

California State Senate

SENATOR
MIKE MCGUIRE

SECOND SENATE DISTRICT



May 20, 2015

Amy Chestnut, Acquisitions Director
Sonoma Land Trust
822 Fifth Street
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Dear Ms. Chestnut:

I am writing in support of Sonoma Land Trust's planned acquisition of the 547-acre Estero Ranch Property. I am aware that the property has been a coastal conservation target for more than two decades and that the family has recently placed the ranch on the market. This is an incredible opportunity to permanently protect the ranch's many natural resources and recreational values for future generations to come.

If acquired, the property will connect SLT's Estero American Preserve with Pinnacle Gulch and Doran Beach Regional Park. It also contains three-quarters of a mile of the Pacific Coast and a mile of the fragile, undisturbed Estero Americano, a fjord-like estuary. The Estero's diverse mixture of wetland communities and estuarine habitats is one of the most important biological areas on the entire Northern California Coast. Its stunning views toward Point Reyes and Bodega Head will enhance the California Coastal Trail.

I commend the fact that by purchasing the Estero Ranch Property, Sonoma Land Trust will join with the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation and the Wildlands Conservancy in protecting this remarkable property. It is my pleasure to support this worthy endeavor.

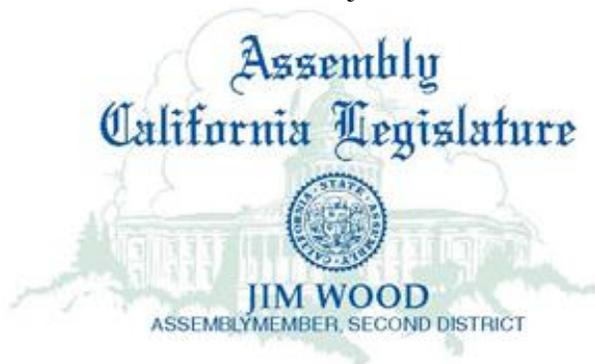
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MIKE MCGUIRE".

MIKE MCGUIRE
Senator

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FAX (707) 455-6607

200 S SCHOOL STREET, SUITE D
UKIAH, CA 95482
(707) 462-5770
FAX (707) 463-5773

May 18, 2015

Amy Chesnut
Sonoma Land Trust
822 Fifth Street
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Re: Support for Estero Ranch Acquisition

Dear Ms. Chesnut,

I write in support of Sonoma Land Trust's potential acquisition of the 547-acre Estero Ranch property. The property has been a coastal conservation target for over 20 years and was identified in the 1999 Coastal Parcel Study funded by the Conservancy. The family that owns the property has placed the ranch on the market with a desire to open it up to the public while protecting its natural resources.

The property, primarily coastal prairie habitat, will connect SLT's Estero Americano Preserve with Pinnacle Gulch and Doran Beach Regional Park. As the southwest corner of Sonoma County, it contains three-quarters of a mile of the Pacific Coast, and a mile of the fragile, undisturbed Estero Americano. The adjacent waters of the Pacific Ocean and the Estero Americano are part of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and the Estero Americano State Marine Recreational Management Area. The Estero's diverse assemblage of wetland communities and estuarine habitats is one of the most important biological areas on the entire North Coast.

This scenic property will enhance the California Coastal Trail by providing upland recreational opportunities with stunning views toward Point Reyes and Bodega Head from its 600-foot elevation, as well as a welcome pull-out for kayakers on the Estero Americano.

I believe this is an important project and support your efforts to protect this property.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Jim Wood". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

JIM WOOD
Assemblymember, 2nd District

Cc: Lisa Ames, State Coastal Conservancy

COUNTY OF SONOMA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
575 ADMINISTRATION DRIVE, RM. 100A
SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95403
(707) 565-2241



EFREN CARRILLO
FIFTH DISTRICT SUPERVISOR
efren.carrillo@sonoma-county.org

May 20, 2015

Amy Chesnut, Acquisitions Director
Sonoma Land Trust
822 Fifth Street
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Re: Support for Estero Ranch Acquisition

Dear Ms. Chesnut,

I am writing to support your potential acquisition of the 547-acre Estero Ranch property. I am aware that the property has been a coastal conservation target for over 20 years, and realize that now that it is on the market, it creates a once-in-a-generation opportunity to permanently protect it for the multiple natural resources and recreational values it holds.

The protection of this ranch would further many regional conservation efforts and plans, and would provide numerous public benefits, including –

Habitat Connectivity. The acquisition would connect existing protected lands (SLT's Estero Americano Preserve with Pinnacle Gulch and Doran Beach Regional Park) to further landscape scale conservation, which assists wildlife and humans to adapt to the effects of climate change.

Increased protection of a under-protected coastal prairie habitat, as well as unique coastal wetlands and estuarine habitat. As the southwest corner of Sonoma County, the property contains three-quarters of a mile of the Pacific Coast, and a mile of the fragile, undisturbed Estero Americano – a unique, fjord-like coastal estuary. The adjacent waters of the Pacific Ocean and the Estero Americano are part of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and the Estero Americano State Marine Recreational Management Area. The Estero's diverse assemblage of wetland communities and estuarine habitats, is one of the most important biological areas on the entire Northern California Coast.

Scenic Protection and Public Use. This very scenic property will enhance the California Coastal Trail by providing upland recreational opportunities with stunning views toward Point Reyes and Bodega Head from its 600-foot elevation, as well as a welcome pull-out for kayakers on the Estero Americano.

I believe this is an important project and support your efforts to protect this property.

Sincerely,

Efren Carrillo
Supervisor, Fifth District