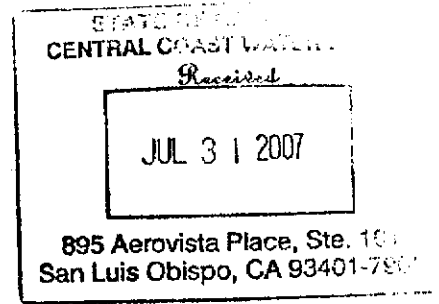




July 24, 2007

Roger Briggs, Executive Officer
Central Coast Water Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401



Mr. Briggs:

This letter conveys our support for your proposal to fund a Central Coast Low Impact Development Institute and to increase the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program endowment. Thank you for sending the proposal and for discussing it with my Deputy Director Sonke Mastrup on June 26. As Mr. Mastrup discussed with you, your proposal is complementary with the direction we are headed in our effort to protect marine resources pursuant to the Marine Life Protection Act.

During the process to establish Marine Protected Areas along the Central Coast, several important issues were clarified, including the need to address water quality issues on a watershed scale and the need to do much more comprehensive monitoring to characterize water quality problems and track our progress in solving them. Healthy marine ecosystems require healthy watersheds, which require protection of aquatic habitat and pollution prevention. That means we need sustainable land management practices among all stakeholders. Fishermen cannot carry the burden of protecting marine resources alone; it is a multi-dimensional, complex issue and requires a comprehensive approach, and now is the perfect time for your proposal as a valuable companion to our effort to fulfill the requirements of the Marine Life Protection Act. Your regional area is also ideally situated for this effort, considering that the first set of reserves are off of the Central Coast.

This concept of interconnected systems was a key element of the *California and World Ocean '02* conference in Santa Barbara. Many speakers and papers addressed the connection between marine resources and land management. We know what we need to do, and now is the time to act. The Central Coast Low Impact Development Institute and more comprehensive watershed-based performance monitoring directly address our large-scale, priority issues.

Thanks again for discussing your proposal with Mr. Mastrup. I look forward to collaborating with your agency to better protect our watersheds and marine resources. This is the direction we need to pursue. Please call Mr. Mastrup at 916-799-0398 if you have any questions on this matter.

Sincerely,

L. Ryan Broddrick
Director

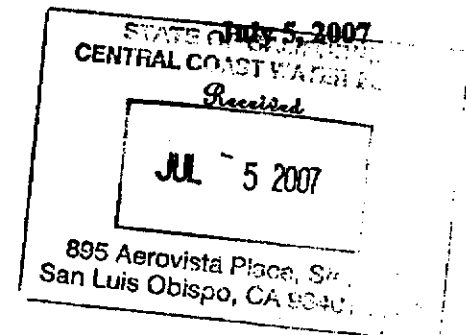
CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT OFFICE
728 FRONT STREET, SUITE 300
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
PHONE: (831) 427-4863
FAX: (831) 427-4877



TO: Jeff Young
Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Ste. 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

FROM: Ross Clark
Central Coast Water Quality Coordinator
California Coastal Commission



SUBJECT: Support for proposed augmentation of CCAMP endowment

Please accept this letter of support for the proposed augmentation of the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program Endowment by \$5 million. These funds will greatly increase monitoring capacity in the Central Coast for the long term. An endowment provides funding stability to ensure that monitoring can be maintained in perpetuity. With more funding, and more consistent funding, CCAMP's capacity to address gaps in monitoring coverage will be greatly improved.

In other areas of California, long term monitoring programs such as the Regional Monitoring Program in San Francisco Bay and the Southern California Bight Program in southern California have been established through funding provided by permitted dischargers. This economic model is less viable on the Central Coast. Our population and land uses do not support the high level of support for comprehensive monitoring. The Central Coast however, is one of the areas that has the best opportunities for improvements to water quality through the Ag Waiver program and Phase II NPDES permits. Without comprehensive water quality monitoring, our abilities to direct resources and quantify success over time is limited, posing long term questions about water quality protection.

In the last several years, the Regional Board's CCAMP program has been a strong partner in our regions efforts to integrate science with land use policy and the restoration of water quality. Regional Board monitoring staff have participated in a number of the regions multi agency water quality programs including the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Water Quality Protection Program, the Central Coast Water Quality Data Synthesis, Analysis and Management program, and the numerous watershed management and citizen monitoring programs established on the Central Coast. These collaborations could not occur without financial support which enables CCAMP staff to simultaneously collect valuable water quality data and provide leadership to the regions collaborative water quality programs.

Because of funding constraints, CCAMP has been unable to take the next step in improving water quality monitoring by integrating comprehensive pesticides and metals, toxicity, and bioassessment analysis into their ambient monitoring program. This results in one of the major gaps in our understanding of water quality problems.

Jul-05-2007 04:01pm From-
support for proposed augmentation of CCAMP endowment
7/5/2007

T-598 P.002/002 F-427

In spite of minimal funding, CCAMP has done much to further improvements in data management and quality assurance in Central Coast monitoring programs. CCAMP has made use of CCAMP data, volunteer data, and other sources to identify over 70 new 303(D) listings on the State's impaired waterbodies list. In addition, there are additional opportunities for collaboration with volunteer monitoring programs like the National Marine Sanctuary Citizen's Monitoring Network and the Coastal Watershed Council, and increased CCAMP funding can help with this. Regardless, solid baseline funding for CCAMP to further our understanding of watershed condition in the Central Coast is needed.

NIPOMO COMMUNITY

BOARD MEMBERS
MICHAEL WINN, PRESIDENT
LARRY VIERHEILIG, VICE PRESIDENT
JIM HARRISON, DIRECTOR
CLIFFORD TROTTER, DIRECTOR
ED EBY, DIRECTOR



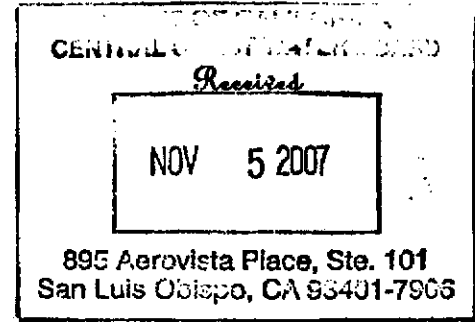
SERVICES DISTRICT

STAFF
BRUCE BUEL, GENERAL MANAGER
LISA BOGNUDA, ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER
JON SEITZ, GENERAL COUNSEL

148 SOUTH WILSON STREET POST OFFICE BOX 326 NIPOMO, CA 93444 - 0326
(805) 929-1133 FAX (805) 929-1932 Website address: NCSD.CA.GOV

October 29, 2007

MT
Michael Thomas, Assistant Executive Director
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401



SUBJECT: GUADALUPE DUNES MITIGATION FUND

Dear Michael

The NCSD Board of Directors discussed the use of the Guadalupe Dunes Mitigation Fund at its October 24, 2007 Board Meeting and directed me to transmit this letter to the RWQCB. The NCSD Board of Directors believes that the fund should be spent on projects in the watershed that achieve as closely as possible the initial settlement mitigation goals. Although the Board agrees that low impact development technology is a worthy goal, NCSD believes that funding for LID outreach should come from the State Budget instead of the Mitigation Fund.

NCSD would like to nominate the proposed upgrade to its Southland WWTF as a potential mitigation project. The Southland Project is intended to improve the water quality of our discharge to levels greater than our current discharge order in an effort to protect the receiving groundwater on the Mesa. Our current estimated project cost is \$12 million; however, we would welcome any level of funding from the RWQCB.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me at the NCSD Office.

Sincerely,

NIPOMO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Bruce Buel
General Manager

CC: Chronological File

T:\DOCUMENTS\STAFF FOLDERS\BRUCE\LETTERS\071029GDMFund.DOC

From: Michael Thomas
To: Carol Hewitt
Date: 7/3/2007 6:25:24 PM
Subject: Fwd: Re: Funding for a Central Coast Low Impact Development Institute and Watershed Performance Monitoring

Carol
Another comment letter for the Board.
Michael

>>> "Julie Yamamoto" <Jyamamot@OSPR.DFG.CA.GOV> 7/3/2007 10:45:58 AM >>>

Dear Mr. Thomas,

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss the proposed Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board projects for the Guadalupe settlement funds. Based on the information you've provided, we are in support of the Central Coast Low Impact Development (CCLID) project in its current conceptual form as well as the \$5 million increase to the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Plan endowment. I understand that OSPR and other DFG staff will have opportunity to comment on the CCLID project (if approved) as further details become available during the project's planning and development. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 916-327-3196.

Thank you,
Julie Yamamoto

Julie Yamamoto, Ph.D.
Chief, Scientific Branch
Office of Spill Prevention and Response
CA Department of Fish and Game
1700 K Street
P.O. Box 944209
Sacramento, CA 94244-2090

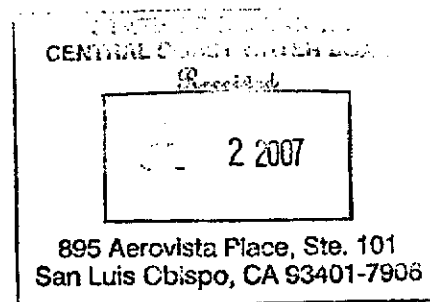
Phone 916-327-3196
Fax 916-324-8829
jyamamot@ospr.dfg.ca.gov



A Statewide Voice for Our Waters

June 29, 2007

Jeff Young, Chair and Members
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401



VIA FACSIMILE AND U.S. MAIL

Re: July 6, 2007 CCRWQCB Meeting, Item #23: Augmentation of the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Young and Board Members:

On behalf of the California Coastkeeper Alliance, which represents 12 Waterkeeper groups from the Oregon border to San Diego, I am writing in strong support of the proposed \$5 million augmentation of the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program (CCAMP) endowment.

