

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0035
(916) 319-2035
FAX (916) 319-2135
DISTRICT OFFICE
1304 BROAD STREET
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93401
(805) 549-3381
FAX (805) 549-3400



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REINTEGRATION AND REHABILITATION FOR
JUSTICE INVOLVED CALIFORNIANS
SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
STREAMLINING SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF
INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE

August 16, 2021

Mr. Doug Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
1515 Clay Street, 10th Floor
Oakland, Ca 94612

Re: Protection of the Attiyeh Ranch, San Luis Obispo County

Dear Mr. Bosco,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed \$825,000 grant to The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County for the acquisition of conservation easements on the 7,681-acre Attiyeh Ranch in northern San Luis Obispo County. Coastal Conservancy grant funds will be critical to protecting the ranch that will in turn benefit water quality and water supply in the Salinas River watershed, including the Lake Nacimiento Reservoir.

Located above Lake Nacimiento Reservoir, the Attiyeh Ranch is a major influence on the reservoir's water quality and supply. By providing over 60% of the total water that annually drains to the Salinas River system, the reservoir serves a variety of needs throughout both Monterey and San Luis Obispo Counties, including as a source of drinking water, flood protection, groundwater recharge, and agricultural irrigation, and provides an estimated 200,000 acre-feet of water per year in the Salinas River system. The reservoir was built in part to combat groundwater overdraw and subsequent saltwater intrusion in the lower Salinas Valley and sustaining the reservoir's water quality and supply is essential to water resource management throughout the Salinas River system. Protecting water resources in Lake Nacimiento is also a key factor for the recovery of the threatened South-Central California Coast steelhead.

With 36 legal parcels and abundant water supplies the ranch is susceptible to large-scale residential development and conversion to more intensive agriculture such as orchards or vineyards. The proposed conservation easements will restrict development potential to prevent such development while allowing low-impact cattle grazing to continue. Two other state funding agencies (WCB and DOC) will be providing over 85% of the funds needed for this project, thereby leveraging the proposed Coastal Conservancy funds.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project.

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

Jordan Cunningham
Assembly Member, 35th District

Upper Salinas-Las Tablas Resource Conservation District

9481 El Camino Real, Atascadero, CA 93422 | 805.460.7272 | www.us-ltrcd.org

September 14, 2021

Mr. Doug Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
1515 Clay Street, 10th Floor
Oakland, Ca 94612

Re: Protection of the Attiyeh Ranch, San Luis Obispo County

Dear Mr. Bosco,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed \$825,000 grant to The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County for the acquisition of conservation easements on the 7,681-acre Attiyeh Ranch in northern San Luis Obispo County. Coastal Conservancy grant funds will be critical to protecting the ranch that will in turn benefit water quality and water supply in the Salinas River watershed, including the Lake Nacimiento Reservoir.

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With 36 legal parcels and abundant water supplies the ranch is susceptible to large-scale residential development and conversion to more intensive agriculture such as orchards or vineyards. The proposed conservation easements will restrict development potential to prevent such development while allowing low-impact cattle grazing to continue. Two other state funding agencies (Wildlife Conservation Board and Department of Conservat) will be providing over 85% of the funds needed for this project, thereby leveraging the proposed Coastal Conservancy funds.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project.



Devin Best
Executive Director