

## Addendum



SACRED PLACES INSTITUTE  
FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

April 29, 2022

California Coastal Conservancy

Email: [PublicComments@scc.ca.gov](mailto:PublicComments@scc.ca.gov)

Re: Agenda Item 8. Consideration and possible authorization to disburse up to \$6,000,000 to the Trust for Public Land to acquire 384 acres of the Keŋa Geŋa Banning Ranch property in Newport Beach and unincorporated Orange County.

Dear Commissioners:

Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous Peoples is a California Indigenous-led, grassroots environmental justice organization based in the unceded ancestral homelands of the Tongva people. Our mission is to build the capacity of Native Nations and Indigenous Peoples to protect sacred lands, waters and cultures. We worked with the Tongva and Acjachemen Nations and tribal community members in 2016 to prevent a proposed luxury home development project on our ancestral village site. We continue to work with these tribal nations and community members to advocate for tribal land rematriation, access, and use of this critical site at the confluence of the Santa Ana River and the Pacific Ocean in tribal ancestral homelands.

Sacred Places Institute (SPI) has several recommendations regarding the language of the proposed resolution and findings as articulated in the Staff Recommendation report prepared for the upcoming May 5, 2022 meeting on Agenda Item 8. Banning Ranch Acquisition Project No. 21-046-01. On April 26, 2022, SPI staff and board members, along with multiple elected tribal leaders and community members, received an email from Coastal Conservancy staff indicating that our comments would be accepted until 5 PM on May 4, the day before the board meeting, by emailing [publiccomments@scc.ca.gov](mailto:publiccomments@scc.ca.gov). We will provide more substantive comments by that deadline.

Our general comments are that we support the acquisition of the Keŋa Geŋa Banning Ranch property for the purposes of protecting this site in perpetuity for conservation purposes so long as the Tongva and Acjachemen Nations and tribal community members have equal representation on any and all decision making bodies for the land and so long as tribal rights to access and use these tribal lands for cultural purposes are also protected in perpetuity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Angela Mooney D'Arcy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Angela Mooney D'Arcy

Executive Director

Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous Peoples



Addendu

# SIERRA CLUB

ANGELES CHAPTER  
Orange County Group

Submitted by email to: [Megan.Cooper@scc.ca.gov](mailto:Megan.Cooper@scc.ca.gov)

Douglas Bosco, Chair  
State Coastal Conservancy  
c/o Megan Cooper  
1515 Clay Street, 19th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-1401

RE: Support for Banning Ranch Funding

Dear Chair Bosco,

The Orange County Group of the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter supports The Trust for Public Land's application for funding \$5M toward the Banning Ranch acquisition. This item (Agenda Item 8) is included on the May 5, 2022 Coastal Conservancy agenda. Because of the commitment of so many state and federal funders, coupled with a historic philanthropic gift, the permanent preservation of the property is within reach. **We urge the Conservancy's support of this funding.**

Our support occurs for a number of reasons, including but not limited to:

- Our organization and our activists have been pursuing the acquisition and preservation of Banning Ranch for more than 20 years.
- This acquisition preserves a portion of the ancestral homelands of the Tongva and Acjachemen.
- The property has endured multiple development proposals and there is an exclusive option to buy the land for preservation, but the timing is tight. This is a once in a generation opportunity.
- Many sensitive, threatened, and endangered plant and animal communities exist on the property that will be permanently protected once the land is acquired.
- The site is located within proximity to several disadvantaged and socially vulnerable communities.
- The property is the last, largest private natural area along the immediate Southern California coast undeveloped and still available for conservation.
- This acquisition helps achieve the state's 30x30 conservation, equity, and access goals.

Your affirmative decision on May 5<sup>th</sup> will support a decades long effort to preserve this coastal gem. The Sierra Club supports the \$5 million Conservancy grant to help fund the permanent preservation of the property.

Sincerely,  
Patti Barnes  
Orange County Group Chair  
Sierra Club Angeles Chapter

cc: Amy Hutsel, Executive Officer ([amy.hutzel@scc.ca.gov](mailto:amy.hutzel@scc.ca.gov))

Addendum



April 29, 2022

California State Coastal Conservancy  
1515 Clay Street, 10<sup>th</sup> floor  
Oakland, CA 94612-1401

**RE: Project No. 21-046-01 - Support for disbursement of funds to acquire Banning Ranch property**

Dear California State Coastal Conservancy,

The Surfrider Foundation, Newport Beach Chapter, expresses its support for the authorization of up to \$6 million for disbursement to the Trust for Public Land for acquisition of 384 acres of Banning Ranch property located in Newport Beach and unincorporated Orange County. The Coastal Conservancy's funding would provide critical support towards the purposes of ecological restoration, conservation, and public access, which are in line with the goals of the Conservancy. The overall project, the culmination of years of planning and stakeholder input, is a unique opportunity for preservation of an open space in a highly urbanized coastal area.