Californians generally have little information on the quality of their waters. Statewide, California currently reports on the health of only 22% of its coastal shoreline, 34% of its lakes and reservoirs, and a mere 15% of its rivers and streams. In joint letters and a report to the Legislature, 48 representatives of both the environmental and regulated communities agreed that a comprehensive water monitoring program is "critical to implementing the state's other water quality programs effectively," and unanimously found that a comprehensive monitoring program "will more than pay off . . . in terms of future dollars spent more effectively on restoration and pollution prevention." Better information is needed to produce better decisionmaking, and to allow the public and decisionmakers to make well-informed choices about using and managing California's waters.

CCAMP has been a model for the rest of the state on how to best leverage limited monitoring funds and create useful information about the health of Central Coast waters. However, it has been extremely difficult to obtain sustained, meaningful monitoring funding, particularly in the Central Coast where permitted discharges are fewer and nonpoint source pollution problems are significant. The proposed funding for the endowment will improve the region's ability to monitor through funding shortages and other administrative hurdles (thus ensuring continued tracking of key water parameters), and expand monitoring where critically needed (such as situations like the *E. coli* contamination last fall).

We urge your support for allocation of the proposed \$5 million to the CCAMP endowment. Thank you for your attention to these comments.

Best regards,

Linda Sheehan
Executive Director

July 3, 2007

Mr. Jeffrey S. Young, Chairman
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

Re: *Proposed Funding for a Central Coast Low Impact Development Institute and Augmentation of the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program Enrollment (Item 23 on July 6, 2007 Agenda)*

Dear Chairman Young and Members of the Board:

The Dunes Collaborative is a partnership between federal, state, private, and non-profit organizations committed to restoration of the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes and their associated watersheds. Partners include the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes National Wildlife Refuge, The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County, The Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center, California State Parks - Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area, the Center for Natural Lands Management, the County of San Luis Obispo, and the County of Santa Barbara. Many other stakeholders and interested parties participate in the Dunes Collaborative. The Dunes Collaborative mission and commitment to the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes resulted in great interest and concern about the above referenced proposal by the RWQCB Board to reallocate Guadalupe settlement funds.

We are writing to request you postpone and reschedule Item 23, which your Board is scheduled to consider as part of the July 6, 2007 agenda.

Our request is due to the minimal amount of advance notice and opportunity for public participation in the development of this proposal. The Dunes Collaborative partners first learned of the staff report and the pending Board consideration of this item barely a week ago on Monday, June 25, 2007. Apparently the staff report and attachments were not posted to the website until then as well. Insufficient time has been provided to review the proposal and fully understand its implications. Since your meeting will be held in Watsonville three hours away, most of our partners and other parties of interest in this matter are unable to attend. Given the magnitude and importance of the proposal, we respectfully ask that the matter be rescheduled for your September 7, 2007 meeting to be held in San Luis Obispo.

The Dunes Collaborative, and the many other stakeholders involved in the restoration of habitat and water quality of the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes ecosystem, asks your most serious consideration of our request to postpone discussion of and action on Item 23, to reschedule this matter to your September 7, 2007 meeting, and to direct your staff to meet with the Dunes Collaborative to discuss the proposal and the full range of its implications.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by

Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center

Original Signed by

Land Conservancy of
San Luis Obispo County

Original Signed by

Oceano Dunes District
California State Parks Management

Original Signed by

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes National
Wildlife Refuge

Original Signed by

Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Collaborative

Original Signed by

Friends of Nipomo Dunes

Original Signed by

Central Coast Salmon Enhancement

Original Signed by

Nipomo Native Gardens

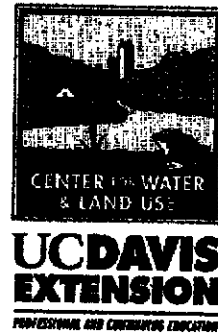
Original Signed by

Coastal San Luis
Resource Conservation District

7/2/07

Mr. Roger Briggs
 Executive Officer
 Central Coast Water Board
 895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
 San Luis Obispo CA 73401-7906

ccs: Michael Thomas, Gene Crumley, Al Wanger



Dear Mr. Briggs,

This letter is to express our full support and assistance for your efforts to develop a Low Impact Development (LID) Center within the Central Coast Regional Board area. As you may be aware, we recently established the Center for Water and Land Use at the University of California Davis, Extension; a University-affiliated institute working on statewide efforts to increase the awareness of the relationship between land use/development and its impact on water quality and use. LID is a critical element in minimizing that impact, and your recent proposal to your Board is very complementary to the goals, objectives, and existing expertise of our Center. The Land Use and Natural Resource program at UC Davis, Extension is also responsible for delivering all of the training and education statewide for the State Board and regional boards through the State Water Board's Training Academy. As part of that training, you have been working closely with Gene Crumley, our colleague in an allied Extension unit.

The geographic diversity of California certainly justifies your efforts to focus on exploring LID and sustainability techniques appropriate to California's Central Coast. A center focused on the central coast area of California could help to deliver performance-based outcomes that are regionally specific and meet the development and water quality needs of your area. However, we would like to point out some benefits to considering partnering with our established statewide Center for Water and Land Use here at UC Davis.

- First, we have established expertise in water quality, urban design, sustainable planning and design and storm water management that can be brought to bear on Central Coast issues and projects immediately. Enclosed are our resumes, as well as a short description of the Center. In addition to Tim's water quality expertise and experience in developing hands on LID programs and projects, Jeff has 25 years experience as an urban planner and designer, including considerable work in Central Coast communities.
- Second, we have already developed a variety of training programs and beginning and advanced curriculum in LID and related sustainable development arenas. In 2004 and again this past year, we conducted three major LID classes around the State for Water Board staff and designers, planners, developers, engineers, and other agency staff. We also have several on-going LID-related courses (and numerous sustainable development courses including our Green Building and Sustainable Design certificate program; see attached) in our traditional open enrollment format that are given in Davis or Sacramento, but could be easily transplanted to the Central Coast, or developed on line for use by practitioners in your area.
- Third, we have an established contract for these services with the Water Board (through an EPA 319 grant and the Water Board Academy), an established office with full

administrative infrastructure, a developing web site with links to LID-related resources, and a compliment of allied professionals throughout the State. In particular, we are closely linked to the CALWaLUP network, which is consortium of agencies and organizations working on water and land uses issues, and the Low Impact Development Center run by Mr. Neil Weinstein.

- And, finally, our Center has the capacity for significant flexibility to work throughout the State, and we have access to UC Davis' Distance Learning Studio, a unit in our organization which has produced web-based and electronic training products for nearly a decade. Our program has developed several computer-based training modules for the Water Board including a series on water quality sampling, monitoring and field methods.

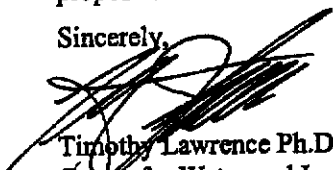
We recognize the need to have a local/regional presence and project-level expertise "at the ready" in your area. But, our hope would be that you and your staff could save time, funding, and avoid duplication by enabling us to forge a partnership with whichever host institution you find in the Central Coast. We have faculty and administrative contacts at UCSB and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo; and would be very happy to work with colleagues there to make this new venture an early success.

We applaud your foresight in conceiving of this Center and for including an educational and training component into your proposal. This approach not only promotes the exploration of innovative techniques, but also provides the practical expertise that jurisdictions and developers will need to meet water quality requirements.

The Center for Water and Land Use at UC Davis has a close working relationship with the State Water Board, the National NEMO Network, Center for Low Impact Development, Center for Watershed Protection, and others to bring the latest knowledge on various LID techniques to Central California. We look forward to partnering with you and sharing that information as you develop and implement your Center. In addition we would like to invite you and your Center to join the UC Davis Extension Center for Water and Land Use, the California Coastal Commission, California Environmental Protection Agency (OEHHA, SWRCB), the Local Government Commission, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, University of Southern California Sea Grant Program, University of California Cooperative Extension Sea Grant Program, and various local partners in becoming a member of Cal WaLUP.

Please call us or contact us as soon as you have a Board commitment so we can help jump start this proposal.

Sincerely,


Timothy Lawrence Ph.D.
Center for Water and Land Use
(530) 754-9008
tjlawrence@ucdavis.edu



Jeff Loux, Ph.D.
Land Use Natural Resources Program
(530) 757-8577
jdlox@ucdavis.edu

Jeff Loux, Ph.D., is the director of the Land Use and Natural Resources Program at UC Davis Extension and the Center for Water and Land Use. He directs a professional education program that teaches 140 classes, conferences and training sessions to nearly 4,500 participants annually in the fields of land use planning and law, water resources policy, facilitation and mediation, natural resource management and water quality. Loux's program conducts all of the training and courses for the State Water Resources Control Board and the Regional Boards, as well as courses for DWR. Loux has worked in the public and private sectors on land use planning, resource management and water policy matters for more than twenty years. He has co-authored a book with Karen Johnson linking land use and water resources entitled, *Water and Land Use: Planning Wisely for the Future of California* (Solano Press, 2004), and is completing another book on land conservation. He received his doctorate from UC Berkeley in environmental planning, specializing in groundwater policy in California. He has taught planning and resource management at the graduate and undergraduate levels at UC Davis, UC Berkeley and UC Santa Cruz. Prior to working for the University system, Dr. Loux served as the community development director of the City of Davis for six years, assistant director of planning for Santa Cruz County for two years and as a planning, design and resource management consultant for two major consulting firms for eleven years.

