaptation to sea level rise.

9. "The attempt to principally permit these vegetation removal projects was fortunately struck down unanimously by the Supervisors during general plan update vote last July."

[Response: Regardless of which types of vegetation-removal projects the general plan considers to be principally permitted activities, projects within the coastal zone nonetheless are subject to permit review where appropriate. The FWS has already obtained a consistency determination from the Coastal Commission for the project on FWS land. Coastal Commission staff have apparently indicated that, with respect to the southern demonstration site, which involves planting, no coastal development permit would be required.]

10. The Conservancy should welcome public participation, evaluate FOD's credentials, assuring that projects that destabilize dunes are eliminated.

[Response: The Conservancy's approval process is public, as is the process for review of environmental documentation. The Conservancy has worked successfully with FOD in the past. FWS has concluded that the demonstration project on its property is beneficial to the natural resources. The entire project is essentially a series of studies to obtain data about what works best in adapting to sea level rise and protecting resources.



# CITY OF EUREKA

531 K Street • Eureka, California 95501-1146

CITY MANAGER

• (707) 441-4144  
• fax (707) 441-4138

Mr. Doug Bosco, Chair  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Bosco:

The City of Eureka supports the proposal for a Climate Ready grant submitted by Friends of the Dunes for Coastal Dune Vulnerability and Adaptation at the Humboldt Bay and Eel River dunes in Humboldt County. The project will establish a dune and beach surveying network that will extend along the entire Eureka littoral cell (essentially from Mad River to Eel River). The information collected on coastal beach and dune processes, including littoral drift and sediment budgets, will fill very important and relatively urgent data gaps. Several sea-level rise adaptation projects are also proposed, which will encourage local coastal land management entities to begin adaptation efforts. There are few if any projects of this type occurring on the west coast. The modeling that will ultimately come out of this project will guide adaptation efforts along the entire Eureka littoral cell, and will serve as a model for other regions of California as well.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Greg L. Sparks

City Manager

**RECEIVED**

**MAR 09 2015  
COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.**



## Manila Community Services District

1901 Park Street • Arcata, CA 95521 • 707-444-3803 • Fax 707-444-0231

### Board of Directors

John Woolley, President  
Jan Bramlett, Vice President  
Joy Dellas, Finance Officer  
Dendra Dengler, Secretary  
Salena Kahle, Safety Officer

### General Manager

Christopher Drop

February 19, 2015

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

Dear Doug,

This letter is to support the proposal for a Climate Ready grant submitted by Friends of the Dunes for Coastal Dune Vulnerability and Adaptation at the Humboldt Bay and Eel River dunes in Humboldt County.

The project is urgently needed in that there are very few, if any projects of this type occurring on the west coast. The dune topographic survey component of the project will provide information on these dunes, including areas such as the Manila Dunes Recreation Area and other Manila Dune properties that will be vital to plan for and adapt to sea level rise.

The demonstration sites, one of which is proposed near our property, will allow the residents of Manila to see the effects of adaptation efforts, which will help build support for proactive adaptation in our community.

We strongly support this proposal, which is the result of collaboration among numerous agencies and other land management entities in our region.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "John Woolley", written over a horizontal line.

p.p.

John Woolley, Chair  
Manila Community Services District Board of Directors

**RECEIVED**

FEB 27 2015

COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.

# Wiyot Tribe



June 9, 2015

California State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Attn: Doug Bosco, Chair

This letter is to express the Wiyot Tribe's wholehearted support of the State Coastal Climate Ready Grant Proposal as authored by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, with proposed collaboration by numerous coastal management agencies including the Bureau of Land Management, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, California Department of Parks and Recreation, Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District, Friends of the Dunes, and the Wildlands Conservancy.

The Wiyot Tribe's ancestral territory has included the lands surrounding Humboldt Bay since time immemorial. Indeed, the landscape forms an integral part of the Wiyot identity. Our oral tradition records that the dunes were effective protection against tsunamis and sea level rise. In recent years, the dunes that the Wiyot have called home for thousands of years have been taken over by European beach grass. As a result, we have seen significant loss of biological diversity and significant changes in natural dune processes.

It is important to the tribe that the changes be better understood. This study, which will examine coastal dune processes, sediment supply, and natural responses to climatic events, and include baseline mapping of dune topography will allow all interested parties to better understand how to best manage this important coastal resource.

As modern residents of the Humboldt Bay area, we are greatly concerned about the implications of sea level rise from both an environmental and a human safety perspective. Perhaps more significantly, the information that this study will provide will play an important role in preserving Wiyot culture. As such, we urge you to support this grant and the proposed restoration of native dune habitats.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at 707-733-5055 or e-mail me at [wiyot.chairman@gmail.com](mailto:wiyot.chairman@gmail.com).

Sincerely,

  
Theodore Hernandez  
Chair, Wiyot Tribe



March 9, 2015

California Coastal Conservancy  
Climate Ready Grant Program

Subject: Friends of the Dunes Coastal Dune Vulnerability and Adaptation Proposal

I am writing to express support for the proposal for a Climate Ready grant proposal submitted by Friends of the Dunes for Coastal Dune Vulnerability and Adaptation at the Humboldt Bay and Eel River dunes in Humboldt County.

Humboldt Baykeeper was formed in 2004 to safeguard coastal resources for the health, enjoyment, and economic strength of the Humboldt Bay community. Sea level rise has become a top priority for local planners and researchers, since the Humboldt Bay area is experiencing twice the state average relative sea level rise. Humboldt Baykeeper has been doing outreach and advocacy on sea level rise readiness for several years, and it is very clear that local scientific research is critical for developing local adaptation strategies.

This proposed project is urgently needed in that there are very few, if any, projects of this type occurring on the west coast. Understanding vulnerability of dune systems is critical for development of adaptation strategies. The dune topographic survey component of the project will provide science-based information on these dunes that will be vital to plan for and adapt to sea level rise. The demonstration sites will allow the public to see the effects of adaptation efforts, which will help build support for proactive adaptation in our community.

We strongly support this proposal, which builds upon existing data as well as existing collaborations of stakeholders, managers, and researchers from numerous agencies and other land management entities in our region. For these reasons, Humboldt Baykeeper strongly supports funding of this important project.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_s/  
Jennifer Kalt, Director  
[jkalt@humboldtbaykeeper.org](mailto:jkalt@humboldtbaykeeper.org)

1385 Eighth Street, Suite 228, Arcata, CA 95521  
(707) 825-1020  
[www.humboldtbaykeeper.org](http://www.humboldtbaykeeper.org)





RECEIVED  
MAY 20 2015  
COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairperson SCC Board of Directors

I am writing to address some of the many concerns regarding a proposal to the State Coastal Conservancy's Climate Ready Grant program. The recently submitted Proposal from Friends of the Dunes (FOD) and Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has inconsistencies that you may be unaware of.