We are committed to water quality: We recognize that purchase of the Banning Ranch property is contingent upon site remediation, and we look forward to future hydrological plans from the site stewards. We respectfully urge the Coastal Conservancy to authorize disbursement of funds for the Banning Ranch acquisition.

Sincerely,

**Michelle Giron**

Chair, Surfrider Foundation – Newport Beach Chapter

## Addendum

**From:** [Kris Wood](#)  
**To:** [Cooper, Megan@SCC](mailto:Cooper.Megan@SCC); [SCC Public Comment](#)  
**Cc:** [info@banningranchconservancy.org](mailto:info@banningranchconservancy.org)  
**Subject:** Subject: Support for the Banning Ranch Acquisition (Agenda Item 8)  
**Date:** Thursday, April 28, 2022 4:46:38 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL] DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

Dear Chair Bosco,

I support the application of The Trust for Public Land to protect Banning Ranch, which will be heard on the May 5th Coastal Conservancy agenda as Item #8.

I am a longtime resident of Newport Beach, and several years ago I moved to Newport Shores--the neighborhood across the Santa Ana riverbed from Banning Ranch (e.g., between Banning Ranch and the Huntington Beach border). I run and bike along the Santa Ana river trail and have come to love the beauty of the wide open spaces and expansive views of Banning Ranch and the occasional glimpse of the wildlife living there, even though I can now only enjoy it from a distance.

Preserving Banning Ranch as open space and opening it to the public would have immense benefits. I understand the land has been used as an oil field for more than half a century, and the seller has committed to reducing the footprint of oil operations and rehabilitating the land. As a new father (my son will be one next month), I have worried about living in close proximity to these operations, and the cleanup and reduction of operations could only benefit the health and safety of my family and the hundreds of other families living adjacent to the property.

More broadly, the Trust for Public Land's purchase of Banning Ranch would open an immense area for all people to enjoy. I think this is particularly important for children, who in this increasingly dense region need opportunities to explore and to learn to appreciate nature. It would preserve vital habitat for a number of endangered species, and preserve the beauty of one of the last large parcels of undeveloped, private land in Southern California.

Open Space like this is incredibly rare along the California coast, and the Trust for Public Land represents a unique opportunity to preserve the land for the benefit of all Californians. I therefore urge you to vote yes on Agenda Item 8.

Kristopher Wood  
Newport Beach, CA

## Addendum

**From:** [Tom Shields](#)  
**To:** [Cooper, Megan@SCC](#); [SCC Public Comment](#); [info@banningranchconservancy.org](#)  
**Subject:** Support for the Banning Ranch Acquisition (Agenda Item 8)  
**Date:** Thursday, April 28, 2022 7:09:14 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Bosco,

I support the application of The Trust for Public Land to protect Banning Ranch, which will be heard on the May 5th Coastal Conservancy agenda as Item #8.

This conservation acquisition has been decades in the making, is well supported by the community, and highlights the many reasons why conservation of this land is so important. If the Coastal Conservancy grant is awarded, this property will:

- Ensure opportunities to provide trails and low cost coastal accommodations, as required through AB 250
- Include over 95% reduction in geographic footprint of oil production
- Secure park access for disadvantaged and socially vulnerable communities located adjacent to the property
- Provide climate change mitigation and adaptation benefits through nature-based solutions
- Ensure coastal park access for over eight million Californians within a one-hour drive
- Offer opportunities for tribal access and connection to their ancestral lands
- Protect wildlife habitat for threatened or endangered fish and birds, including San Diego fairy shrimp, least Bell's vireo, and California gnatcatcher
- Allow for habitat restoration of coastal sage scrub, remnant alkali meadows, fresh and tidal marsh, and willow riparian forest
- Connect directly to the Santa Ana River and Trail
- Help meet the state and federal Executive Orders to protect 30% of lands and coastal waters by 2030

I am incredibly grateful that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority will be the future titleholder and steward as they bring exceptional experience with complex coastal and oil properties. The Authority is firmly committed to social equity, just like the Coastal Conservancy.

For these reasons and more, I ask for the Conservancy's affirmative vote on the TPL Banning Ranch acquisition grant.

Sincerely,  
Tom and Jan Shields  
Corona del Mar, CA

Name  
City of Residence

## Addendum

**From:** [Lori WENGER](#)  
**To:** [Cooper, Megan@SCC](#); [SCC Public Comment](#); [info@banningranchconservancy.org](#)  
**Subject:** Support for the Banning Ranch Acquisition (Agenda Item 8)  
**Date:** Thursday, April 28, 2022 4:06:30 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Bosco,

I support the application of The Trust for Public Land to protect Banning Ranch, which will be heard on the May 5th Coastal Conservancy agenda as Item #8.