Timothy Lawrence, Ph.D., is manager of the Center for Water and Land Use at UC Davis Extension. Prior to moving to California he spent 16 years with Ohio State University Extension where he was the founding director of the highly successful Ohio NEMO program and the award-winning campus ecology program CampUShed. Dr. Lawrence is a highly qualified and accomplished Ecosystem Management and Water Quality Extension Education Professional with more than 21 years of experience managing and making significant contributions to a broad range of environmental programs. His Extension educational programming has spanned such issues as agricultural health and safety, pesticide safety, land use, low impact development, urban-rural interface, water quality, working with underserved populations and collaborative efforts with local and state jurisdictions. He holds a Ph.D. from Ohio State University in environmental science. Lawrence's dissertation research focused on the human dimensions of environmental policy by studying local officials' response to environmental regulations and importance of multi-jurisdictional collaboration. He also holds a Master's of Science in Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, and a Bachelor's of Science in Apiculture and Pomology from the University of California, Davis.

UC DAVIS EXTENSION

PROFESSIONAL AND CONTINUING EDUCATION

About our Programs

Center for Water and Land Use

The Center for Water and Land Use's mission is to increase awareness and understanding of the relationships between water resources and land use policies and practices through education, training, applied research, collaboration and dissemination of information.

Areas of concern include:

- source water protection
- the quality of water in our streams, rivers, lakes and wetlands
- the impact development can have on water quantity
- wise use of this precious resource through water conservation
- protection of the habitat and ecology of our aquatic resources

Focus

Due to the rapid expansion of development in California the center will focus its attention on commercial and residential development issues. Many new federal and state regulations require local jurisdictions to limit the impact of development on water quality and quantity. The center will work to identify resources that will provide jurisdictions with information needed to address and comply with these regulations.

Resources

The center will also develop key resources for local communities, neighborhoods, jurisdictions, stakeholders and watershed organizations interested in low impact development (LID). LID is far more than just high density development and LID principles can be incorporated into many development types. Not all LID principles are suitable or appropriate in all locations or under all circumstances. No one practice or series of practices will provide the level of protection mandated by federal and state regulations. Using a natural resource-based comprehensive land use planning approach that incorporates site and regional LID, best management practices as well as natural systems such as wetlands, riparian areas and floodplains, communities can meet their development needs while protecting the environment.

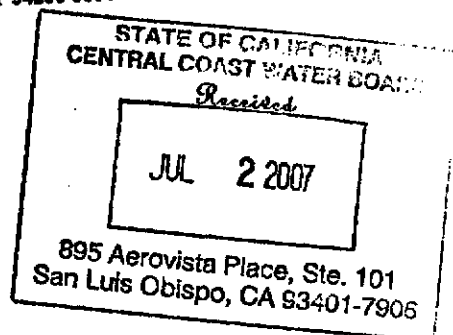
Outcome

Through incorporation of a systematic approach that includes a site, regional and natural systems approach for achieving water discharge requirements, water quality and quantity objectives can achieve a measure of maximum practicability.



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION • P.O. Box 942896 • Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

Oceano Dunes District
340 James Way, Suite 270
Pismo Beach, CA 93449
Telephone (805) 773-7170
FAX (805) 773-7176



Jeffrey S. Young, Chair
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

Re: Item Number 23 on July 6, 2007 Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board Hearing – Proposed Funding for a Central Coast Low Impact Development Institute and Augmentation of the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program Enrollment

Mr. Chair and Members of the Board:

The California Department of Parks and Recreation, Oceano Dunes District manages many significant water bodies in the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes complex including the Pismo Creek estuary, the Arroyo Grande Creek estuary, Oceano lagoon, Oso Flaco Lake, Little Oso Flaco Lake, and portions of Oso Flaco Creek. Because we manage these water bodies in the vicinity of the spill, we are interested in the dispersal of the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Project Trust Funds. **We urge the Regional Board to continue this item from the July 6, 2007 meeting to allow for additional public input and comment on this proposal.**

The projects identified in this staff report represent a substantial departure from the original blueprint that the Regional Board established for the Guadalupe Settlement funds. This earlier blueprint focused on specific implementation projects in the Oso Flaco and Santa Maria River watersheds to provide direct, on the ground, improvements to water quality in the watersheds that received the greatest impacts from the spill. This original blueprint was generated with input from the public and stakeholders. The proposed projects will divert funds from needed water quality improvement projects.

State Parks sits as a member of the Dune Stewardship Collaborative and works with our partners at the Coastal Conservancy and the Department of Fish and Game on identifying projects to be funded out of the Restoration Sub-Committee portion of the Guadalupe Settlement. The projects funded from this portion of the settlement have a strong geographical nexus to the areas directly impacted by the Guadalupe spill.

We encourage the Regional Board to follow the lead of the Restoration Sub-Committee and continue to fund projects that improve water quality and watershed planning in the watersheds associated with the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Complex. Furthermore, we encourage the Regional Board to create opportunities for the public to

become involved in reviewing and commenting on the projects funded with the Guadalupe Settlement funds.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions, or wish to discuss these issues further, you may contact me at 805-773-7177 or Ronnie Glick, Senior Environmental Scientist at 805-773-7180.

Sincerely;



Andrew Zilke
District Superintendent

cc: Dune Stewardship Collaborative
Dune Center, Bud Laurent
Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo, Bob Hill
California Department of Fish and Game, Melissa Boggs
State Coastal Conservancy, Elena Eger

Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District

545 Main Street Suite B-1 Morro Bay, CA 93442 (805)772-4391 (fax) 772-4398

July 2, 2007

Mr. Jeffrey S. Young, Chair
 Board Members Russell M. Jeffries, Gary C. Shallcross, Daniel M. Press, Leslie S. Bowker,
 David T. Hodgins, John H. Hayashi, and Monica S. Hunter
 Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
 895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
 San Luis Obispo, California 93401

Dear Chairman Young and Board Members:

RE: Agenda Item Number #23, Proposed Funding for a Central Coast Low Impact
 Development Institute and Augmentation of the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring
 Program Enrollment - Central Coast RWQC Board meeting July 6, 2007

The Board of Directors of the Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District is requesting that the Agenda Item #23 for the allocation of \$7 million dollars for the above referenced projects be removed from your July 6, 2007 agenda.

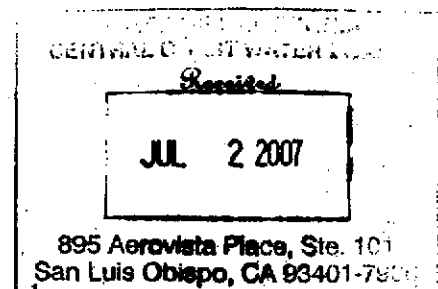
Since this funding comes from the Guadalupe Settlement funds, we ask that the RWQCB staff schedule a meeting(s) with the organizations and agencies that have been working in the Central Coast region to protect and restore coastal watersheds to review and discuss project allocations from the Guadalupe Settlement. In addition to the RWQCB proposal, other documented work project opportunities exist in coastal watersheds, including the Arroyo Grande and Pismo Creeks watersheds and the Oso Flaco drainage.

We also recommend that future consideration of this item by your Board be held at one of your future meetings in San Luis Obispo. This geographical proximity to the Guadalupe area is more conducive to the public dialog that any proposal for such funding requests deserves.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,


 Linda D. Chipping
 Board Director



Cc: ✓ Roger W. Briggs, Executive Officer, Central Coast Water Board
 Michael Thomas, Ass't Executive Officer, Central Coast Water Board
 California Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee, 33rd District
 San Luis Obispo County Supervisor Khatchik H. "Katcho" Achadjian, 4th District



Department of Fish and Game, OSPR
P.O. Box 1979
Marina Bay, CA 93443

California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612



July 2, 2007

Sent via FAX: 805 543 0397 and email to Michael Thomas, Deputy Executive Officer, RWQCB
mthomas@waterboards.ca.gov

Mr. Jeffrey S. Young, Chairman
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

Re: Item 23 on July 6, 2007 Agenda -- Proposal to Reallocate Funds from the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust to: a) Fund a Low Impact Development Institute and b) Increase Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program

Honorable Chairman Young and Board Members:

On behalf of the Guadalupe Natural Resources Restoration Trust, Guadalupe Fund Committee's Restoration Subcommittee, comprised of the California Coastal Conservancy (Conservancy) and the California Department of Fish and Game, Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR), we are writing to urge the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) to postpone its consideration of Item 23 on its July 6, 2007 agenda to provide sufficient time for the Restoration Subcommittee and its partner advisor, The Dunes Collaborative, to consider, collect and provide to the RWQCB meaningful comment on this item.