Public participation in the process surrounding current coastal land management policies has been actively thwarted by the Dune Coop mentioned in the proposal. The Dune coop consists of government agencies and NGO's that include the Coastal Commission, State Coastal Conservancy, FWS, FOD, State Parks among others. Meetings are held in secret and despite many attempts to participate as a stakeholder that request has been repeatedly denied. Necessary transparency of this influential group is severely lacking

There are many reasons to be concerned about current coastal management policies associated with members of the Dune Coop. As projects began to dig out the non-native but naturalized ammophila from coastal dunes all permits and consistency determinations indicated that there would be no erosion, topographical changes, affects to wetlands, etc as a result of these projects. Included in some of the CDP's were mitigation measures to ensure that destabilization would not result. The Manila Long Term Management and Monitoring Plan include strict requirements and monitoring protocol. Unfortunately there has been little of the monitoring that was put into place to specifically protect the integrity and stability of these areas.

The Dune Coop also has failed to live up to its own bylaws which include an annual public meeting and it has ignored the promise of a "white paper" that was due during the summer of 2011.

The State Coastal Conservancy has been a major funding source for many of these projects. As you know, Ms. Corbally has played an integral role in securing those funds through the Dune Coop. Ms. Corbally took nearly a dozen trips to the North coast over the last two years often to discuss this grant application with Dune Coop members out of the public's eye. She is well aware of the serious issues that have been made public surrounding many of the Conservancy funded projects. These issues are related to the gross negligence surrounding the lack of reporting by Coop members of protected wetland and coastal forest losses, erosion, including the destabilization of an industrial water main and significant topographical changes.

It is unfortunate that the Conservancy through Ms. Corbally, has remained closely associated with the Humboldt Dunes Coop. Repeated meetings held in secret with land managers that receive regular funding from the Conservancy clearly have questionable intentions and an unacceptable lack of transparency.

The Coastal Conservancy has also supported projects that have dug out vast amounts of vegetation from within wetland buffer zones without wetland restoration permits. The lack of oversight from funding and permitting agencies has been alarming.

The Conservancy funded the construction of a look out and tsunami gathering area in MDRA that has been dangerously undermined by wind erosion after the surrounding stabilizing vegetation was dug out. Many of the native pine trees in this area also died. The conservancy has funded other projects to dig out ammophila surrounding an adjacent waste water treatment facility that depends on a functioning wetland to treat the final stages of its effluent.

Ms. Corbally would have been made aware that FOD had agreed to stop removing vegetation from back dune areas after a 2008 law suit settlement relating to the intentional, although unpermitted, destabilization. That agreement has been violated by FOD's continued vegetation removal in back dune areas. Part of that agreement included the planting of native pines to aid dune forest succession. That has not been even been started.

While the Conservancy has not funded all Ammophila digging projects on the north coast by its involvement in the secretive Dune coop it has been supportive. The Conservancy is being negligent by its unwillingness to address the numerous and growing public concerns.

Fortunately last July the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors unanimously voted against principally permitting removal of coastal vegetation after listening to community concerns. More recently they sent a revised letter that identified these concerns over ammophila eradication projects and that areas stripped of stabilizing vegetation should be studied before more is dug out of our dunes.

While most of us agree that gathering data to help us make informed coastal management decisions can be useful, it would be most relevant to gather the data that has been required to date and to do a complete and transparent review of that information. That is the only way we can truly identify the missing and relevant gaps in data which this grant proposal intends to address. We should understand clearly why these gaps exist. If it is found that expected data was not actually gathered and published that needs to be corrected before additional funds are distributed.

## Exhibit 3: Project Letters

- 2 -

While there have been several letters of support from various agencies sent to the Conservancy for what has been billed as a Climate Ready study it has become clear that many of the authors of those letters were not aware that \$250,000 of the requested \$500,000 from the Conservancy is proposed to be used for a project that wishes to remove more naturalized ammophila. Replacing it with a grass that is known to be less effective in controlling erosion and one that produces smaller dunes seems counter to the focus on preparing for climate changes. Since the title of the grant is Climate Ready, that project should be called into question for several reasons.

One of the reasons is that the area of this particular project is far removed from any infrastructure and the type of dune habitat does not represent areas of significance where preparing for climate change and sea level rise projections is relevant. These dunes are already secure and protective of significant wetland habitat. The proposal also would intrude on the 250 foot wetland buffer zones.

Another reason is that a disproportionate amount of the monies requested are focused on this relatively small area. Almost half of the \$500,000 requested is proposed for a 2-4 acre study which would not be complete or even relevant once this money is spent.

Yet another reason is there are many acres of ammophila reduced areas that can be studied and already gathered data can be evaluated. This point was put forth in the recent letter from the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors to the Conservancy as mentioned above.

The *E. mollis* propagation project proposed on ¼ acre of FOD owned property seems rather unnecessary as well. On the northern border of the same FOD property BLM has a significant supply of *E. mollis* available for use. A change in use for the FOD coastal development permit (CDP) 06-49 would bring up the need to amend the CDP adding unnecessary costs.

I would like to share a few references from some of the studies related to dune grasses in our region including Washington and Oregon.

*Ammophila arenaria* (European beachgrass) builds taller, narrower dunes, *Ammophila. Breviligulata* (American beachgrass) builds lower, wider dunes, and (native) *E. mollis* builds the shortest, widest dunes. (Zarnetske et al 2012)

"Decrease in dune height may translate into a significant decrease in coastal protection from storms and Tsunamis" (Seabloom 2007)

"Plover habitat restoration has had the unintentional effect of reducing the richness and abundance of native plants." (Zarnetske et al 2010)

"*Ammophila* created foredunes increase coastal protection in the Pacific North West" (Ruggiero et al 2001)

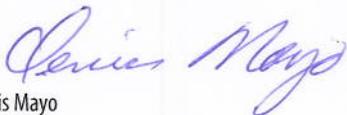
"*Ammophila* may have increased native species diversity through creating wetland habitats and decreasing sand scouring" (Wiedeman and Pickart 2004)

If we are preparing for Climate Change and projected sea level rise we need to evaluate relevant information. These few references along with my 30 plus years of closely observing our coastal habitats and along with the relevant and growing concerns brought forth by the public and our counties highest elected officials show a clear need to revisit the wholesale destabilization of our principle protection from the Pacific Ocean. Destabilization of coastal dunes has not been a promoted policy elsewhere in the United States.

In closing I encourage the board to fully consider implementing conditions to this grant allocation should they decide to disperse public monies associated with the FOD and FWS proposal to the Climate Ready program. Those conditions, I would hope, would include welcoming active public participation beyond what has been proposed, making absolutely certain projects such as the one proposed north of Lanphere Dunes that include disturbing or destabilizing coastal dunes in any way, are eliminated from this proposal.

