

CAPITOL OFFICE  
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 2032  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
TEL 916 651-4019  
FAX 916 651-4919

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY OFFICE  
222 E. CARRILLO STREET  
SUITE 309  
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101  
TEL 805-965-0862  
FAX 805-965-0701

VENTURA COUNTY OFFICE  
300 E. ESPLANADE DRIVE  
SUITE 430  
OXNARD, CA 93036  
TEL 805-988-1940  
FAX 805-988-1945

# California State Legislature

SENATOR  
**HANNAH-BETH JACKSON**  
NINETEENTH SENATE DISTRICT



CHAIR  
SENATE JUDICIARY  
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATIVE  
WOMEN'S CAUCUS  
SELECT COMMITTEE  
ON PASSENGER RAIL  
VICE CHAIR  
JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE  
ON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
COMMITTEES  
BUSINESS, PROFESSIONS &  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
LABOR & INDUSTRIAL  
RELATIONS  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
& WATER  
JOINT COMMITTEE ON ARTS

August 18, 2016

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

**RE: Support for the Cachuma Resource Conservation District's Proposition 1 Grant Application for the San Jose Creek Steelhead Trout Restoration Project**

Dear Chairman Bosco:

As the State Senator representing the 19<sup>th</sup> Senate District, which includes the proposed San Jose Creek Steelhead Trout Restoration Project area, I am writing in support of the Cachuma Resource Conservation District's (RCD) application for Proposition 1 grant funding through the State Coastal Conservancy. The RCD is applying for this grant to remove three barriers to steelhead migration in San Jose Creek, in partnership with the Environmental Defense Center (EDC) and the landowners – two long-time local farming families.

The Southern Steelhead is a federally listed endangered fish species which migrates from the Pacific Ocean to freshwater streams and rivers to spawn. The steelhead population is endangered because in-stream barriers impede its migration and prevent spawning and reproduction. This important project will remove an obsolete dam and two road crossings, and will replace the crossings with two span bridges to relocate the road out of the creek and restore steelhead access to more than two miles of quality spawning and rearing habitat. The project will also make critical improvements to water quality and stream flows.

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) listed steelhead as a federally endangered species in 1997, because the population had dropped from between 36,000-42,000, down to approximately 500 adult steelhead. NMFS has stated that southern California steelhead is one of the most endangered fish in the United States. NMFS' 2012 Southern Steelhead Recovery Plan identifies removal of barriers to migration as a critical recovery action necessary to bring this important species back from the brink of extinction. The Recovery Plan designates the Goleta Slough Watershed, including San Jose Creek, as a Core 1 (highest priority) habitat for recovering steelhead.



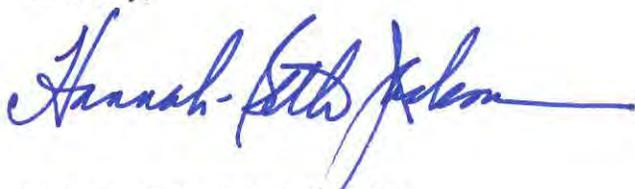
### Exhibit 3: Project Letters

RCD and EDC have already secured the funding needed to complete the draft and final feasibility analysis and finalize engineering and design. The grant requested by the RCD will provide funds needed to complete biological surveys, a riparian habitat restoration plan, and to initiate the local, state and federal permit processes. The project will also include planting of native trees on the stream bank.

I strongly support RCD's application for funding, because the recovery of endangered species is of local, state and national concern. I am encouraged that the RCD, EDC and partners – including the City of Goleta, Santa Barbara County Flood Control District, and Santa Barbara Urban Creeks Council – are collaborating on this important project which will benefit generations of local residents and visitors to Santa Barbara.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. If you need further information, please feel free to contact my Santa Barbara District Office at 805-965-0862.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Hannah-Beth Jackson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

HANNAH-BETH JACKSON  
Senator, 19<sup>th</sup> District

HBJ: am

Exhibit 3: Project Letters

STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. BOX 942849  
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0037  
(916) 319-2037  
FAX (916) 319-2137  
www.assembly.ca.gov/williams



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TRANSPORTATION  
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FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE  
CHAIR: ASIAN AND PACIFIC  
ISLANDER LEGISLATIVE  
CAUCUS

August 9, 2016

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

Re: San Jose Creek Steelhead Recovery and Restoration Project

Dear Mr. Bosco,

I am writing to express my support for the San Jose Creek Steelhead Recovery and Restoration Project sponsored by the Cachuma Resource Conservation District ("RCD") and the Environmental Defense Center ("EDC"). This project aims to restore steelhead migratory access to over 2 miles of high quality steelhead spawning and rearing habitat. The project also enjoys the support of the landowners including two long-time local farming families, by the City of Goleta, County of Santa Barbara Flood Control District, County Supervisor Janet Wolf and Congresswoman Lois Capps.

An obsolete dam dating to the 1950s and two at-grade road crossings prevent upstream migration of steelhead to historic spawning grounds. The project will remove all these structures, restore the stream, and replace the crossings with span bridges to keep the road and vehicles out of the restored creek. The project will improve water quality, enhance access for the farming operations, improve riparian habitat conditions and streamflow, and restore access for steelhead.