We are asking you for such a postponement under Section 19 of the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Project Trust, Exhibit B p. 4, to the Settlement Agreement and Judgment under *People of the State of California, ex rel, et al, v. Union Oil Company of California et al*, Superior Court of the State of California, County of San Luis Obispo, which provides in pertinent part that:

The RWQCB, at public meetings, shall select water quality projects to be funded by the Trust. Prior to selection, the RWQCB shall seek review and comment regarding projects proposed for funding from the California Department of Fish and Game and the California State Coastal Conservancy. . . The RWQCB shall consider the following criteria in selecting water quality projects for funding: 1) Geographical nexus (Santa Maria watershed, Santa Maria Ground Water Basin, Nipomo Dunes, Near Coastal Waters). . . Projects will be ranked based on the criteria, although greater weight will be given to geographical criteria. . .

Additionally, the Memorandum of Understanding Relating to the Unocal/Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement, dated July 1998, (MOU), VII., Decision Making, B, Water Quality Projects, provides that decisions regarding water quality projects will be made by the RWQCB after

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
Received
JUL 3 2007
895 Aerovista Place, Ste. 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

Chairperson Jeffrey S. Young and Members of the Central Coast RWQCB
Re: Item 23 on July 6, 2007 RWQCB agenda
7/3/2007
Page 2

RWQCB staff consults with the Guadalupe Fund Committee, whose members include the Conservancy, OSPR and RWQCB, and that the Fund Committee shall include recommendations on the ranking of projects in consultation with a Public Advisory Committee. The Dunes Collaborative has been functioning as the Public Advisory Committee to the Restoration Subcommittee on its project selection over the past six years. The Restoration Subcommittee has not had a sufficient amount of time to seek the Dunes Collaborative's advice on the water quality projects listed on Item 23 on the RWQCB's July 6th agenda.

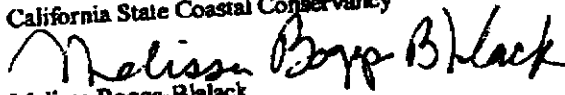
Additionally, on June 14, 2007, the Restoration Subcommittee's OSPR representative, Melissa Boggs-Blalack, e-mailed Michael Thomas, RWQCB Deputy Executive Officer, suggesting the Fund Committee meet to discuss these water quality projects (among other items regarding the Guadalupe Trusts). Mr. Thomas has not yet responded to Melissa Boggs-Blalack's email.

We hope that the RWQCB will address the Restoration Subcommittee's need for additional time and consideration of your Item 23 and remove it from your July 6th agenda. We look forward to working together, to reconvene the Guadalupe Fund Committee to ensure the best projects are selected for funding from the Guadalupe Water Quality Project Trust and the Natural Resources Restoration Trust.

Sincerely,



Elena Eger
Sr. Staff Counsel and Representative to the Restoration Subcommittee
California State Coastal Conservancy



Melissa Boggs-Blalack
Representative to the Restoration Subcommittee
Department of Fish and Game, Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response

Cc: Dune Stewardship Collaborative members
Dune Center, Mr. Bud Laurent
Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo, Mr. Bob Hill
California State Parks, Oceano Dunes District, Mr. Andrew Zilke
Interactive Planning and Management, Mr. John Jostes
California State Coastal Conservancy, Mr. Sam Schuchat; Ms. Terri Nevins
Department of Fish and Game, OSPR, Mr. Michael Sowby



State of California - The Resources Agency

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov>

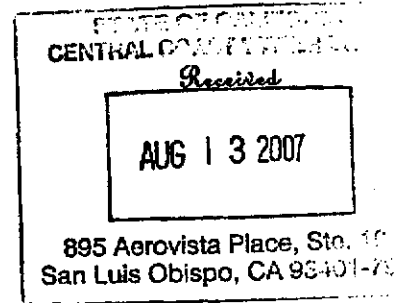
Office of Spill Prevention and Response

1700 K Street, Suite 250

Sacramento, CA 95811

(916) 445-9338

August 7, 2007



Mr. Roger Briggs
Executive Officer
Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, California 93401

Re: Proposal to Allocate Funds from the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust to Fund a Low Impact Development Institute and Increase the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program

Dear Mr. Briggs:

The purpose of this letter is to convey the position of the Department of Fish and Game, Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) regarding the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) proposal to allocate funds from the Guadalupe Oil Field Water Quality Trust (Trust) to: a) fund a Central Coast Low Impact Development Institute; and b) increase funding for the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program (CCAMP). In particular, I wanted to clarify the OSPR's position in light of the fact that there were two different communications from the OSPR to the RWQCB regarding these proposed projects (see July 02, 2007 letter to Mr. Jeffrey Young from Ms. Melissa Boggs-Blalack and Ms. Elena Eger and July 03, 2007, email to Mr. Michael Thomas from Dr. Julie Yamamoto).

To clarify, we are in support of the Central Coast Low Impact Development project in its current conceptual form as well as the five million dollar increase to the CCAMP program. Low impact development is a laudable model, and to date, the CCAMP program has been collecting valuable data that can be used to improve the health of our watersheds. However, prior to funding these projects from the Trust, we recommend the RWQCB allow adequate time for public submittal of comments on the projects and/or submittal of other project concepts that may better meet the Trust's selection criteria, including geographic nexus to the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes.

Finally, we are pleased that the staff recommendation to allocate Trust funds to the proposed projects was not acted upon at the July 6, 2007 RWQCB Board meeting. This will allow the public the additional time needed to provide more informed, thoughtful comments. I also understand that Ms. Melissa Boggs-Blalack has coordinated a Fund Committee conference call scheduled for August 9, 2007.

Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1870

Mr. Roger Briggs
August 7, 2007
Page 2 of 3

Through the years we have appreciated coordinating with your agency on the allocation of funds from both of the Guadalupe Trust Funds (i.e., Water Quality Trust and Natural Resources Restoration Trust). We look forward to reconvening the Guadalupe Fund Committee and working together to ensure the best projects are selected for these funds. If you have any questions please contact Ms. Melissa Boggs-Blalack at (805) 558-1005.

Sincerely,



Lisa Curtis, Administrator
Department of Fish and Game,
Office of Spill Prevention and Response

cc: Mr. Jeffrey S. Young,
RWQCB Chairman
895 Aerovista Way, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

Mr. Michael Thomas, RWQCB
895 Aerovista Way, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

Ms. Karen Worcester RWQCB
895 Aerovista Way, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

Ms. Elena Eger,
California Coastal Conservancy
13th Floor, 1330 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94612
phone (510) 286-1015/ fax (510) 286-0470

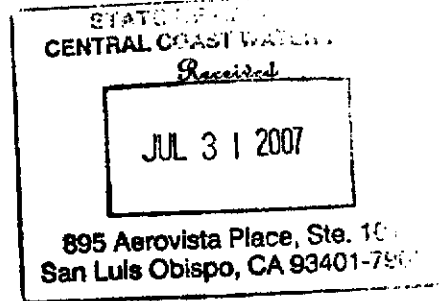
Ms. Melissa Boggs
Office of Spill Prevention and Response
1700 K Street, Suite 250
Sacramento, CA 95811

Mr. Roger Briggs
August 7, 2007
Page 3 of 3

Ms. Julie Yamamoto
Office of Spill Prevention and Response
1700 K Street, Suite 250
Sacramento, CA 95811

Mr. Mike Sowby
Office of Spill Prevention and Response
1700 K Street, Suite 250
Sacramento, CA 95811

Mr. Sonke Mastrup,
California Department of Fish and Game
1416 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814



July 24, 2007

Roger Briggs, Executive Officer
Central Coast Water Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Mr. Briggs:

This letter conveys our support for your proposal to fund a Central Coast Low Impact Development Institute and to increase the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program endowment. Thank you for sending the proposal and for discussing it with my Deputy Director Sonke Mastrup on June 26. As Mr. Mastrup discussed with you, your proposal is complementary with the direction we are headed in our effort to protect marine resources pursuant to the Marine Life Protection Act.

During the process to establish Marine Protected Areas along the Central Coast, several important issues were clarified, including the need to address water quality issues on a watershed scale and the need to do much more comprehensive monitoring to characterize water quality problems and track our progress in solving them. Healthy marine ecosystems require healthy watersheds, which require protection of aquatic habitat and pollution prevention. That means we need sustainable land management practices among all stakeholders. Fishermen cannot carry the burden of protecting marine resources alone; it is a multi-dimensional, complex issue and requires a comprehensive approach, and now is the perfect time for your proposal as a valuable companion to our effort to fulfill the requirements of the Marine Life Protection Act. Your regional area is also ideally situated for this effort, considering that the first set of reserves are off of the Central Coast.

This concept of interconnected systems was a key element of the *California and World Ocean '02* conference in Santa Barbara. Many speakers and papers addressed the connection between marine resources and land management. We know what we need to do, and now is the time to act. The Central Coast Low Impact Development Institute and more comprehensive watershed-based performance monitoring directly address our large-scale, priority issues.

Thanks again for discussing your proposal with Mr. Mastrup. I look forward to collaborating with your agency to better protect our watersheds and marine resources. This is the direction we need to pursue. Please call Mr. Mastrup at 916-799-0398 if you have any questions on this matter.

