

JARED HUFFMAN
2ND DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

WASHINGTON OFFICE
1630 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-5161
FAX: (202) 225-5163

WEBSITE: huffman.house.gov

COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES
WATER, POWER, AND OCEANS – RANKING MEMBER
FEDERAL LANDS

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT
WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0502

September 20, 2016

Douglas Bosco, Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am writing to support the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District's request for \$1,000,000 to acquire conservation and public trail easements over the 873-acre Stewarts Point Ranch located along the scenic coastal terrace of northwestern Sonoma County. The proposed project will allow the District to protect in perpetuity the property's natural and scenic resources, promote sustainable forestry, open the coastal bluff to public access compatible with open space and grazing, and protect the site's cultural resources.

In 1990 and again in 2006, the people of Sonoma County voted to create the District to preserve working lands, scenic hillsides and natural areas. Since 1990, the District has protected over 106,000 acres. The approximately 873-acre Stewarts Point Ranch represents one of a few remaining large intact forest ownerships in Sonoma County.

Funding from the Conservancy will allow the property to be protected in perpetuity through a conservation easement that will safeguard the property's older redwoods and the riparian area in the Late Seral Restoration Reserve along the Gualala River, while allowing for the continuation of sustainable timber harvest in the remainder of the forest. This property has long been one of the highest priorities for forest conservation on the Sonoma Coast and is surrounded by other large high-priority privately-held forested properties. Through the conservation easement, the District seeks to permanently protect not only the forest ecosystems, but also the critical fish and endangered-species habitat and coastal terrain of the Stewarts Point Ranch. Through this protection, the highly-visible scenic hillsides and coastal terrace vistas will remain intact, providing scenic enjoyment to residents and visitors. By preventing subdivision, the conservation easement will also conserve significant wildlife habitat, preserve water quality, contribute to the viability of the local timber economy, and ensure future public access via a trail along the coastal bluff. This trail will provide access to the spectacular views of the Pacific Ocean as part of the Coastal Trail system, providing three-quarters of a mile of trail along the picturesque Sonoma Coast.

The District's continuing efforts to permanently protect natural resources and provide public access in Sonoma County by providing funding for the Stewarts Point Ranch project are worthwhile pursuits. Thank you for your serious consideration of this funding request.

Sincerely,



JARED HUFFMAN
Member of Congress

SAN RAFAEL
999 FIFTH AVENUE, SUITE 290
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94901
PHONE: (415) 258-9657
FAX: (415) 258-9913

PETALUMA
206 G STREET, #3
PETALUMA, CA 94952
PHONE: (707) 981-8967
FAX: (415) 258-9913

UKIAH
559 LOW GAP ROAD
UKIAH, CA 95482
PHONE & FAX: (707) 671-7449

FORT BRAGG
430 NORTH FRANKLIN STREET
P.O. BOX 2208
FORT BRAGG, CA 95437
PHONE: (707) 962-0933
FAX: (707) 962-0905

EUREKA
317 THIRD STREET, SUITE 1
EUREKA, CA 95501
PHONE: (707) 407-3585
FAX: (707) 407-3559

California State Senate

SENATOR
MIKE MCGUIRE

SECOND SENATE DISTRICT



September 21, 2016

Douglas Bosco, Chairman
California State Coastal Conservancy
1515 Clay Street, 10th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am writing to express my support for the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District's request for \$1,000,000 in funding to acquire conservation and public trail easements over the 873-acre Stewarts Point Ranch located in the northwest part of Sonoma County.

The proposed project will allow the District to protect in perpetuity, the property's natural, cultural and scenic resources, promote sustainable forestry and open the coastal bluff to public access that respects open space and grazing.

The approximately 873-acre Stewarts Point Ranch represents one of the few remaining large, intact forest ownerships in Sonoma County. This project will safeguard the property's older redwoods and riparian area in the Late Seral Restoration Reserve along the Gualala River while allowing the continuation of sustainable timber harvest in the remainder of the forest. It will also protect critical fish and endangered species habitat and coastal terrain as well as preserve water quality.

I am very pleased to support the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District's application and I urge you to give it your full consideration. If our office can be of any assistance please don't hesitate to call (707) 576-2771.

Warmest regards,

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

MIKE MCGUIRE
Senator

COMMITTEES
APPROPRIATIONS
BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS
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NATURAL RESOURCES
RULES

SELECT COMMITTEES
CHAIR: DIGITAL DIVIDE IN RURAL
CALIFORNIA
CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND
BUILDING A 21ST CENTURY WORKFORCE
WINE

Assembly
California Legislature



JIM WOOD
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SECOND DISTRICT

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0002
(916) 319-2002
FAX (916) 319-2102

DISTRICT OFFICES
50 D STREET, SUITE 450
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404
(707) 576-2526
FAX (707) 576-2297

710 E STREET, SUITE 150
EUREKA, CA 95501
(707) 445-7014
FAX (707) 455-6607

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

September 28, 2016

Douglas Bosco, Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Letter of Support for Funding of Stewarts Point Ranch Project

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I write in support the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District's request for \$1,000,000 to acquire conservation and public trail easements over Stewarts Point Ranch, located along the scenic coastal terrace of northwestern Sonoma County. The proposed project will allow the District to protect in perpetuity the property's natural and scenic resources, promote sustainable forestry, open the coastal bluff to public access compatible with open space and grazing, and protect the site's cultural resources.