Additionally, Manila Dunes Recreation Area (MDRA) should be established as a control to evaluate foredune stability, wetland development and protection as it pertains to established and semi established ammophila dunes. I would encourage the Conservancy to specifically instruct that no action be taken in all FWS identified wetlands and within their 250 foot buffer zones. It would also be appropriate to explicitly memorialize the deflation plain and emergent wetland areas in Celestre (MDRA) as protected by EPA and the state water-control board. The 1988 restrictions preserve the wetland for its required function as part of a sanitary sewer system.

Thank you for your consideration,



Dennis Mayo



**June 25, 2015 Conservancy meeting; agenda item 17  
(Climate Ready: Friends of the Dunes project)**

Staff responses to Mr. Dennis Mayo's 5/20/15 letter to the Conservancy

(Responses are primarily to allegations potentially pertaining to the Conservancy)

1. Public participation in the process surrounding current coastal land management policies has been actively thwarted by the Dune Co-op, consisting of agencies and nonprofit organizations including the Coastal Commission, the Conservancy, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Friends of the Dunes (FOD), and the Department of Parks and Recreation. Meetings are held in secret; participation not allowed; no transparency.

[Response: The comment is not related to the proposed project. FOD is not a public entity. The Co-op does not make policy or advise, but meets to allow land managers to discuss informally work undertaken on members' properties and to coordinate efforts through sharing of resources and information. The Conservancy, in its projects, follows the Open Meeting Act, though this is not applicable to or appropriate for most staff-level meetings.]

2. Manila Long Term Management and Monitoring Plan includes strict requirements and monitoring protocol. There has been little of the monitoring that was put into place to specifically protect various projects.

[Response: Conservancy staff are not familiar with the commenter's allegation, but note that it does not pertain to the presently proposed project. Conservancy approvals are implemented through Conservancy grant agreements, and Conservancy staff assure that requirements are met.]

3. The Conservancy is a funder to many area dune projects. [Project manager Su] Corbally [sic: Corbaley] took many trips "often to discuss this grant application with Dune Coop members out of the public's eye." She is well aware of issues surrounding many Conservancy-funded projects "related to the gross negligence surrounding the lack of reporting by Coop members" about adverse environmental effects of the projects.

[Response: Ms. Corbaley, like all Conservancy project managers, frequently visits project sites and holds meetings with people and organizations regarding agency projects and business. She is unaware of any negligence, gross or otherwise, in this connection. She does not hold "secret" meetings,

though many meetings with individuals are not open to the public. Ms. Corbaley did not meet with anyone to discuss this grant application, though after the public announcement for the grant round, she shared procedural information such as deadlines with several individuals.]

4. The Conservancy has supported projects that have dug out “vast amounts of vegetation” from within wetland buffer zone without wetland restoration permits.

[Response: Staff do not know to which projects the commenter is referring, though it is not the currently proposed project. Project grantees are required under Conservancy grant agreements to obtain any necessary permits and approvals, and staff is unaware of violations in the area relating to this proposal. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has stated that buffer zones are not applicable to the current restoration work on its property.

5. The Conservancy funded construction of a “look out and tsunami gathering area” that has been undermined by wind erosion after vegetation was removed. Trees also died.

[Response: Staff believe that the comment may pertain to a dune overlook that was constructed elsewhere sometime before 2001. In any event, the comment does not pertain to the currently proposed project. In that case, trees have died, but there is not a known correlation to foredune restoration work.]

6. Project manager Corbaley is aware that Friends of the Dunes had agreed to stop removing vegetation after a 2008 lawsuit settlement pertaining to unpermitted destabilization.

[Response: Staff believe that the referenced settlement may pertain to parties that are not involved in the current project, and does not pertain to the currently proposed project. The Conservancy was not a party to that suit or settlement and staff are not aware its terms.]

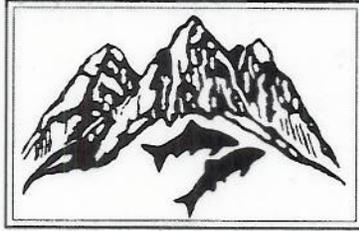
7. “[M]ost of us agree” that gathering data to inform coastal management decision can be useful, though it would be better to gather data that has been required to date.

[Response: Staff is not sure whom the commenter claims to represent. Staff agrees that collection of relevant data is useful to addressing climate change and protecting coastal resources. The proposed project includes collating and analyzing existing data, and collecting new data to establish current conditions to use in evaluating results of the project.]

8. Many supporters of this project are unaware that the project includes a component requiring replacement of invasive grasses with grass less effective in controlling erosion and productive of smaller dunes. The current dunes are “secure” and protect wetlands habitat. Much money is focused on a small area, while other areas area available to be studied.

[Response: The Conservancy’s staff recommendation and board meeting are public. The staff recommendation fully describes the intended action. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and Conservancy staff, as well as the grantee concur that the proposed authorization will result in the collection of valuable data. FWS has addressed in writing comments about invasive and native plants and their effect on dunes in the Environmental Assessment/FONSI attached to the Conservancy’s staff recommendation. FWS scientists do not concur with the assertions of the commenter.]

# TRINITY ASSOCIATES



## Specializing in Environmental and Sea Level Rise Adaptation Planning

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April 11, 2014

Doug Bosco, Chair  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I strongly support the proposal for a Climate Ready grant submitted by Friends of the Dunes for Coastal Dune Vulnerability and Adaptation at the Humboldt Bay and Eel River dunes in Humboldt County. The project will establish a dune and beach surveying network that will extend along the entire Eureka littoral cell (essentially from Mad River to Eel River). The information collected on coastal beach and dune processes, including littoral drift and sediment budgets, will fill very important and relatively urgent data gaps. Several sea-level rise adaptation projects are also proposed, which will encourage local coastal land management entities to begin adaptation efforts. There are few if any projects of this type occurring on the west coast. The modeling that will ultimately come out of this project will guide adaptation efforts along the entire Eureka littoral cell, and will serve as a model for other regions of CA as well.

Sincerely,



---

Aldaron Laird  
Senior Environmental Planner  
Trinity Associates  
Adaptation Planner  
Humboldt Bay Sea Level Rise Adaptation Planning Project

**David F. Hitchcock**  
**1487 I Street**  
**Arcata, CA 95521**  
**Cellular Telephone: (707) 672-9143**  
**dfhitchcock@sbcglobal.net**

June 17, 2015

Doug Bosco, Chair  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

Reference: Friends of the Dunes Climate Ready grant application

Dear Mr. Bosco,

Friends of the Dunes is the fiscal sponsor of the Climate Ready Grant proposal recently submitted to the State Coastal Conservancy. I am writing to express my support. This grant will help to understand the impacts of climate change on coastal dune habitats due to rising sea level. This project is regional in scale covering both Humboldt Bay and the Eel River Estuary.

There is an education and outreach component that will enable results to be shared with the public. This will inform interested parties of the entire coastlines of California, Oregon and Washington. I believe climate change is the greatest threat to humankind. Again, I urge the board of the State Coastal Conservancy to support the staff's recommendation to approve funding.

