



CALIFORNIA  
NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

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



9 December 2019

Douglas Bosco, Chairman  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1000  
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Support for Pacific Shores Pre-acquisition and Feasibility Study Phase III--Del Norte County

Dear Chairman Bosco:

The North Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society urges you to fund the proposal of the Smith River Alliance to advance the acquisition of coastal lands unscrupulously sold for housing development, and their transfer to appropriate state agencies for conservation and recreation purposes.

The 400 members of our chapter, largely in Del Norte and Humboldt Counties, all care about native plants and their habitats. The Pacific Shores Subdivision, while a bad place for houses, is a great place for native plants. The Lake Earl area is especially rich in wetland and dune species, including a good number of officially rare species. Various northern species reach their southern limits, and southern species reach their northern limits in Del Norte County. The cold ocean and its fog create the special coastal conditions some species need. Silvery Dune Phacelia is one of those. This handsome, rare plant is found only in the dunes of this piece of coast.

Merging the remainder of the Pacific Shores Subdivision with the neighboring wildlife area is an obvious and important task, begun more than 50 years ago. The Smith River Alliance is a competent and experienced group that with your help could finish it.

Sincerely,

Carol Pearson Ralph  
President  
North Coast Chapter  
California Native Plant Society