This conservation acquisition has been decades in the making, is well supported by the community, and highlights the many reasons why conservation of this land is so important. If the Coastal Conservancy grant is awarded, this property will:

- Ensure opportunities to provide trails and low cost coastal accommodations, as required through AB 250
- Include over 95% reduction in geographic footprint of oil production
- Secure park access for disadvantaged and socially vulnerable communities located adjacent to the property
- Provide climate change mitigation and adaptation benefits through nature-based solutions
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- Allow for habitat restoration of coastal sage scrub, remnant alkali meadows, fresh and tidal marsh, and willow riparian forest
- Connect directly to the Santa Ana River and Trail
- Help meet the state and federal Executive Orders to protect 30% of lands and coastal waters by 2030

I am incredibly grateful that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority will be the future titleholder and steward as they bring exceptional experience with complex coastal and oil properties. The Authority is firmly committed to social equity, just like the Coastal Conservancy.

For these reasons and more, I ask for the Conservancy's affirmative vote on the TPL Banning Ranch acquisition grant.

We are so close to making this dream a reality after decades of work. It would be a beautiful thing, if you could help us achieve our goal.

Sincerely,

Lori Wenger  
On behalf of myself and my husband, Brahm Wenger.

Newport Beach CA

## Addendum

**From:** [Cheri Johnston](#)  
**To:** [Cooper, Megan@SCC](#); [SCC Public Comment](#); [Banning Ranch Conservancy](#)  
**Subject:** Support for the Banning Ranch Acquisition (Agenda Item 8)  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 27, 2022 4:41:46 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Bosco,

I support the application of The Trust for Public Land to protect Banning Ranch, which will be heard on the May 5th Coastal Conservancy agenda as Item #8.

This conservation acquisition has been decades in the making, is well supported by the community, and highlights the many reasons why conservation of this land is so important. If the Coastal Conservancy grant is awarded, this property will:

- Ensure opportunities to provide trails and low cost coastal accommodations, as required through AB 250
- Include over 95% reduction in geographic footprint of oil production
- Secure park access for disadvantaged and socially vulnerable communities located adjacent to the property
- Provide climate change mitigation and adaptation benefits through nature-based solutions
- Ensure coastal park access for over eight million Californians within a one-hour drive
- Offer opportunities for tribal access and connection to their ancestral lands
- Protect wildlife habitat for threatened or endangered fish and birds, including San Diego fairy shrimp, least Bell's vireo, and California gnatcatcher
- Allow for habitat restoration of coastal sage scrub, remnant alkali meadows, fresh and tidal marsh, and willow riparian forest
- Connect directly to the Santa Ana River and Trail
- Help meet the state and federal Executive Orders to protect 30% of lands and coastal waters by 2030

I am incredibly grateful that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority will be the future titleholder and steward as they bring exceptional experience with complex coastal and oil properties. The Authority is firmly committed to social equity, just like the Coastal Conservancy.

For these reasons and more, I ask for the Conservancy's affirmative vote on the TPL Banning Ranch acquisition grant.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Johnston  
Huntington Beach

## Addendum

**From:** [Fairview Park Alliance](#)  
**To:** [Cooper, Megan@SCC](#); [SCC Public Comment](#)  
**Cc:** [info@banninranchconservancy.org](#)  
**Subject:** Support for the Banning Ranch Acquisition (Agenda Item 8)  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 27, 2022 3:57:31 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

April 27, 2022

Dear Chair Bosco,

I represent Fairview Park Alliance, a 501(c)3 formed to support Fairview Park in Costa Mesa, California as a natural open space for human recreation and wildlife habitat. Fairview Park is adjacent to Banning Ranch.

Fairview Park Alliance strongly supports the application of The Trust for Public Land to protect Banning Ranch, which will be heard on the May 5th Coastal Conservancy agenda as Item #8.

The acquisition of Banning Ranch has been decades in the making and will be an important contribution to state and local conservation goals. Once fully funded, it will:

- Secure park access for disadvantaged and socially vulnerable communities located adjacent to the property, and over eight million Californians who live within a one-hour drive
- Offer opportunities for tribal access and connection to their ancestral lands
- Provide trails and low-cost coastal accommodations, as required by AB 250
- Allow habitat restoration of coastal sage scrub, remnant alkali meadows, fresh and tidal marsh, and willow riparian forest
- Protect wildlife habitat for threatened and endangered fish and birds, including San Diego fairy shrimp, Least Bell's vireo, and California Gnatcatcher
- Provide climate change mitigation and adaptation benefits through nature-based solutions
- Help meet California's 30 x 30 goal
- Connect to the Santa Ana River Trail and to Fairview Park in Costa Mesa

Fairview Park Alliance strongly supports the acquisition of Banning Ranch and we are grateful to the Coastal Conservancy for providing the opportunity.