Sincerely,

David F. Hitchcock

Doug Bosco, Chair  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco,

I am writing to express my support for Friends of the Dunes Climate Ready grant application.

I am a retired teacher who was born in and grew up in Humboldt County. I have seen many changes in our environment and in our climate over the years. I am very concerned. I believe we need to know more so we can do more to adapt to and, hopefully, mitigate these changes.

I can not speak to the details of the science involved in the proposal submitted by Friends of the Dunes, but I have read a summary of their grant application. It seems like an excellent idea and a good use of funds. I can also attest to the value of the Friends of the Dunes to our local community and to the enthusiastic altruism of the people who staff it. I became a volunteer at the Friends of the Dunes Nature Center over a year ago. At the time, I was looking for volunteer opportunities that I felt would be a worthwhile way to contribute to my community. I continue to volunteer and plan to keep doing so because I was thoroughly impressed by the people who worked for the organization, by their programs, and by the enthusiastic response of the visitors who come to the center. I have complete confidence that any funds that are granted would be used responsibly and effectively, and that taxpayers and citizens will benefit from this investment.

Sincerely,

Jeanne L. Chapin

3012 Brier Lane

Eureka, CA 95501

17 June 2015

Doug Bosco, Chair  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing as a resident of Humboldt County and as a wildlife biologist to express my support for the Friends of the Dunes' Climate Ready grant application. This project will greatly enhance our ability to prepare for climate change-related vulnerabilities of coastal dunes.

The USFWS, the lead agency in this project, has been collecting three years of data from transect studies at Lanphere and Ma-le'l Dunes which support the premise that removal of invasive non-native vegetation coupled with native plantings, can maintain foredune integrity and allow for landward migration in response to sea level rise. Their preliminary results also show that native foredunes have similar average heights compared to dunes dominated by European beach grass but have the added benefit of allowing sand to move beyond the foredune crest and into the dune system.

This project would expand upon their initial studies to help us understand how best to facilitate a landward migration of the foredune that will maintain the buffering capacity of the dune system. The Climate Ready grant will include an adaption demonstration site that will test different configurations of native plantings (after invasive specie are removed) to see what combination is best for facilitating the long-term, natural migration of the foredune.

The proposed project is regional in scale and will expand the transect monitoring program and modeling of shoreline vulnerability to dune spits in both Humboldt Bay and the Eel River estuary. This expanded data collection is needed in order to refine and implement climate-ready adaption measures that can be applied on a broader scale, from the north spit of Humboldt Bay to the mouth of the Eel River.

The education and outreach component of the project will ensure that results are shared with the public in a way that helps engage the community in being informed of how data is used to help manage coastal resources in the face of climate change.

I urge the SCC board to support the staff's recommendation to approve funding for the first phase of this important project.

Sincerely,

Judy Haggard

## Nancy Correll

Doug Bosco, Chair  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300  
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco

I am writing to express my support for the Friends of the Dunes (FOD) Climate Ready grant application. This project will enhance our ability to prepare for climate change by improving conditions on our coastal dunes.

I have been involved in environmental issues over the years, including anti-pesticide groups, environmental groups and land conservancy. I have also watched the dunes near FOD and seen them bloom, covered with native plants once the beachgrass was removed. I feel the following summary is accurate as far as the predictions of the results of this work.

The USFWS, the lead agency in this project, has been collecting three years of data from transect studies at Lanphere and Ma-le'l Dunes which support the premise that removal of invasive non-native vegetation coupled with native plantings, can maintain foredune integrity and allow for landward migration in response to sea level rise. Their preliminary results also show that native foredunes have similar average heights compared to dunes dominated by European beach grass but have the added benefit of allowing sand to move beyond the foredune crest and into the dune system.

This project would expand upon their initial studies to help us understand how best to facilitate a landward migration of the foredune that will maintain the buffering capacity of the dune system. The Climate ready grant will include a adaption demonstration site that will test different configurations of native plantings (after invasive specie are removed) to see what combination is best for facilitating the long-term, natural migration of the foredune.

The proposed project is regional in scale, and will expand the transect monitoring program and modeling of shoreline vulnerability to dune spits in both Humboldt Bay and the Eel River estuary. This expanded data collection is needed in order to refine and implement climate ready adaption measures that can be applied on a broader scale, from he north spit of Humboldt Bay to the mouth of the Eel River.

The education and outreach component of the project will ensure that results are shared with the public in a way that helps engage the community in being informed aware of how data is used to help manage coastal resources in the face of climate change.

1922 A Ave., McKinleyville, CA 95519  
707-839-2500 [duning@humboldt1.com](mailto:duning@humboldt1.com)

I urge the SCC board to support the staff's recommendation to approve funding for the first phase of this important project.

Sincerely,  
Nancy Correll



December 22, 2014

Kelly Malinowski  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

City of Belvedere

Town of Fairfax

City of Larkspur

County of Marin

City of Mill Valley

City of Novato

Town of Ross

Town of San Anselmo

City of San Rafael

City of Sausalito

Town of Tiburon

Transportation  
Authority of Marin

Marin Municipal  
Water District

RE: Marin Adaptation Demonstration and Education Project (Marin ADEPt)  
Support for Marin County's Proposal for Climate Ready Grant Round 3

Dear Ms. Malinowski and Members of the Review Panel,

We at the Marin Climate Energy Partnership would like to offer our support for the County of Marin's application for the Climate Ready Grant.

We've been working with the County of Marin for the past several months to develop a coordinated effort to move all of the towns on the Bay side of Marin toward a comprehensive vulnerability assessment and strategies for local elected officials to consider. This grant provides our best chance at bringing the right people and resources to bear to achieve our goal, and will provide a necessary pilot implementation strategy that all cities and towns can learn from in our own attempts at adapting to rising seas and storm events.

We are wholeheartedly supportive of the County's efforts to coordinate all local jurisdictions and stakeholders in a strategic planning program related to sea level rise, and look forward to working with the County on this and other adaptation planning projects.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Cory Bytof  
Chair, Marin Climate Energy Partnership  
City of San Rafael Sustainability and Volunteer Program Coordinator  
(415) 485-3407, [Cory.Bytof@CityofSanRafael.org](mailto:Cory.Bytof@CityofSanRafael.org)

555 Northgate Drive, Ste. 230  
San Rafael, CA 94903-3680  
(415) 613-2907



MAYOR GARY O. PHILLIPS  
VICE MAYOR ANDREW CUYUGAN MCCULLOUGH  
COUNCILMEMBER MARIBETH BUSHEY  
COUNCILMEMBER KATE COLIN  
COUNCILMEMBER JOHN GAMBLIN

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE  
PHONE: 415-485-3070  
FAX: 415-459-2242

December 24, 2014

Kelly Malinowski  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Marin Adaptation Demonstration and Education Project (Marin ADEPt)  
Support for Marin County's Proposal for Climate Ready Grant Round 3

Dear Ms. Malinowski and Members of the Review Panel,

On behalf of the City of San Rafael I would like to offer my support for the County of Marin's application for the Climate Ready Grant.