The approximately 873-acre Stewarts Point Ranch represents one of a few remaining large and intact forest ownerships in Sonoma County. It is my understanding that funding from the Conservancy will allow the property to be protected through a conservation easement that will safeguard older redwoods as well as a riparian area in the Late Seral Restoration Reserve along the Gualala River. It will also allow for the continuation of sustainable timber harvest in the remainder of the forest.

This property has long been one of the highest priorities for forest conservation on the Sonoma Coast. Through the conservation easement, the District seeks to permanently protect not only the forest ecosystems, but also the critical fish and endangered-species habitat and coastal terrain of the Stewarts Point Ranch. Through this protection, the highly-visible scenic hillsides and coastal terrace vistas will remain intact, providing scenic enjoyment to residents and visitors. By preventing subdivision, the conservation easement will also conserve significant wildlife habitat, preserve water quality, contribute to the viability of the local timber economy, and ensure future public access via a trail along the coastal bluff.

I urge the Conservancy to support the District's continuing efforts to permanently protect natural resources and provide public access in Sonoma County by providing funding for the Stewarts Point Ranch project. Thank you for your consideration of this funding request.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Wood".

JIM WOOD
Assemblymember, District 2

Exhibit 3: Project Letters

August 30, 2016



Douglas Bosco, Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Letter of Support for State Coastal Conservancy funding of Stewarts Point Ranch project

Dear Chairman Bosco:

The Sonoma County Regional Parks Department is in support of the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District's (District) request for \$1,000,000 to acquire conservation and public trail easements over the 873-acre Stewarts Point Ranch located along the scenic coastal terrace of northwestern Sonoma County. The proposed project will allow the District to protect in perpetuity the property's natural and scenic resources, promote sustainable forestry, work with Sonoma County Regional Parks to open the coastal bluff to public access compatible with open space and grazing, and protect the site's cultural resources. The approximately 873-acre Stewarts Point Ranch represents one of a few remaining large intact forest ownerships in Sonoma County.

Funding from the Conservancy will allow the property to be protected in perpetuity through a conservation easement that will safeguard the property's older redwoods and the riparian area in the Late Seral Restoration Reserve along the Gualala River, while allowing for the continuation of sustainable timber harvest in the remainder of the forest. This property has long been one of the highest priorities for forest conservation on the Sonoma Coast and is surrounded by other large high-priority privately-held forested properties. Through the conservation easement, the District seeks to permanently protect not only the forest ecosystems, but also the critical fish and endangered-species habitat and coastal terrain of the Stewarts Point Ranch. Through this protection, the highly-visible scenic hillsides and coastal terrace vistas will remain intact, providing scenic enjoyment to residents and visitors. By preventing subdivision, the conservation easement will also conserve significant wildlife habitat, preserve water quality, contribute to the viability of the local timber economy, and ensure future public access via a magnificent section of the planned 1,200 mile California Coastal Trail along the coastal bluff. This proposed trail also provides a critical link to close the northern Sonoma County Coastal Trail gap.

As the County's Regional Parks Department Director, I urge the Conservancy to support the District's continuing efforts to permanently protect natural resources and provide a high quality, state mandated Coastal Trail in Sonoma County by providing funding for the Stewarts Point Ranch project. Thank you for your consideration of this funding request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James Nantell".

James Nantell, Deputy Director

cc: William J. Keene, District General Manager
Lisa Ames, SCC Project Manager

2300

County Center Drive

Suite 120A

Santa Rosa

CA 95403

Tel: 707 565-2041

Fax: 707 579-8247

Exhibit 3: Project Letters

COUNTY OF SONOMA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

575 ADMINISTRATION DRIVE, RM. 100A
SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95403

(707) 565-2241
FAX (707) 565-3778



MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

SUSAN GORIN
CHAIR

EFREN CARRILLO
VICE CHAIR

DAVID RABBITT

SHIRLEE ZANE

JAMES GORE

July 21, 2015

Samuel Schuchat, Executive Officer
Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Re: Application for Coastal Conservancy Funding for Stewarts Point Ranch

Dear Mr. Schuchat:

I am writing in support of the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District's (District) application for funding from the State Coastal Conservancy to assist in the District's acquisition of a conservation easement over the Stewarts Point Ranch property located along the scenic coastal terrace in northwestern Sonoma County.

In 1990 and again in 2006, the people of Sonoma County voted to create the District to preserve working lands, scenic hillsides and natural areas. Since 1990, the District has protected over 106,000 acres. The approximately 873-acre Stewarts Point Ranch represents one of the few remaining large intact forest ownerships in Sonoma County. This property has long been one of the highest priorities for forest conservation on the Sonoma Coast and is surrounded by other large high-priority privately-held forested properties.

Funding from the Coastal Conservancy will allow the property to be protected in perpetuity through a conservation easement that will protect the property's older redwoods and the riparian area in the Late Seral Restoration Reserve along the Gualala River, while allowing for the continuation of sustainable timber harvest in the remainder of the forest. Through the conservation easement, the District seeks to permanently protect not only the forest ecosystems, but also the critical fish and endangered-species habitat and coastal terrain of the Stewarts Point Ranch. Through this protection, the highly-visible scenic hillsides and vistas will remain intact, providing scenic enjoyment to both residents and visitors. By preventing subdivision, the conservation easement will also conserve significant wildlife habitat, preserve water quality, contribute to the viability of the local timber economy, and ensure future public access via a trail along the coastal bluff.

As Chair of the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, I urge the Coastal Conservancy to support the District's continuing efforts to permanently protect natural resources in Sonoma County by providing funding for the Stewarts Point Ranch project.

Sincerely,

Susan Gorin, Chair
Sonoma County Board of Supervisors
First District