Sincerely,

L. Ryan Brodrick
Director

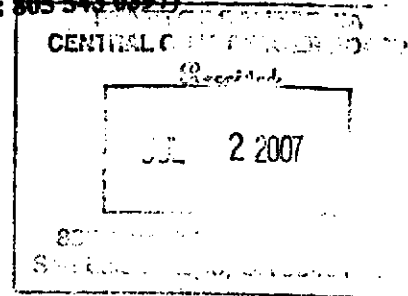


Santa Maria Facility
ConocoPhillips Company
2555 Willow Road
Arroyo Grande, CA 93420

July 2, 2007

Mr. Jeffrey S. Young, Chairman
Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Coast Region
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

(SENT VIA FAX: 805-543-0397)



Request to Reschedule Item 23 on July 6, 2007 RWQCB Meeting Agenda

Honorable Chairman Young and Board Members:

I am writing to ask that you postpone and reschedule Item 23 on your July 6th agenda. Because your meeting is scheduled to be held in Watsonville, neither I nor several other parties of interest in the referenced matter are able to attend. As an alternative, I ask that this important matter be rescheduled for your September 7th meeting to be held in San Luis Obispo. The following constitutes some of the supporting rationale for this request:

- The proposal to fund a Low Impact Development (LID) Institute is predicated upon re-allocating \$2,000,000 from the RWQCB's remaining share of the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust. While we understand that these funds (originally in the amount of \$15,000,000) may be used within the Central Coast Water Board's region, we hope to persuade your Board that they should be utilized as close to the original pollution event as possible.
- While your staff's proposal to create a LID Institute may be justified, I and many other stakeholders in the restoration of the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes do not agree that the proposal should be funded by the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust. Those funds represent an opportunity to repair damage to the local dunes and adjacent watersheds ecosystem, and we strongly urge your Board to re-affirm their uses for that purpose.
- Your staff has recently completed initial work on the severe water quality problems in the Santa Maria River and Oso Flaco watersheds. This work demonstrates the need for funds to begin efforts to reduce or eliminate the pesticide and sedimentation problems which have impacted the wetland environments of that region. Even if other funding sources are available for this region, this is where the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust should be utilized due to the magnitude of work ahead.

REQUEST TO RESCHEDULE ITEM 23 ON JULY 6, 2007 RWQCB MEETING AGENDA

JULY 2, 2007

PAGE 2

- Your staff's proposal also requests an allocation of \$5,000,000 to fund your Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program (CCAMP) program. These funds should be used for the Santa Maria River and Oso Flaco watersheds, as the primary criterion of projects funded by the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust is "geographical nexus" as clearly stated on Appendix B, page 4, of the Settlement.
- One of the conditions of the Unocal Settlement was the establishment of a "Dunes Collaborative," composed of agencies of Federal, State and local government along with local stakeholder organizations like the Dunes Center, the Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County, the Center for Natural Lands Management, and People for the Nipomo Dunes. The Regional Water Quality Control Board was, at one time, an active participant as well. The great benefit of the Dunes Collaborative is that it provides a forum for collaboration among all stakeholders to improve restoration and conservation of the dunes ecosystem. It is unfortunate that the Dunes Collaborative was not consulted about this significant proposal to re-allocate the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust; we would welcome such a discussion with your staff prior to Board consideration of any re-allocation of settlement funds.

Low Impact Development may be a worthwhile endeavor, but funding for such an initiative should not, and must not, come from the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust.

Finally, to repeat a point already made in this letter and one you will hear from all of the other active members of the Dunes Collaborative: the primary criterion for RWQCB selection of water quality projects funded by this settlement is geographical nexus.

We respectfully request your most serious consideration of our request to postpone discussion of and action on Item 23, to reschedule this matter to your September 7th meeting, and to direct your staff to meet with the Dunes Collaborative to discuss the proposal and the full range of its implications.

Sincerely,



James O. Anderson
Superintendent, Health, Safety & Environment

CC:

Elena Eger, California Coastal Conservancy
Melissa Boggs-Blalock, California Department of Fish and Game
Andrew Zilke, California Department of Parks and Recreation
Bob Hill, Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County
Assemblymember Sam Blakeslee, 33rd District
Supervisor Katcho Achadjian, San Luis Obispo County
Supervisor Joni Gray, Santa Barbara County
Gonzo Garcia, Chevron, Inc.
Steph Wald, Central Coast Salmon Enhancement
Bud Laurent, The Dunes Center

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HSE900

E+SY

Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District

545 Main Street Suite B-1 Morro Bay, CA 93442 (805)772-4391 (fax) 772-4398

July 2, 2007

Mr. Jeffrey S. Young, Chair
Board Members Russell M. Jeffries, Gary C. Shallcross, Daniel M. Press, Leslie S. Bowker,
David T. Hodgin, John H. Hayashi, and Monica S. Hunter
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, California 93401

Dear Chairman Young and Board Members:

RE: Agenda Item Number #23, Proposed Funding for a Central Coast Low Impact
Development Institute and Augmentation of the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring
Program Enrollment - Central Coast RWQC Board meeting July 6, 2007

The Board of Directors of the Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District is requesting that
the Agenda Item #23 for the allocation of \$7 million dollars for the above referenced projects be
removed from your July 6, 2007 agenda.

Since this funding comes from the Guadalupe Settlement funds, we ask that the RWQCB staff
schedule a meeting(s) with the organizations and agencies that have been working in the Central
Coast region to protect and restore coastal watersheds to review and discuss project allocations
from the Guadalupe Settlement. In addition to the RWQCB proposal, other documented work
project opportunities exist in coastal watersheds, including the Arroyo Grande and Pismo Creeks
watersheds and the Oso Flaco drainage.

We also recommend that future consideration of this item by your Board be held at one of your
future meetings in San Luis Obispo. This geographical proximity to the Guadalupe area is more
conducive to the public dialog that any proposal for such funding requests deserves.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

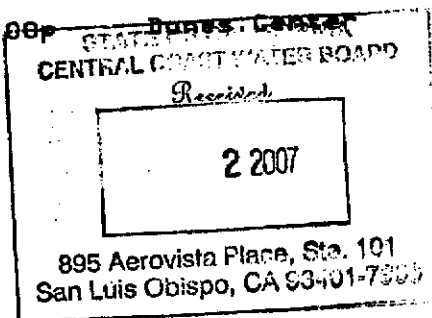
Sincerely,


Linda D. Chipping
Board Director

Received
JUL 2 2007
895 Aerovista Place, Ste. 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7777

Cc: ✓ Roger W. Briggs, Executive Officer, Central Coast Water Board
Michael Thomas, Ass't Executive Officer, Central Coast Water Board
California Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee, 33rd District
San Luis Obispo County Supervisor Khatchik H. "Katcho" Achadjian, 4th District

Jun 29 07 07:08



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P. 1
ITEM 23

P.O. Box 339
Guadalupe, CA 93434
Tel: 805.343.2455
Fax: 805.343.0442
www.dunescenter.org



Mr. Jeffrey S. Young, Chairman
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906
(via FAX: 805 543 0397)

June 29, 2007

Re: Item 23 on July 6, 2007 Agenda.-- Proposal to Re-allocate Funds from the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust to:
a) Fund a Low Impact Development Institute
b) Increase Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program

Honorable Chairman Young and Board Members:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center to ask you to postpone and reschedule Item 23 on your July 6th agenda. Because your meeting is scheduled to be held in Watsonville, neither I nor several other parties of interest in the referenced matter are able to attend. As an alternative, on behalf of my Board and those parties of interest, I ask that the matter be rescheduled for your September 7th meeting to be held in San Luis Obispo. The following constitutes some of the supporting rationale for this request:

- The proposal to fund a Low Impact Development (LID) Institute is predicated upon re-allocating \$2,000,000 from the RWQCB's remaining share of the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust. While we understand that these funds (originally in the amount of \$15,000,000) may be used within the Central Coast Water Board's region, we hope to persuade your Board that they should be utilized as close to the original pollution event as possible.
- While I personally think that your staff's proposal to create a LID Institute is laudable, and am supportive of your agency "branching out" into the realm of community development, I and many other stakeholders in the restoration of the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes do not agree that the proposal should be funded by the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust. Those funds represent a hard-won opportunity to repair decades-long abuses to the local dunes and adjacent watersheds ecosystem, and we strongly urge your Board to re-affirm their uses for that purpose.

It is difficult for us to believe that the origin of the Low Impact Development initiative began with the State Water Board without an accompanying source of funds; would your Regional staff have been directed by the State Board to develop your own version of a LID program on the premise that you had to find funding from some other source? If so, there is something terribly wrong in this.

Promoting the conservation of the Guadalupe-Nipomo dunes ecosystem through education, research and the support of cooperative stewardship.

- As someone who has been deeply involved in Smart Growth and Low Impact Development politics for at least 17 years, I also have some thoughts on your staff's conceptual proposal to create an institute to foster LID-type practices:
 - First, the staff report states that the Institute will "implement all aspects of Low Impact Development projects," when in fact a voluntary educational facility can implement nothing.
 - Second, the staff's allegation that "the level of services that we are proposing do not exist locally," is an interesting one, in light of the fact we now live in an internet world where such information and services are widely available to anyone seeking them.
 - Third, the staff report includes a wish to avoid "reinventing the wheel" in creating a regional LID Institute; what staff failed to acknowledge is the existence of similar organizations working effectively in California (and recognized nationally) - the prime example being the Local Government Commission which has worked fruitfully and credibly in the arenas of Smart Growth and Low Impact Development for more than 25 years, holding local and regional workshops and providing direct consultation to local government and developers, alike.
 - Finally, I have grave doubts that \$2,000,000 invested to start a similar organization will be neither sufficient for success nor broadly utilized by local or regional land-use agencies who resist perceived usurpation of their authority by other governmental entities. The reason the Local Government Commission has been so successful is substantially due to its nonprofit, independent status - it carries no political baggage; the same may not be said for a government-created institute.