As we move beyond mitigation into planning for the effects of climate change, it is extremely important for the City of San Rafael to be part of a larger, county-wide effort to address the effects of sea level rise and other climate impacts. No city can go it alone, no city has the resources to develop adequate planning mechanisms on their own, and we are painfully aware that disasters do not respect jurisdictional boundaries.

We've been working with the County of Marin and the Marin Climate Energy Partnership for the past several months to develop a coordinated effort to move all of the towns on the Bay side of Marin toward a comprehensive vulnerability assessment and strategies for local elected officials to consider. This grant provides our best chance at bringing the right people and resources to bear to achieve our goal, and will provide a necessary pilot implementation strategy that all cities and towns can learn from in our own attempts at adapting to rising seas and storm events.

We are wholeheartedly supportive of the County's efforts to coordinate all local jurisdictions and stakeholders in a strategic planning program related to sea level rise, and look forward to working with the County on this and other adaptation planning projects.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nancy Mackle  
City Manager

**RECEIVED**  
DEC 26 2014  
COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF



December 19, 2014

Kelly Malinkowski  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway – 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

***RE: Marin Adaptation Demonstration and Education Project for Climate Ready Grant***

Dear Ms. Malinkowski:

The Marin Conservation League heartily supports the MDE Project because of its multibenefit structure and real time science for high school students. The project team is highly qualified to engage students in climate science, sea level rise and data collection and applying that knowledge in their own communities – benefitting researchers and local governments, as well as other students and teachers in their schools.

The YESS (Youth Exploring Sea Level Rise Science) Toolkit will provide resources for other communities in California and beyond. The Pilot program, which can address Marin’s sea coast and Bayfront shorelines, provides exceptional opportunity for research. Since the county has initiated a countywide risk assessment, students would be able to plug in to community planning progress.

We urge you to fund this worthwhile and timely project.

Sincerely,



Jon Elam  
President

**RECEIVED**  
DEC 22 2014  
COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.

PHONE: 415.485.6257  
FAX: 415.485.6259

EMAIL: [mcl@marinconservationleague.org](mailto:mcl@marinconservationleague.org)  
WEB: [marinconservationleague.org](http://marinconservationleague.org)

ADDRESS: 175 N. Redwood Dr., Ste. 135  
San Rafael, CA 94903-1977



THE CITY OF  
**NOVATO**  
CALIFORNIA

922 Machin Avenue  
Novato, CA 94945  
415/899-8900  
FAX 415/899-8213  
[www.novato.org](http://www.novato.org)

Mayor

Jeanne MacLeamy

Mayor Pro Tem

Pat Eklund

Councilmembers

Denise Athas

Madeline Kellner

Eric Lucan

City Manager

Michael S. Frank

December 23, 2014

Kelly Malinowski  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: **Marin Adaptation Demonstration and Education Project (Marin ADEPT)**  
Proposal for Climate Ready Grant Round 3

Dear Ms. Malinowksi and Members of the Review Panel:

The City of Novato strongly supports Marin County's application for the **Marin Adaptation Demonstration and Education Project** submitted to the Climate Ready Grant program. I apologize that our city administration is closed for the holidays, so am not able to secure this letter of support from Mayor Jeanne MacLeamy. However, the City is very concerned about future implications of sea level rise and has recently prepared a white paper on the topic as part of our General Plan Update process to highlight the need for adaptation policies and programs. We particularly support the preparation of a subregional vulnerability assessment with involvement of the public and all affected jurisdictions and public agencies.

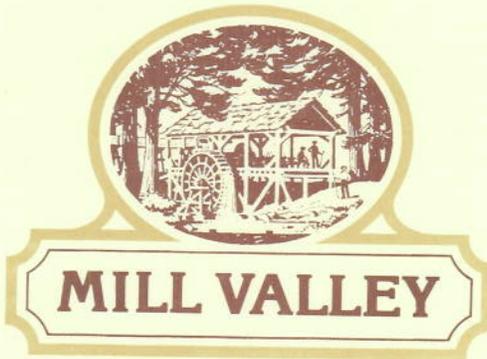
As we move beyond mitigation into confronting the impacts of climate change, it is clear no city can go it alone, and a coordinated county-wide effort is needed. This grant would catalyze that effort, and enable us to bring the right people and resources together to create an integrated, synergistic implementation strategy that all cities and towns can share in.

Marin has long been a leader in innovating and promoting "green" solutions, to problems and this project continues that commitment. Developing preliminary engineering and feasibility analyses of alternative technical solutions, including approaches such as a "horizontal levee" along Richardson Bay, will equip decision-makers not only in Marin, but around the Bay with vital information about responding to rising seas and extreme storms.

Please support Marin County's efforts to coordinate all local jurisdictions and stakeholders in a strategic program to demonstrate sea level rise, and look forward to working with the County on this and other adaptation planning.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Brown, AICP  
Community Development Director



**Kenneth R. Wachtel**  
Mayor

**Garry Lion**  
Vice Mayor

**John McCauley**  
Councilmember

**Jessica Jackson**  
Councilmember

**Stephanie Moulton-Peters**  
Councilmember

**James C. McCann**  
City Manager

March 12, 2015

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

**RECEIVED**

MAR 16 2015  
COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.

Attn: Brenna Rudd

**RE: Marin Adaptation Demonstration and Education Project (Marin ADEPT) Support for Marin County's Proposal for Climate Ready Grant Round 3**

Dear Hon. Bosco and Members of the Review Panel,

On behalf of the City of Mill Valley I would like to offer our strong support for the County of Marin's pending application for the Climate Ready Grant.

As we plan for the assessment of the effects of climate change, it is important for Mill Valley to be part of a larger, county-wide effort to address the effects of sea level rise and other climate impacts. We are aware that rising sea levels do not respect jurisdictional boundaries.

That is why we have joined with the County of Marin and the Marin Climate Energy Partnership in developing a coordinated effort to move all of the cities and towns on the Bay side of Marin toward a comprehensive vulnerability assessment and strategies for local elected officials to consider. This grant provides an important opportunity to bring the right people and resources to bear to achieve our goal.

We support the joint City/ County efforts to coordinate a Vulnerability Assessment for Marin County, and through the Conservancy's grant support, look forward to participating in this important work.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jim McCann

City Manager  
City of Mill Valley



April 2, 2015

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

Attn: Brenna Rudd

Dear Chairman Bosco:

The leadership team of Shore Up Marin enthusiastically supports the County of Marin's application for the Marin Bay Waterfront Adaptation Vulnerability Evaluation. In proposing this study, the County is proactively taking a leadership role in helping to coordinate the diverse geographical and cultural features that make up the Bay side of the County and come into play when considering sea level rise and flooding issues. We know that the Bay side of the County is in danger of severe inundation in places, which will threaten the health and economic well being of its residents.