The RCD is requesting funding from the Coastal Conservancy to complete the biological surveys and analysis, and initiate local, state and federal project permitting. Separate funding from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is currently being utilized to complete the project's engineering and design. The project has also received financial support from the City of Goleta, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and two local foundations.

Southern California Steelhead is one of the most endangered fish in the United States according to the National Marine Fisheries Service which supports the project. According to the 2012 Southern California Steelhead Recovery Plan, the southern California steelhead has plummeted from between 32,000-46,000 down to an estimated 500 adult fish. The Recovery Plan lists the Goleta Slough Watershed, including San Jose Creek, as a Core 1 (highest priority) habitat for recovery of steelhead in southern California. The Recovery Plan lists critical recovery actions, and this includes removing barriers to steelhead migration as will be accomplished by this project.

This project has been extremely well planned and is needed to bring steelhead back from the brink of extinction. I urge you to approve full funding for the San Jose Creek Steelhead Recovery and Restoration Project.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Das Williams", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

DAS WILLIAMS  
Assemblymember, 37<sup>th</sup> District

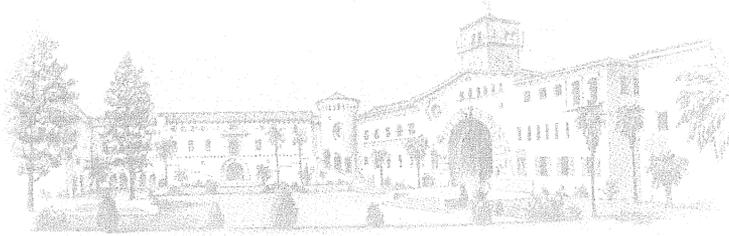
Exhibit 3: Project Letters

**JANET WOLF**  
County Supervisor, Second District

**MARY E. O'GORMAN**  
Chief of Staff

**NAOMI KOVACS**  
District Representative

**HILDA LOPEZ**  
Board Administrative Assistant



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
105 East Anapamu Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Santa Barbara, California 93101

TELEPHONE: (805) 568-2191  
FAX: (805) 568-2283  
E-mail: [jwolf@sbcbos2.org](mailto:jwolf@sbcbos2.org)  
[www.countyofsb.org/bos/wolf](http://www.countyofsb.org/bos/wolf)

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**

August 25, 2016

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

Re: Support for San Jose Creek Steelhead Recovery and Restoration Project - Proposition 1 Grant Application

Dear Mr. Bosco,

As Second District Supervisor in Santa Barbara County, I want to express my enthusiastic support of the request by the Cachuma Resources Conservation District (CRCDC) and the Environmental Defense Center (EDC) for Proposition 1 grant funding through the State Coastal Conservancy to remove three barriers to steelhead migration in San Jose Creek, located in the heart of Santa Barbara County's Second District.

The proposed project is a great example of a public-private partnership on agricultural ranch land, with support from the landowners (two long-time farming families), the City of Goleta, County of Santa Barbara Flood Control District, Congresswoman Lois Capps, Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, Assemblyman Das Williams, and myself.

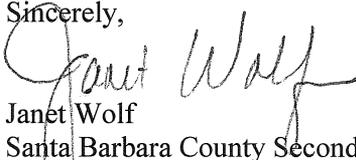
The Southern Steelhead population, a federally listed endangered fish species, is currently impeded in its migration, and therefore prevented from spawning and reproducing, by an obsolete dam and two at-grade road crossings. This project will replace these barriers with two span bridges to relocate the road out of the creek and restore steelhead access to more than two miles of quality spawning and rearing habitat. The project will also improve water quality, riparian habitat conditions, stream flow, and access for the farming operations.

In 2012, the National Marine Fisheries Service, which supports the project, released the Southern Steelhead Recovery Plan. The Plan identifies removal of barriers to migration as a critical recovery action necessary to bring this important species back from the brink of extinction. The Plan designates the Goleta Slough Watershed, including San Jose Creek, as a Core 1 (highest priority) habitat for the recovery of steelhead in southern California.

The CRCDC and EDC have secured funding to complete the feasibility analysis, and finalize engineering and design. They seek funding from the State Coastal Conservancy to complete the biological surveys and analysis, to complete a riparian habitat restoration plan, and to initiate local, state, and federal project permitting.

Thank you for your consideration of funding this important project.

Sincerely,

  
Janet Wolf  
Santa Barbara County Second District Supervisor

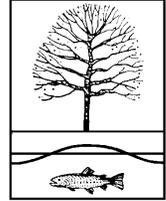
Cc: Brian Trautwein, Environmental Defense Center  
Anne Coates, Cachuma Resources Conservation District

# SANTA BARBARA URBAN CREEKS COUNCIL

P.O. Box 1467, Santa Barbara, CA 93102 (805) 962-8260 [sbucc@silcom.com](mailto:sbucc@silcom.com)

<http://www.sb-urbancreeks.org>

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August 23, 2016

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

Re: **San Jose Creek Fish Passage Improvements** letter of support

Chairman Mr. Bosco:

Santa Barbara Urban Creeks Council is a grass roots non-profit organization with thousands of members in Santa Barbara County whose mission since 1987 is to protect and preserve our creeks and watersheds.