- Your staff has recently completed initial work on the severe water quality problems in the Santa Maria River and Oso Flaco watersheds; their work is a signal contribution to the campaign for habitat and water quality restoration in describing the magnitude, extent and origins of long-ignored water quality problems in that region. Your staff's work also underscores the need for funds to begin a decades-long effort to attack the pesticide and sedimentation problems which have badly degraded the wetland environments of that region. Even if other funding sources are available for this region, this is where the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust should be utilized due to the magnitude of work ahead.

- Your staff's proposal also requests an allocation of \$5,000,000 to fund your CCAMP program, and the Dunes Center would like to better understand whether the funds will be used within the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes watershed systems or elsewhere within the Central Coast region. We believe the primary criterion of projects funded by the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust is "geographical nexus" as clearly stated on Appendix B, page 4, of the Settlement.

- One of the conditions of the Unocal Settlement was the establishment of a "Dunes Collaborative," composed of agencies of federal, state and local government along with local stakeholder organizations like the Dunes Center, the Land Conservancy of San

Luis Obispo County, the Center for Natural Lands Management and People for the Nipomo Dunes. (At one time, the Regional Water Quality Control Board was an active participant, and has been missed at Collaborative meetings.) The great benefit of the Dunes Collaborative is that it provides a forum for, as the name implies, collaboration among all stakeholders to improve restoration and conservation of the dunes ecosystem. It is deeply unfortunate that the Dunes Collaborative was not consulted -- earlier and directly -- about this significant proposal to re-allocate the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust; we would welcome such a discussion with your staff prior to the September 7th meeting.

I'm confident that I speak for the Dunes Center Board when I reiterate praise for your staff's interest in Low Impact Development, but state unequivocally that funding for such an initiative - if it goes forward ultimately - should not, must not, come from the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust. In my opinion, the RWQCB's greatest contribution toward Low Impact Development would be to establish requirements for its implementation so that is no longer discretionary; other already-existing organizations will be happy to provide the consultative LID expertise to local land use agencies and developers that your staff's proposal calls for.

Finally, to repeat a point already made in this letter and one you will hear from all of the other active members of the Dunes Collaborative: the primary criterion for RWQCB selection of water quality projects funded by this settlement is NEXUS, NEXUS, NEXUS. It's worth repeating.

The Dunes Center joins the other members of the Dunes Collaborative, and the many other stakeholders involved in the restoration of habitat and water quality of the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes ecosystem, to ask your most serious consideration of our request to postpone discussion of and action on Item 23, to reschedule this matter to your September 7th meeting, and to direct your staff to meet with the Dunes Collaborative to discuss the proposal and the full range of its implications.

Most sincerely,



Bud Laurent,
Interim Executive Director

cc:

Elena Eger, California Coastal Conservancy
Melissa Boggs-Blalock, California Department of Fish and Game
Andrew Zilke, California Department of Parks and Recreation
Bob Hill, Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County
Assemblymember Sam Blakeslee, 33rd District
Supervisor Katcho Achadjian, San Luis Obispo County
Supervisor Joni Gray, Santa Barbara County
Gonzo Garcia, Chevron, Inc.
James Anderson, ConocoPhillips, Inc.
Steph Wald, Central Coast Salmon Enhancement

ITEM 23

The Land Conservancy

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CENTRAL COAST OF SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

Received

JUN 29 2007

895 Aerovista Place, Ste. 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

June 29, 2007

Mr. Jeffrey S. Young, Chairman
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Re: Proposed Funding for a Central Coast Low Impact Development Institute and Augmentation of the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program Enrollment (Item 23 on July 6, 2007 Agenda)

Dear Chairman Young and Members of the Board:

I am writing to you to express several concerns regarding the above-referenced proposal, which your Board is scheduled to consider as Item 23 on the July 6th agenda.

Our primary concern stems from the minimal amount of advance notice and opportunity for public participation in the development of this proposal. Our organization was first apprised of staff report and the pending Board consideration of this item just this past Monday, June 25th. We understand that the staff report and attachments were not posted to the website until this time, either. We simply have not had an adequate time to review the proposal and fully understand its implications. Since your meeting will be held in Watsonville, neither I nor several other parties of interest in the referenced matter are able to attend. Given the magnitude and importance of the proposal, we respectfully ask that the matter be rescheduled for your September 7th meeting to be held in San Luis Obispo.

Another concern for us pertains to consistency with the intent of the original Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement, and in particular the Exhibit B which sets forth the terms and provisions for the Water Quality Project Trust which is administered by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board. Paragraph 19 states:

The RWQCB shall consider the following criteria in selecting water quality projects for funding: 1) Geographical nexus (Santa Maria River watershed, Santa Maria Ground Water Basin, Nipomo Dunes, Near Coastal Waters; 2) Waste type nexus (petroleum); 3) Beneficial Use Nexus (drinking water and agricultural supply (Present/potential water supplies), aquatic habitat (fresh and saline) and aquatic endangered species; 4) Institutional stability and capacity of recipients. Projects will be ranked on the criteria, although greater weight will be given to geographical criteria...

While the projects, as proposed in the staff report, will accrue some water quality benefits to the geographical area defined in the settlement documents, much of the opportunity that these significant funds present will leave the area. We do not feel that this is consistent with original intent of the settlement.

A correlated concern is that the staff report states that projects in the watersheds that do have nexus to the defined geographical area appear to be already funded, or should be funded using

THE LAND CONSERVANCY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
P. O. Box 12206, SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93406
805 544-9096 • 805 544-5122 FAX • LC@LCSLO.ORG • WWW.LCSLO.ORG

other monies. However, we are aware of many important projects that are unfunded and that are consistent with the purpose of the settlement. Watershed Plans already exist for most of the drainages that have geographical nexus – we urge you to please consider use of these funds in a manner which will further your agency's own Strategic Plan, which clearly states that implementation of local watershed initiatives is a goal.

The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County joins the other members of the Dunes Collaborative, and the many other stakeholders involved in the restoration of habitat and water quality of the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes ecosystem, to ask your most serious consideration of our request to postpone discussion of and action on Item 23, to reschedule this matter to your September 7th meeting, and to direct your staff to meet with the Dunes Collaborative to discuss the proposal and the full range of its implication.

Sincerely yours,



Brian Stark
Executive Director

Cc: Roger Briggs, Executive Officer
Michael Thomas, Assistant Executive Officer
Elena Eger, California Coastal Conservancy
Melissa Boggs-Blalock, California Department of Fish and Game
Katcho Achadjian, 4th District Supervisor, County of San Luis Obispo
Sam Blakeslee, 33rd District, California Assemblyman



July 5, 2007:

Jeff Young
Board Chair
Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Ste. 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Dear Jeff Young:

We are writing to express our strong support for enhancing the endowment of the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program (CCAMP) by \$5 million. We understand that the Central Coast Water Board will be considering this matter at its July 6th Board meeting. These funds will significantly increase monitoring capacity in the Central Coast for the long term as well as guard against the variations in the State's year-to-year funding which has threatened CCAMP's fine work. Over the past nine years, the Coastal Watershed Council has worked closely with CCAMP to involve hundreds of volunteers in this important monitoring work. Steady and consistent funding for CCAMP is essential to ensure that high-quality monitoring work is sustained long term. CCAMP also effectively leverages that funding through its work with the Coastal Watershed Council and other nonprofits to mobilize hundreds of volunteers.

A financially sustainable, long-term water quality monitoring program is critical to further our knowledge of the land-sea connection and to assist responsible agencies in pollution reduction and elimination activities. Funding sources, such as from permitted discharges, that have provided funding for other regions have not been sufficient or workable in our region.

CCAMP has received high marks in carrying out the intent of the California Legislature as passed into law through AB 1429 which addressed monitoring of the State's coastal watersheds, AB982 which addressed among other issues the need for comprehensive ongoing water quality monitoring, and AB1070 which calls for improved public access to water quality information. In addition, CCAMP is conducting monitoring following stakeholder recommendations expressed in the AB 982 Public Advisory Group Report to the State Water Board.


In the last several years, the Resources Legacy Foundation has funded two projects focused on enhancing monitoring in the Central Coast area. The most recent one is compiling data in the Central Coast and determining major gaps in assessment capability. CCAMP data provides the foundation for this project with CCAMP's long-term sites providing the most important source of watershed trend data. However,

because of funding constraints, CCAMP has been unable to sample comprehensively for pesticides and metals, toxicity, and bioassessment resulting in a major gap in our understanding of water quality problems. In addition, because CCAMP needed to use limited funds to focus on the lower end of tributaries, higher watershed areas are currently under-sampled. Sufficient and predictable funding in cases like this can see that CCAMP's work is complemented by volunteer monitoring programs like the National Marine Sanctuary Citizen's Monitoring Network and the Coastal Watershed Council. In any case, solid baseline funding for CCAMP to further our understanding of watershed conditions in the Central Coast is essential.