Shore Up Marin is an organization committed to ensuring that vulnerable communities in Marin are included equally in sea level rise planning. Through bridging equity and environmental concerns related to climate change, we are building leadership capacity within Marin's vulnerable communities.

County staff and elected officials have demonstrated their interest in including the contributions of underrepresented residents by providing generous expertise to Shore Up in the form of trainings related to understanding maps, climate data, adaptation measures, and policy. Likewise, we are committed to working closely with the County to provide community input during the vulnerability assessment process as well as consultation as needed.

We urge you to fund this timely and critically needed project. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sandra Wallenstein".

Sandra Wallenstein, Co-Director of Shore Up Marin  
Owner, GreenUp Learning

**RECEIVED**

APR 06 2015

COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.

*Lisa A. Palter and Edwin DeShazo*  
70 Hilarita Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941  
(415) 383-1807 / *lapalter@comcast.net*

March 16, 2015

Honorable Douglas Bosco, Board Chair  
State Coastal Conservancy  
Attn: Brenna Rudd  
1330 Broadway, Ste. 1300  
Oakland, CA 94612

**RE: Marin Adaptation Demonstration and Education Project /  
Climate Ready Grant**

Dear Chairman Bosco:

This letter is written to offer my strong support for Marin County's pending application for the Climate Ready Grant.

As a Marin County resident, parent and business-owner with grave concerns about climate change and rising sea levels, I am in full support of efforts to assess Marin's vulnerability. Now is the time for Marin County to obtain a comprehensive vulnerability assessment so that we can develop strategies for local officials to consider. The grant would provide an opportunity to bring the right people and resources together to achieve this goal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Lisa A. Palter, Esq.

**RECEIVED**

MAR 18 2015

COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.



tel 415 453 8070  
cell 415 250 7469  
400 Red Hill Avenue  
San Anselmo CA 94960  
GreenIdealsGroup.com

March 13, 2015

Honorable Douglas Bosco, Board Chairman  
State Coastal Conservancy  
Attention: Brenna Rudd  
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300  
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Support for Marin County's Proposal for Climate Ready Grant, Round 3

Honorable Mr. Bosco:

As a small business owner, a former Board Officer of the Environmental Forum of Marin, and a long-time resident of Marin County, I would like to register my staunch support for Marin County's pending application for the Climate Ready Grant.

The impacts of climate change on our county and communities everywhere are sure to be dramatic. It is imperative that we do all we can to approach this issue with open eyes and an accurate sense of expectation, if we are to make wise decisions towards mitigating effects. In addition to working efficiently in concert with one another, we must fund vulnerability assessments, in order to develop action plans.

Future generations will not forgive our failure to see what's coming, and to act appropriately.

Please do all you can to support this critical funding proposal.

Sincerely,



Susan Bierzychudek  
Principal, Green Ideals

**RECEIVED**

MAR 18 2015  
COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF



March 30, 2015

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

Attn: Brenna Rudd (510) 286-0470

RE: Marin Bay Waterfront Adaptation Vulnerability Evaluation (BayWAVE, formerly ADEPt)  
Support for Marin County's Proposal for Climate Ready Grant Round 3

Dear Mr. Bosco and Members of the Review Panel:

On behalf of Sustainable Marin, I would like to offer our enthusiastic support for the County of Marin's pending application for the Climate Ready Grant. We and our affiliates, Sustainable Novato, Sustainable San Rafael, and Sustainable Fairfax, have worked tirelessly throughout Marin to build public awareness of, and action on, climate impacts and solutions. The BayWAVE program will significantly advance these efforts.

We applaud the County of Marin and the Marin Climate Energy Partnership's proposal for a county-wide vulnerability assessment encompassing all of Marin's Bayside cities and towns, coupled with environmentally sound adaptation strategies for local elected officials to consider. As sea level rise transcends jurisdictional boundaries, we appreciate the County initiating an all-inclusive framework that brings together the right people and resources to identify the problems and develop solutions.

King Tides already flood parts of Southern Marin, and such impacts will only worsen with sea level rise and additional storms. We must start addressing this problem before it escalates and causes increased degradation of Marin's communities and infrastructure. A countywide effort will help avoid piecemeal solutions which are only temporary fixes to the problem.

This grant provides an important opportunity for environmental innovations that promise to be of great value locally, while setting important precedents regionally and globally. We support the joint City/County coordination effort through the Conservancy's financial support, and look forward to participating in this important work.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Greg Brockbank, President

[greg@marinlawcenter.com](mailto:greg@marinlawcenter.com)



MARIN BAYLANDS ADVOCATES



P.O. BOX 2598

MILL VALLEY, CALIFORNIA 94942

March 25, 2015

Hon. Douglas Bosco, Board Chairman  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway Suite 1300  
Oakland, CA 94612  
Attn: Brenna Rudd  
Email: [Brennarudd@scc.ca.gov](mailto:Brennarudd@scc.ca.gov)

Dear Chairman Bosco and Board Members:

**Re: Support: Marin County Climate Ready Grant Proposal  
(Marin Bay Waterfront Adaptation Vulnerability Evaluation)**

Marin Baylands Advocates urges your support for the Marin County Community Development Agency's request for \$250,000 to help develop, and prepare the groundwork for implementing, a sea level rise adaptation regimen coordinated with all relevant county governing jurisdictions. The project appears to comply with the purpose of the Climate Ready grant program, "to help advance planning and implementation of on the ground actions that will lessen the impacts of climate change on California's coastal resources." In addition, Marin County is providing matching funds and additional grants for the program.

Marin County is uniquely at risk of inundation from rising ocean and bay waters as described in the grant application, and coordination among all agencies and jurisdictions is key to addressing the challenges ahead as water does not know jurisdictional boundaries.

Marin Baylands Advocates is a volunteer organization in existence for a quarter century, with the goal of protecting Marin baylands through public education and purchase of bayland properties. Since inception we have raised funds for the purchase and protection of more than one thousand acres of our bay marshes and uplands, properties which are major factors in the Bay Area's beauty and economy, and which also may be crucial for protecting inland areas from future sea level rise. We are particularly interested in strategies that could be developed through the Bay WAVE program to use nature-based solutions to sea level rise impacts that will benefit our natural environment and wildlife.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ann Thomas".

Ann Thomas, Secretary

## San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission

455 Golden Gate Avenue, Suite 10600, San Francisco, California 94102 tel 415 352 3600 fax 415 352 3606

March 27, 2015

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

*RE: Climate Ready Grant Support Letter – Marin Adaptation Demonstration and Education Project (MarinADEPt)*

Dear Chair Bosco:

On behalf of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), I urge you in the strongest possible terms to fund Marin County's application for a Climate Ready Grant to support its MarinADEPt program.

Together with the Conservancy, BCDC is working both regionally and locally to make the Bay Area more resilient to rising sea levels. We recognize the difficult and complex work that is required to assess what risks we will face and understand how to make our communities, jurisdictions, and the region more resilient. The intricate architecture of our region, the connections and networks within, and the local complexity of communities that are potentially at risk can make it challenging for jurisdictions to know exactly how to begin.