Of particular concern to us are the steelhead trout threatened by past development in our local streams.

San Jose Creek already has a year round population of resident steelhead in its upper reaches. A recently completed project by the City of Goleta removed the major barrier to steelhead migration in San Jose Creek. The San Jose Creek Fish Passage Improvements project would remove the last of the barriers that presently prevent steelhead from migrating from the ocean up the creek to spawning habitat located upstream from the current project location.

We support the Cachuma Resource Conservation District's application for funding from the Coastal Conservancy to remove the last of fish migration barriers on San Jose Creek in Santa Barbara.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Frickmann".

Rick Frickmann, President

LOIS CAPPS  
24TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

2231 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0524  
(202) 225-3601

www.capps.house.gov

COMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY AND COMMERCE



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

- DISTRICT OFFICES:
- 1411 MARSH STREET, SUITE 205  
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93401  
(805) 546-8348
  - 301 EAST CARRILLO STREET, SUITE A  
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101  
(805) 730-1710
  - 1101 SOUTH BROADWAY, SUITE A  
SANTA MARIA, CA 93454  
(805) 349-3832

December 2, 2015

Trish Chapman, Regional Manager  
California Coastal Conservancy  
1330 Broadway, Suite 1300  
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Letter of Support for the San Jose Creek Steelhead Trout Restoration Project

Dear Ms. Chapman:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Cachuma Resources Conservation District's (CRCD) Fisheries Restoration Program Grant Application to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The CRCD, working with the Environmental Defense Center and two agricultural land owners, is applying for this grant for the design of the removal of steelhead migration barriers along the San Jose Creek in Santa Barbara County, within the 24th Congressional District that I represent.

As you know, the Southern Steelhead is a federally listed endangered fish species, which migrates from the Pacific Ocean to freshwater streams and rivers to spawn. The steelhead population is endangered due to in-stream barriers that impede its migration and prevent the completion of its natural life cycle.

The National Marine Fisheries Service's Southern Steelhead Recovery Plan identified the removal of barriers to migration as a critical recovery action necessary to bring this notable species back from the brink of extinction.

This grant requested by the CRCD will provide funds to complete the design for the removal of an obsolete dam and other impediments to the steelhead migration in the San Jose Creek, which is designated in the Recovery Plan as a significant stream for steelhead habitat restoration. This design will also include the restorative measure of planting native trees along the San Jose Creek bank. Importantly, funds from your department have already assisted in the completion of the Final Feasibility Study for this project.

For these reasons, I urge you to give the Cachuma Resources Conservation District's grant request your full and fair consideration, consistent with all relevant rules and regulations. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Wendy Motta in my Santa Barbara District Office at (805) 730-1710.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lois Capps". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**LOIS CAPPS**  
Member of Congress



March 13, 2013

Brian Trautwein  
Environmental Analyst  
Environmental Defense Center  
906 Garden Street  
Santa Barbara CA 93101

RE: SAN JOSE CREEK FISH PASSAGE IMPROVEMENTS

Dear Mr. Trautwein,

The letter is to offer the City of Goleta's support for the grant application by the Environmental Defense Center and Cachuma Resource Conservation District to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's Fisheries Restoration Grant Program to fund an engineering feasibility study and the preliminary design for a significant steelhead trout recovery project in the City's largest stream: San Jose Creek.

The City is currently constructing a major flood control and steelhead restoration project in San Jose Creek within Old Town Goleta. Once construction is complete, steelhead will be able to migrate up to a private ranch in the foothills above Goleta, where they will encounter the next two upstream barriers to migration. We understand that you are working in cooperation with landowners for the removal of these barriers.

While these next two barriers upstream are just north of the City limits, their removal will enhance the City and benefit City residents by facilitating the return of a steelhead run in San Jose Creek, within the City. This project will further the goals of the City in constructing the flood control and fish passage project in Old Town; it will make that project more successful by opening up two miles of high quality spawning habitat.

This work will compliment the City of Goleta's fish passage component of the San Jose Creek project now under construction. Please let me know if you have any other questions and keep us advised on the progress of this work.

**CITY COUNCIL**

Roger S. Aceves  
*Mayor*

Michael T. Bennett  
*Mayor Pro Tempore*

Edward Easton  
*Councilmember*

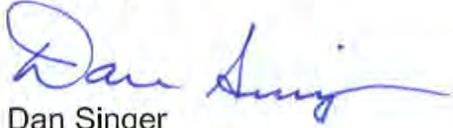
Jim Farr  
*Councilmember*

Paula Perotte  
*Councilmember*

**CITY MANAGER**

Daniel Singer

Sincerely,



Dan Singer  
City Manager

C: Ed Easton, Councilmember  
Steve Wagner, Public Works Director