CCAMP has supported volunteer monitoring activities in the Central Coast Region since its inception in 1998. In spite of minimal funding, CCAMP has substantially improved data management and quality assurance in Central Coast monitoring programs. CCAMP has complemented its own data with that from volunteer activity and other sources to identify over 70 new 303(D) listings on the State's impaired waterbodies list.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,


Bill Leland, Executive Director
Coastal Watershed Council

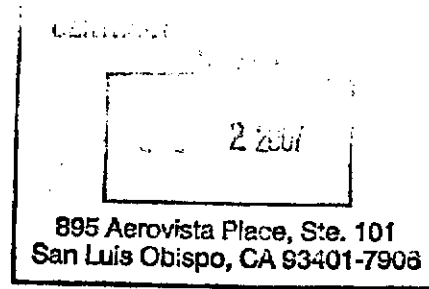


**COASTKEEPER
ALLIANCE**

A Statewide Voice for Our Waters

June 29, 2007

Jeff Young, Chair and Members
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401



VIA FACSIMILE AND U.S. MAIL

Re: July 6, 2007 CCRWQCB Meeting, Item #23: Augmentation of the Central Coast
Ambient Monitoring Program – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Young and Board Members:

On behalf of the California Coastkeeper Alliance, which represents 12 Waterkeeper groups from the Oregon border to San Diego, I am writing in strong support of the proposed \$5 million augmentation of the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program (CCAMP) endowment.

Californians generally have little information on the quality of their waters. Statewide, California currently reports on the health of only 22% of its coastal shoreline, 34% of its lakes and reservoirs, and a mere 15% of its rivers and streams. In joint letters and a report to the Legislature, 48 representatives of both the environmental and regulated communities agreed that a comprehensive water monitoring program is "critical to implementing the state's other water quality programs effectively," and unanimously found that a comprehensive monitoring program "will more than pay off . . . in terms of future dollars spent more effectively on restoration and pollution prevention." Better information is needed to produce better decisionmaking, and to allow the public and decisionmakers to make well-informed choices about using and managing California's waters.

CCAMP has been a model for the rest of the state on how to best leverage limited monitoring funds and create useful information about the health of Central Coast waters. However, it has been extremely difficult to obtain sustained, meaningful monitoring funding, particularly in the Central Coast where permitted discharges are fewer and nonpoint source pollution problems are significant. The proposed funding for the endowment will improve the region's ability to monitor through funding shortages and other administrative hurdles (thus ensuring continued tracking of key water parameters), and expand monitoring where critically needed (such as situations like the *E. coli* contamination last fall).

We urge your support for allocation of the proposed \$5 million to the CCAMP endowment.
Thank you for your attention to these comments.

Best regards,

Linda Sheehan
Executive Director

PO Box 3156, Fremont, CA 94539
www.cacoastkeeper.org
(510) 770 9764

July 3, 2007

Mr. Jeffrey S. Young, Chairman
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

Re: *Proposed Funding for a Central Coast Low Impact Development Institute and Augmentation of the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program Enrollment (Item 23 on July 6, 2007 Agenda)*

Dear Chairman Young and Members of the Board:

The Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board has an Item Number 23 on their July 6 agenda that would inappropriately transfer funds from the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Project Trust to a project at Cal Poly that would finance the start up of a Low Impact Development Institute and a project that would add to an endowment at the Bay Foundation for the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program.

The settlement agreement Exhibit B: Page 4 of 7 sets forth very specific criteria in selecting water quality projects for funding. Required are a geographical nexus to "(Santa Maria watershed, Santa Maria Ground Water Basin, Nipomo Dunes, Near Coastal Waters,) a waste type nexus (petroleum)" and a beneficial use nexus (drinking water and agricultural supply,... present/potential water supplies);...." The section goes on to state "Projects will be ranked based on the criteria, although greater weight will be given to geographical criteria".

Cal Poly is 30 miles north of the spill site and the Bay Foundation is located 45 miles north of the site. The ambient monitoring program encompasses 6 counties and is a RWQCB monitoring program. Item Number 23 does not meet any of the weighted criteria of the settlement and judgment.

The Santa Maria River and Oso Flaco Lake watersheds and the Nipomo Dunes have a multiplicity of water quality issues that need addressing and for which these funds should be expended. The farmers in the Oso Flaco Lake watershed have been working for a number of years to find ways to improve farm water run off. It has been an understanding on their part that when the permit streamlining process was in place these funds would be available to help with implementation of projects that would improve the water quality of the creek, the lake and the near coastal waters. Cachuma Resource Conservation District has "sufficient stability and capacity to carry out projects" under the terms of the Blueprint.

It appears that if the proposed use of these funds is granted that the Fish and Wildlife Foundation would be in violation of its duty as Trustee of this Trust. The attached Guadalupe Settlement Fund

blueprint illustrates the projects that were defined as uses for the funds. The Implementation of Oso Flaco and the Lower Santa Maria River Watershed Management Plans could easily absorb all the remaining funds in the Trust.

It is disappointing to realize that the Foundation has already transferred \$2 million to the Bay Foundation. The Regional Board should amend that allocation from the Trust and direct that that portion of the CCAMP budget be designated exclusively to the areas within the watershed of the dunes.

Sincerely,

Tom Lockhart
Manager, Cachuma RCD

Cyndee Jones - 6E576BB0.DCX

Page 2

03/29/2014 05:49 FAX

002/002

STATE CAPITOL
RD BOX 942848
SACRAMENTO, CA 95828-0028
(916) 318-2000
FAX (916) 318-2700

Assembly
California Legislature

DISTRICT OFFICE
1104 PALM STREET
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93401
(805) 544-0397
FAX (805) 546-3400



SAM BLAKESLEE
ASSEMBLY MEMBER, THIRTY-THIRD DISTRICT

July 5, 2007

Mr. Roger W. Briggs, Executive Officer
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, California 93401

Dear Roger,

I am writing to relay to you concerns that have been brought to my attention by various stakeholders and interested parties regarding Item Number 23 on your July 6th agenda. On no other issue than Los Osos has my office received expressions of such concern.

An issue is the proposed transfer of funds from the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust to proposed projects at Cal Poly and the Bay Foundation. Parties involved in conservation and water quality efforts around the Santa Maria River and Oros Flaco Lake watersheds and the Nipomo Dunes believe that the proposed transfer is inconsistent with the funding criteria defined in the Settlement, and have expressed concern that key projects being developed consistent with the settlement criteria would go unfunded.

It is my hope that these important concerns will be addressed before any final decision is reached by the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Sincerely,

Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee

ITEM 23

The Land Conservancy
of San Luis Obispo County

June 29, 2007

Mr. Jeffrey S. Young, Chairman
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

CENTRAL COAST REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

JUN 29 2007

895 Aerovista Place, Ste. 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Re: Proposed Funding for a Central Coast Low Impact Development Institute and Augmentation of the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program Enrollment (Item 23 on July 6, 2007 Agenda)

Dear Chairman Young and Members of the Board:

I am writing to you to express several concerns regarding the above-referenced proposal, which your Board is scheduled to consider as Item 23 on the July 6th agenda.

Our primary concern stems from the minimal amount of advance notice and opportunity for public participation in the development of this proposal. Our organization was first apprised of staff report and the pending Board consideration of this item just this past Monday, June 25th. We understand that the staff report and attachments were not posted to the website until this time, either. We simply have not had an adequate time to review the proposal and fully understand its implications. Since your meeting will be held in Watsonville, neither I nor several other parties of interest in the referenced matter are able to attend. Given the magnitude and importance of the proposal, we respectfully ask that the matter be rescheduled for your September 7th meeting to be held in San Luis Obispo.

Another concern for us pertains to consistency with the intent of the original Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement, and in particular the Exhibit B which sets forth the terms and provisions for the Water Quality Project Trust which is administered by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board. Paragraph 19 states:

The RWQCB shall consider the following criteria in selecting water quality projects for funding: 1) Geographical nexus (Santa Maria River watershed, Santa Maria Ground Water Basin, Nipomo Dunes, Near Coastal Waters; 2) Waste type nexus (petroleum); 3) Beneficial Use Nexus (drinking water and agricultural supply (Present/potential water supplies), aquatic habitat (fresh and saline) and aquatic endangered species; 4) Institutional stability and capacity of recipients. Projects will be ranked on the criteria, although greater weight will be given to geographical criteria...

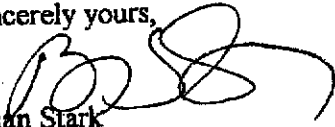
While the projects, as proposed in the staff report, will accrue some water quality benefits to the geographical area defined in the settlement documents, much of the opportunity that these significant funds present will leave the area. We do not feel that this is consistent with original intent of the settlement.

A correlated concern is that the staff report states that projects in the watersheds that do have nexus to the defined geographical area appear to be already funded, or should be funded using

other monies. However, we are aware of many important projects that are unfunded and that are consistent with the purpose of the settlement. Watershed Plans already exist for most of the drainages that have geographical nexus – we urge you to please consider use of these funds in a manner which will further your agency's own Strategic Plan, which clearly states that implementation of local watershed initiatives is a goal.

The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County joins the other members of the Dunes Collaborative, and the many other stakeholders involved in the restoration of habitat and water quality of the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes ecosystem, to ask your most serious consideration of our request to postpone discussion of and action on Item 23, to reschedule this matter to your September 7th meeting, and to direct your staff to meet with the Dunes Collaborative to discuss the proposal and the full range of its implication.

