March 15, 2021

Douglas Bosco, Chairman  
California State Coastal Conservancy  
1515 Clay St., 10th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-1401

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing in support of the Buckeye Conservancy’s application for Proposition 1 grant funds for its Wood Creek Phase III – Felt Ranch Off-Channel Rearing Habitat Planning and Design project. This project would connect perennial freshwater wetlands with two successful, previously implemented restoration projects downstream of the Felt Ranch in Wood Creek, a tributary to Freshwater Creek and Humboldt Bay.

Freshwater Creek hosts the largest existing population of threatened coho salmon in Humboldt Bay. The previously implemented projects downstream of the Felt Ranch (Wood Creek Phases I and II) were immediately beneficial to rearing coho. This latest project will connect high-quality freshwater rearing habitats to tidally influenced reaches downstream and provide immediate benefits to coho salmon, steelhead, and a variety of wetland-dependent wildlife and vegetation species. The project will also benefit landowners by improving drainage from pastures and enhancing use of working agricultural lands.

Please give the Buckeye Conservancy’s application for Proposition 1 funds your full and fair consideration. Feel free to contact my District Representative John Driscoll at (707) 599-0697 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

JARED HUFFMAN  
Member of Congress
March 22, 2021

Douglas Bosco, Chairman
California State Coastal Conservancy
1515 Clay St 10th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-1401

Dear Mr. Bosco,

We are writing to express our support and excitement for the “Wood Creek Restoration Phase III: Felt Ranch Habitat Restoration Planning” project that will be submitted to the Conservancy Board for consideration of funding authorization.

We own and manage the immediate properties that encompass the Felt Ranch project area, and fully support this project’s goals to create a diversity of rearing habitats for juvenile coho salmon and steelhead while providing habitat benefits for other species of endemic fish, wildlife and vegetation.

As land and business owners, we also recognize three are chronic landscape-scale problems (e.g.: poor drainage of pasturelands; aggraded stream channels) that are critical for us to address in order to sustain our economic way of life. This project’s connection of the cold freshwater wetlands on our Felt Ranch to the recently restored tidally influenced habitats downstream in Wood Creek and Freshwater Creek will not only provide immediate benefits to fish and wildlife but will also aid in routing water and improve drainage from our pasture lands in the south wester fields.

We look forward to working with this project’s proponents and the Humboldt Bay restoration community at-large to be able to provide input in the planning and design phases. Thank you for your serious consideration.

Sincerely,

Kathryn and Sean O’Day