

July 8, 2015

Carol Carter  
Grants Administrator  
California Natural Resources Agency  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311  
Sacramento, CA 95814



Dear Ms. Carter:

I am the Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor for University of California Cooperative Extension for Humboldt and Del Norte Counties, where I advise land managers on a variety of livestock and rangeland management issues. I have particular interest in the interactions between grazing and wildlife, including the use of grazing as a management tool in wetland and upland habitats.

I am writing in support of the State Coastal Conservancy's Klamath River Estuary Wetlands Conservation Project on the Bessette Ranch in the Klamath River Estuary. In addition to protecting valuable wetlands and wildlife habitat with a conservation easement, this project provides unique research and educational opportunities in a coastal rangeland ecosystem that is both grazed (in part) and characterized by significant wetland features. I believe the project can help demonstrate the ways in which grazing methods may be used, in combination with other conservation practices, to maintain desired habitat conditions for target species.

Over the next two years, I will contribute to the development of a formal Grazing Plan on the property by working with the landowner, the Northcoast Regional Land Trust, and possibly other participating resource agencies in the interest of supporting good long-term range management and the effective conservation of wetland resources. I will provide an in-kind contribution consisting of 20 hours of my time to provide guidance and advice during the development of the Plan. At \$47.17/hour loaded rate, this contribution is valued at \$943.40.

Additionally, I will work to incorporate the property into future rangeland management tours and similar events sponsored by UC Ag Extension as those events get organized. Examples like this project can lead others to adopt conservation-oriented grazing techniques across the large, agriculturally-zoned wetland landscapes that occur in this part of the country.

I respectfully encourage you to support this important project for the protection of valuable wetlands, rangelands, streams, and wildlife habitat.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Jeffery Stackhouse', is positioned below the 'Sincerely,' text. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jeffery Stackhouse

## Exhibit 5. Project Letters



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Carol Carter  
Grants Administrator  
California Natural Resources Agency  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311  
Sacramento, CA 95814

July 9, 2015

Dear Ms. Carter:

The Northcoast Regional Land Trust (NRLT) is very supportive of the proposed Klamath River Estuary Wetlands Conservation Project. NRLT is working with the landowners, Tom and Nancy Bessette, and the State Coastal Conservancy to protect floodplain wetlands, fish-bearing streams and riparian habitat, upland forests and grasslands, and a historic working ranch from present and future development threats. NRLT is a nationally-accredited (through the Land Trust Alliance) land trust with a well-established conservation easement program. We will work with the Conservancy and the landowner to draft and record a conservation easement that protects the unique natural resources on the property. As the long-term easement holder, we will conduct annual monitoring and other stewardship activities to ensure that the conservation values of this property remain intact in perpetuity.

NRLT has invested significant staff time in the development of the conservation easement to date and management of the property. We recognize the tremendous value of the subject property for wildlife habitat, and believe that the project can provide important benefits for wildlife, education, and sustainable, low-intensity agriculture.

For this project, NRLT will provide a new cash match consisting of \$6,000 to fund our staff to perform tasks associated with: a) the development of a conservation easement for the property; b) the coordination of educational events at the property over the next two years; c) the development of a Grazing Plan for the property. NRLT estimates that its staff will spend 100 hours on these tasks over the next two years. At \$60.00/hour loaded rate, funded by private foundation and individual contributions, this contribution is valued at \$6000. Additionally, NRLT is willing to use as match for this project \$5,320 of old cash and \$1,200 of old in-kind contributions made towards the development of this project to date.

NRLT is willing to count these funds as new cash match and old match for the project. We respectfully encourage you to support this important project showcasing compatible working landscapes and valuable wetlands and wildlife habitat.

Sincerely,

Michael Cipra  
Executive Director

Exhibit 5. Project Letters



From: Dr. Yvonne Everett, Professor of Environmental Planning  
Department of Environmental Science and Management  
1 Harpst St, Arcata, CA 95521  
[Everett@humboldt.edu](mailto:Everett@humboldt.edu)  
(707) 826-4188

Carol Carter  
Grant Coordinator  
California Natural Resources Agency  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311  
Sacramento, CA 95814

July 8, 2015

Dear Ms. Carter:

I am faculty in the Department of Environmental Sciences and Management at Humboldt State University (HSU). I am supportive of the State Coastal Conservancy's Klamath River Estuary Conservation Project. In addition to its long-term benefits for plants and wildlife, I believe the project provides a valuable educational opportunity for students to learn about wetlands, wetlands restoration, and collaborative conservation projects. I plan to bring my classes out to the project area for site visits and class projects, and am willing to count my time in preparing and teaching these classes as an in-kind match towards the project.

Over the next two years, I will provide an in-kind contribution consisting of 20 hours of my time to provide our students with educational opportunities connected to the project. At \$55.43/hour loaded rate, this contribution is valued at \$1,108.60.

I respectfully encourage you to support this important project for the protection of valuable wetlands, streams and wildlife habitat.

Sincerely,

*Yvonne Everett*