Wendy Leece  
President  
Fairview Park Alliance

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[fairviewparkalliance.org](http://fairviewparkalliance.org) [FB](#) | [IG](#)



## Addendum

## Addendum

**From:** [Elizabeth Lambe](#)  
**To:** [Cooper, Megan@SCC](#); [SCC Public Comment](#); [info@banningranchconservancy.org](#)  
**Subject:** Support for the Banning Ranch Acquisition (Agenda Item 8)  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 27, 2022 3:21:25 PM

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[EXTERNAL EMAIL] DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Bosco,

The Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust supports the application of The Trust for Public Land to protect Banning Ranch, which will be heard on the May 5th Coastal Conservancy agenda as Item #8.

This conservation acquisition has been decades in the making, is well supported by the community, and highlights the many reasons why conservation of this land is so important. If the Coastal Conservancy grant is awarded, this property will:

- Ensure opportunities to provide trails and low cost coastal accommodations, as required through AB 250
- Include over 95% reduction in geographic footprint of oil production
- Secure park access for disadvantaged and socially vulnerable communities located adjacent to the property
- Provide climate change mitigation and adaptation benefits through nature-based solutions
- Ensure coastal park access for over eight million Californians within a one-hour drive
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- Protect wildlife habitat for threatened or endangered fish and birds, including San Diego fairy shrimp, least Bell's vireo, and California gnatcatcher
- Allow for habitat restoration of coastal sage scrub, remnant alkali meadows, fresh and tidal marsh, and willow riparian forest
- Connect directly to the Santa Ana River and Trail
- Help meet the state and federal Executive Orders to protect 30% of lands and coastal waters by 2030

We are glad that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority will be the future titleholder and steward as they bring exceptional experience with complex coastal and oil properties. The Authority is firmly committed to social equity, just like the Coastal Conservancy.

For these reasons and more, We support the Conservancy's affirmative vote on the TPL Banning Ranch acquisition grant.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Lambe  
Executive Director  
Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust

## Addendum

**From:** [Sandra Petty-Weeks](#)  
**To:** [Cooper, Megan@SCC](#); [SCC Public Comment](#); [info@banningranchconservancy.org](#)  
**Subject:** Support for the Banning Ranch Acquisition (Agenda Item 8)  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 26, 2022 10:37:24 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Bosco,

As a 22 year resident of Newport, I support the application of The Trust for Public Land to protect Banning Ranch, which will be heard on the May 5th Coastal Conservancy agenda as Item #8. This conservation acquisition has been decades in the making, is well supported by the community, and highlights the many reasons why conservation of this land is so important. It is critical to preserve and restore the remaining open habitat and if the Coastal Conservancy grant is awarded, this property will:

- Ensure opportunities to provide trails and low cost coastal accommodations, as required through AB 250
- Include over 95% reduction in geographic footprint of oil production
- Secure park access for disadvantaged and socially vulnerable communities located adjacent to the property
- Provide climate change mitigation and adaptation benefits through nature-based solutions
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- Allow for habitat restoration of coastal sage scrub, remnant alkali meadows, fresh and tidal marsh, and willow riparian forest
- Connect directly to the Santa Ana River and Trail
- Help meet the state and federal Executive Orders to protect 30% of lands and coastal waters by 2030

I am incredibly grateful that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority will be the future titleholder and steward as they bring exceptional experience with complex coastal and oil properties. The Authority is firmly committed to social equity, just like the Coastal Conservancy. For these reasons and more, I ask for the Conservancy's affirmative vote on the TPL Banning Ranch acquisition grant. Sincerely, Name City of Residence

Sincerely,

Sandra Petty-Weeks  
Newport Beach

## Addendum

**From:** [Erin Chin](#)  
**To:** [Cooper, Megan@SCC](#); [SCC Public Comment](#); [Banning Ranch Conservancy](#)  
**Subject:** Support for the Banning Ranch Acquisition (Agenda Item 8)  
**Date:** Friday, April 29, 2022 4:21:19 PM

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**[EXTERNAL EMAIL]** DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Chair Bosco,

I support the application of The Trust for Public Land to protect Banning Ranch, which will be heard on the May 5th Coastal Conservancy agenda as Item #8.

This conservation acquisition has been decades in the making, is well supported by the community, and highlights the many reasons why conservation of this land is so important. If the Coastal Conservancy grant is awarded, this property will:

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I am incredibly grateful that the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority will be the future titleholder and steward as they bring exceptional experience with complex coastal and oil properties. The Authority is firmly committed to social equity, just like the Coastal Conservancy.

For these reasons and more, I ask for the Conservancy's affirmative vote on the TPL Banning Ranch acquisition grant.

Sincerely,

Erin Chin  
Irvine