Fortunately, Marin County policy makers, technical experts and the general public have started a process to discuss the risks they may face. With support from BCDC's Adapting to Rising Tides Program, County leadership is encouraging conversations on this critical topic, and is beginning the work on assessing the risks in order to determine what actions to take. We have worked closely with the County to provide them information, materials and support from the ART Program that have been tailored for Marin, and we shall continue to provide support and assistance on the ground as the County takes up this critical issue. County Supervisor Kate Sears, a BCDC Commissioner, has worked closely with our staff and a myriad others to help lead public engagement efforts addressing resilience, and Marin County's application for a SCC Climate Ready Grant is a significant step forward in expanding and enriching these efforts, and has our complete support.

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APR 01 2015

COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.



The Honorable Douglas Bosco, Chair

March 27, 2015

Page 2

This project can benefit the entire region, not just Marin County, as it will provide yet another example of how jurisdictions can develop the foundation necessary to determine how best to achieve shoreline resilience. Thank you very much for your consideration of this request, and I am happy to answer any questions or concerns that you may have.

Sincerely,



LAWRENCE J. GOLDZBAND  
Executive Director

LG/gg

Hon. Douglas Bosco  
Board Chair  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, Ste 1300  
Oakland, CA

RE: Marin Adaptation Demonstration and Education Project: Support for Marin County's Proposal for Climate Ready Grant Round 3

Honorable Bosco

The County of Marin is developing a county-wide, multi jurisdictional SLR vulnerability assessment and coordinating various entities engaged in Climate and Sea Level Rise planning and education. Without the coordination the county provides with this project, it would be much less likely that the jurisdictions would have access to coordinated local information based on mutually agreements upon data and the models that generate them. As a council member and citizen active in regional issues, I would like to express my support for the effort and the grant application to help fund it.

18% of Marin's population is at risk from increasing storm intensities, floods and sea level rise. Wetlands, creeks, beaches, other natural resources and about 11 sq miles of lands adjacent to these features are subject to the impact of projected Sea level rise. The project makes productive engagements by communities in planning adaptation possible and early action more probable.

Tiburon, surrounded by Richmond Bay, Richardson Bay and San Francisco Bay, is already engaged in partnering with Belvedere and the Romberg Center to begin our vulnerability assessment process and share information, but we cannot be productive in a vacuum. As you know from the Town's earlier letter, we support the grant request to the State Coastal Conservancy to allow us all to coordinate our current vulnerability assessment efforts in Marin and look forward to eventual coordination with communities and jurisdictions in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Respectfully



Alice Fredericks  
Council Member  
Town of Tiburon  
1505 Tiburon Blvd  
Tiburon, CA 94920  
4157895166



THE TOWN OF  
CORTE MADERA  
MARIN COUNTY CALIFORNIA

300 TAMALPAIS DRIVE  
CORTE MADERA, CA  
94925-1418

www.townofcortemadera.org

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RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
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SANITARY DISTRICT No. 2  
415-927-5057

CENTRAL MARIN  
POLICE AUTHORITY  
415-927-5150

March 20, 2015

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

Attn: Brenna Rudd

**RE: Marin Adaptation Demonstration and Education Project  
(Marin ADEPt) Support for Marin County's Proposal for Climate  
Ready Grant Round 3**

Dear Hon. Bosco and Members of the Review Panel,

On behalf of the Town of Corte Madera, I would like to offer our strong support for the County of Marin's pending application for the Climate Ready Grant.

Marin County is second most at risk in the Bay Area for projected impacts from sea level rise. The communities of Marin are already experiencing the effects of climate change in riverine and King Tide flooding, and these impacts will only increase. Such impacts do not respect City or County lines, and demand the kind of forward-thinking, long term cooperation the Marin ADEPt program will build.

With substantial wetland areas at risk of being drowned out of existence, taking the next steps to designing and implementing "living shoreline protection" along our Bay shoreline, is a critically important part of the proposed project. That is why we have joined with the County of Marin and the Marin Climate Energy Partnership in developing a coordinated effort to move all of the cities and towns on the Bay side of Marin toward a comprehensive vulnerability assessment and strategies for local elected officials to consider.

We support the joint City/County efforts to coordinate a Vulnerability Assessment for Marin County, and through the Conservancy's grant support, look forward to participating in this important work.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
  
David Bracken  
Town Manager  
Town of Corte Madera

**RECEIVED**

MAR 23 2015  
COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.

COMMUNITY MARIN ACTION COMMITTEE

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50 Forrest Road, Novato, CA 94947

March 27, 2015

Hon. Douglas Bosco, Board Chairman  
State Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway Suite 1300  
Oakland, CA 94612  
Attn: Brenna Rudd  
Email: [Brenna.rudd@scc.ca.gov](mailto:Brenna.rudd@scc.ca.gov)

Dear Chairman Bosco and members of the Board:

Re: Support: Marin Bay Waterfront Adaptation Vulnerability Evaluation (Bay WAVE)

Community Marin Action Committee (CMAC) is a citizen environmental advocacy group formed to seek implementation of recommendations in a policy document entitled *Community Marin 2013*, which was adopted by several leading Marin County organizations. A major program goal in this document states:

- Marin County and its cities and towns must plan together to adapt to the effects of climate change, especially sea level rise, and to reduce the activities that are the primary causes of climate change.

We believe Marin County and its cities need to: develop a coordinated plan for protection of public facilities and areas subject to effects of sea level rise. This could include expansion of wetlands and flood-plains, protection of major public facilities, and avoiding or prohibiting new development in areas subject to inundation. It is also necessary to monitor the effects of climate change on natural resources and habitat, and revise local ordinances to minimize impacts.

To this end during the past year we have been meeting with decision-makers and encouraging them to establish a countywide collaborative process to identify impacts that will occur along our shoreline in coming decades due to sea level rise, and to prepare and then implement a plan to address these changes.

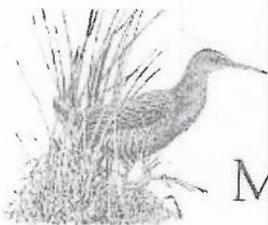
We support, and urge funding for, the proposed climate ready grant which we believe is critical to achieving this goal. We are fully prepared to assist the County as volunteers in whatever role would be helpful.

Thank you for giving this application serious consideration and, hopefully, your approval.

Yours truly,



Rick Fraites, Chair



# Marin Audubon Society

P.O. Box 599 | MILL VALLEY, CA 94942-0599 | MARINAUDUBON.ORG

March 28, 2015

Honorable Douglas Bosco, Chairman  
State Coastal Conservancy Board  
Brennarudd@scc.ca.gov

ATT: Brenna Rudd

RE: SUPPORT FOR MARIN BAY WATERFRONT ADAPATION  
VULNERABILITY EVALUATION

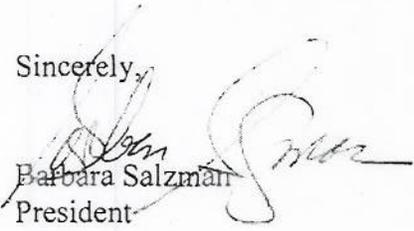
Dear Chairman Bosco and Members of the Board:

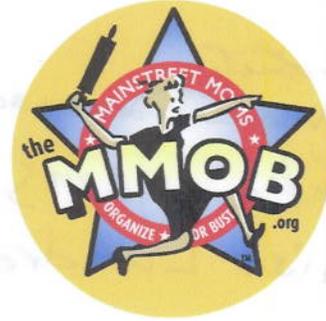
This is to convey the support of the Marin Audubon Society for the Marin County Community Development Agency's application for a grant of \$250,000 from the Climate Ready Concept grant program. The application focuses on community involvement, advance planning and characterization of vulnerabilities, all of which are necessary to secure the public support for climate change adaptation measures. Broad public support is critical for adaptation measures to be implemented and be effective.

We trust that the process will focus on enhancing and utilizing Marin's natural wetland systems as one of the, if not the, primary adaptation strategy wherever possible, and that it will involve the interested environmental community.

Thank you for considering our input.

Sincerely,

  
Barbara Salzman  
President



March 16, 2015

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

Re: Application for Climate Ready Grant, Round Three  
Marin Adaptation Demonstration and Education Project (Marin ADEPT)

Dear Chairman Bosco,

Mainstreet Moms, an all-volunteer not-for-profit environmental and policy education and action group in Point Reyes, support the pending grant application for the Marin ADEPT project. We are deeply concerned about the effects of climate change. Here in rural west Marin sea level rise will significantly impact our coastal towns and villages, isolating our communities from each other and from the rest of Marin County, unless we act.

We support the effort of the County of Marin and the Marin Climate Energy Partnership to develop a coordinated effort to understand the risks of sea level rise, complete a comprehensive vulnerability assessment, and to develop strategies to mitigate and adapt to this and other climate change challenges.

We urge the Conservancy to provide funding in support of this important work.

Regards,

Mainstreet Moms  
PO Box 267  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956  
www.themmob.org

*Heather J. Smith*  
Swanna Henderson  
Eusebio Isaac  
Julia Bartlett  
Christina Anderson  
Margaret Ridgely  
Susan Stingle

*Patricia Cameron*  
Marge Genalo  
Barbara Gaman  
Robin White  
Nancy Procter  
Bonnie Toak  
Mary C. Morgan  
Kris Brown

(OVER →)

Linda Lusty  
Cathleen Dainson  
Tinka Mavis  
Louise Landreth

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MAR 19 2015  
COASTAL CONSERVANCY  
OAKLAND, CALIF.



To coordinate the advancement of wetland science and management on the Central Coast

Moss Landing Marine Labs | (831) 771-4463 | [www.centralcoastwetlands.org](http://www.centralcoastwetlands.org)

June 11, 2015

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

Dear Mr. Bosco,

I am writing to ask for your support for The Nature Conservancy's (TNC) Climate Ready application for the project, *Monterey County River Management*.

The Central Coast Wetlands Group is partnering with TNC along the Monterey County coastline to improve resilience to climate change and to reduce water quality loads from agricultural lands, and we see this project to improve management of the Salinas Valley floodplain as essential to the success of our coastal efforts.

Last year we applauded The Nature Conservancy's leadership in breaking a long-standing stalemate on flood risk management by developing a multi-benefit floodplain project to bring objective hydrological and biological science to growers within collections of landowners called 'River Management Units'. This enabled growers to, for the first time, better understand how the floodplain worked and to coordinate management strategies to maximize flood reduction while improving habitat for steelhead trout and other riparian wildlife. By creating bypass channels co-located where possible with large stands of *Arundo donax* the team was able to incentivize growers to recreate more historic riparian conditions while benefiting their food production goals.

The expansion of this successful model is greatly needed throughout the Salinas Valley in order to develop a foundation for more integrated watershed management. The Central Coast Wetlands Group sees great potential for the river management project to lead to improved coastal resilience and we will continue our partnership with TNC to identify where we can integrate flood risk best practices with those to improve water quality and improve fisheries' habitat.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ross Clark', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Ross Clark, Director

Central Coast Wetlands Group at Moss Landing Marine Labs  
8272 Moss Landing Rd  
Moss Landing, CA 95039



***Grower-Shipper Association of Central California***  
***“OUR MEMBERS: PARTNERS PRODUCING PROSPERITY”***

June 9, 2015

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

Dear Mr. Bosco,

I'm writing to express The Grower Shipper Association's commitment to partner with The Nature Conservancy in the Climate Ready Grant project, *Monterey County River Management*. As a project partner, we are prepared to participate throughout the process including landowner/grower support and outreach. We will bring our experience working with growers and landowners to the project in order to deliver the roll-out of a successful river management strategy that combines management practices that reduce flood risk while removing thirsty invasive such as Arundo, and improve wildlife habitat within the floodplain. We do this in support of the overarching goal of expanding a successful model trialed last year to simultaneously reduce flood risk while removing thirsty invasive such as Arundo, and improving wildlife habitat within the floodplain.

We are participating in this project because we want to continue to support a community-based solution that provides a multi-benefit approach to river watershed management with public/private partnerships.

Through participation in this effort, we can help growers and landowners in the Salinas Valley continue to produce healthy produce by directly reducing risk of inundation to farms while attending to the longer-term need to sustainably manage the lands and waters on which agricultural production depends.

We have already begun preparations for this work in anticipation of the Coastal Conservancy's funding to share the costs of scientific and hydrological analyses that will enable the Salinas Valley community to develop co-beneficial strategies. Specifically we have with our partners organized willing landowners and farmers into cooperative units – 'River Management Units' (RMUs) – that allow them to better analyze risks and coordinate management strategies while sharing costs and benefits throughout the entire unit. There are seven RMUs identified throughout the Monterey County portion of the river and we are currently working with growers and landowners to prepare them to participate in a series of Technical & Design Committee meetings to develop the management strategies in partnership with The Nature Conservancy, the

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Monterey County Water Resources Agency and the Monterey County Resource Conservation District.

Growers and landowners will be contributing to the success of this program through participation in two preparatory workshops and in-person field visits and additional surveys, and through funding all pre-construction surveys and maintenance work. This match is expected to total approximately \$186,000.

We are thrilled with the success of our first year's demonstration near the towns of Chualar and Gonzales and the incorporation of this model in the Monterey County Water Resource Agency's Stream Maintenance Program, and we look forward to expanding the benefits of this project throughout the rest of Monterey County over the next year.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at 831-422-8844 or [abby@growershipper.com](mailto:abby@growershipper.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Abby Taylor-Silva". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Abby Taylor-Silva  
Vice President, Policy & Communications