Sincerely yours,



Brian Stark

Executive Director

Cc: Roger Briggs, Executive Officer
Michael Thomas, Assistant Executive Officer
Elena Eger, California Coastal Conservancy
Melissa Boggs-Blalock, California Department of Fish and Game
Katcho Achadjian, 4th District Supervisor, County of San Luis Obispo
Sam Blakeslee, 33rd District, California Assemblyman

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1055 MONTEREY, ROOM D430 • SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA 93408-1003 • 805.781.5450



KHATCHIK H. "KATCHO" ACHADJIAN
SUPERVISOR DISTRICT FOUR

July 5, 2007

Mr. Jeffrey S. Young, Chairman
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

Re: Item 23 on July 6, 2007 Agenda.— Proposal to Re-allocate Funds from the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust

Dear Chairman Young:

I respectfully request that your board postpone and reschedule Item 23 on your July 6th agenda. This item is of great interest to many local organizations and I would like to be sure that our constituents have had an opportunity to review the proposal. Due to this being a holiday week, many people who are interested in the item are not able to attend your meeting in Watsonville.

Thank you for your consideration of this request to postpone and possibly to reschedule Item 23 to the September meeting held here in San Luis Obispo. Please feel free to call me at 781-4337 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

KHATCHIK H. "KATCHO" ACHADJIAN
Supervisor District Four

ITEM # 23



County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

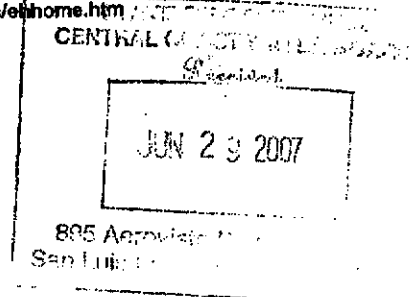
701 OCEAN STREET, ROOM 312, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4073
(831) 454-2022 FAX: (831) 454-3128 TDD: (831) 454-4123

www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us/eh/ehhome.htm

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

June 26, 2007

Jeffrey S. Young, Chair
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906



RE: Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program

Dear Mr. Young:

I would like to express my support on behalf of Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Services for the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program (CCAMP), and urge you to supplement CCAMP's endowment at your July 6th meeting.

Ambient water quality monitoring is the foundation for understanding the health and functioning of our aquatic systems, and it provides us with critical information used to establish priorities, evaluate the success of programs and activities, and report on accomplishments. Despite this importance, the State has provided inadequate funding to fully assess the majority of waters. This is particularly true on the Central Coast.

In the face of this challenge, Central Coast Water Quality Control Board staff has leveraged many resources and has developed CCAMP into an effective and efficient monitoring program. Through CCAMP, the Central Coast has seen increased resources for water monitoring, improved coordination, and tools for data management and reporting. CCAMP has also worked with local and regional partners, including Santa Cruz County, in the collection and management of water quality data. We look forward to furthering these efforts as we implement various projects and monitoring programs funded through voter-approved bonds.

CCAMP leads water quality monitoring efforts in the State and has been a strong partner to Santa Cruz County. We strongly urge your Board to choose to supplement the CCAMP endowment so that this important program can continue and grow.

Sincerely,

John Ricker
Water Resources Program Manager
Santa Cruz County

From: Michael Thomas
To: Board Members
Date: 7/5/2007 12:29:27 PM
Subject: Comments on Item 23: Low Impact Development Institute and Watershed Performance Monitoring

Board Members

We continue to receive emails and letters regarding Item 23, regarding funding for a Low Impact Development Institute and our Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program. Another comment is below, and a hard copy will be in your blue folders.

Thank you
Michael

>>> <falcone@co.slo.ca.us> 7/5/2007 9:39:22 AM >>>

Michael,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your staff report recommending funding for a Central Coast Low Impact Development (LID) Institute and increased funding for CCAMP.

Implementation of LID in San Luis Obispo County is a high priority that has been identified in the County's Stormwater Management Program and Integrated Regional Water Management Plan. The County is also the recipient of two Prop 40 Urban Stormwater Grants that fund construction of two LID demonstration projects and development of a LID Design Standards Manual and a review of our current ordinances and engineering standards that will be complete in June 2008.

The LID Institute would be a very effective and efficient way to help accelerate wide spread LID implementation across the region because it would engage and provide services to all sectors, both private and public. As a LID Center of Excellence, the LID Institute should be in a very good position to leverage additional funding through a broad number of sources. Wide participation and collaboration among all stakeholders including not only academia, but also local government, the development community, environmental groups, and citizens at large will be a key success factor.

In addition, I would like to thank your CCAMP staff on the excellent job that they do on such limited funds. The CCAMP database is invaluable in understanding water quality in the region. I use the data extensively. CCAMP provides a scientifically rigorous approach that cannot be easily duplicated by other types of water quality monitoring programs. CCAMP provides water quality monitoring data that are coordinated, consistent, meaningful, and readily available for use across the region. Lesser, fragmented water quality approaches scattered among multiple organizations are not as effective or efficient as CCAMP and the data are not readily available.

Both of your proposals would provide significant benefits to the County's Stormwater Management Program and towards protecting watershed function in San Luis Obispo County.

Thank you for your vision and leadership.

Sincerely,

Jill Falcone
Stormwater Pollution Prevention Coordinator
Environmental Programs Division
County of San Luis Obispo
Department of Public Works
805-788-2767

CC: Carol Hewitt; Roger Briggs

Roger Briggs - Funding for a Low Impact Development Institute and Watershed-Based Performance Monitoring

From: Michael Thomas
To: ^{next} nfishman@scc.ca.gov; ^{tim} sschuchat@scc.ca.gov; tduff@scc.ca.gov;
^{Tom} ^{me} thevins@scc.ca.gov
Date: 6/18/2007 5:15 PM
Subject: Funding for a Low Impact Development Institute and Watershed-Based Performance Monitoring
CC: Roger Briggs

Mr. Schuchat, Mr. Fishman, Ms. Nevins, Mr. Duff :

I am the Assistant Executive Officer for the Central Coast Water Board and I'm writing to let you know about two important projects we are proposing to our Board, and I am requesting your support. At our July 6, 2007 Water Board meeting in Watsonville, we will be proposing that our Board approve \$2 million to establish a Central Coast Low Impact Development Institute, and to allocate an additional \$5 million to our Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program endowment. Our staff report is attached (without its attachments). Roger Briggs, our Executive Officer, and I would like to meet with you to discuss these projects and how we can collaborate to effectively address the most important issues facing the Central Coast over the next few decades—managing development to protect functioning watersheds and measuring our performance.

We established a Vision for the future of the Central Coast, which is... *Healthy Functioning Watersheds*. We also developed major goals for aquatic habitat, sustainable land management, and groundwater. Our Vision and Goals represent a fundamental shift toward protecting functioning systems. We want to be a performance-based organization focused on tangible results in our watersheds, and these two projects are a big step in that direction. We need a Central Coast Low Impact Development Institute to envision, design, and implement low impact development projects and facilitate the cultural shift toward sustainable development on the Central Coast. We will be seeking matching funding from a variety of sources, and look forward to any input you may have in that regard. We would love to work with the Coastal Conservancy to make this Institute a practical, highly effective organization.

We also continue to build a comprehensive performance monitoring program to track the physical condition of our watersheds over time and to measure our effectiveness in achieving our goals. This program is well underway, and is often referred to as the model for this kind of work. We'd like to talk to you about these projects and how we can collaborate. Roger or I will be calling you this week to set up a meeting or teleconference. We look forward to talking with you.

Sincerely,

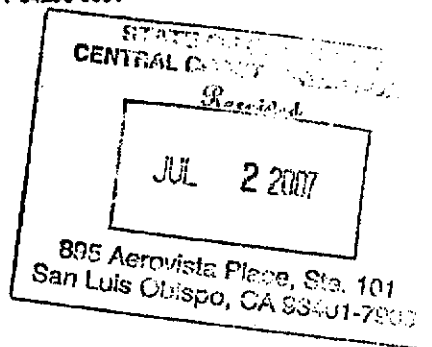
Michael Thomas
Assistant Executive Officer
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION • P.O. Box 942896 • Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

Ruth Coleman, Director

Oceano Dunes District
340 James Way, Suite 270
Pismo Beach, CA 93449
Telephone (805) 773-7170
FAX (805) 773-7176



Jeffrey S. Young, Chair
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

Re: Item Number 23 on July 6, 2007 Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board Hearing – Proposed Funding for a Central Coast Low Impact Development Institute and Augmentation of the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program Enrollment

Mr. Chair and Members of the Board:

The California Department of Parks and Recreation, Oceano Dunes District manages many significant water bodies in the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes complex including the Pismo Creek estuary, the Arroyo Grande Creek estuary, Oceano lagoon, Oso Flaco Lake, Little Oso Flaco Lake, and portions of Oso Flaco Creek. Because we manage these water bodies in the vicinity of the spill, we are interested in the dispersal of the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Project Trust Funds. **We urge the Regional Board to continue this item from the July 6, 2007 meeting to allow for additional public input and comment on this proposal.**

The projects identified in this staff report represent a substantial departure from the original blueprint that the Regional Board established for the Guadalupe Settlement funds. This earlier blueprint focused on specific implementation projects in the Oso Flaco and Santa Maria River watersheds to provide direct, on the ground, improvements to water quality in the watersheds that received the greatest impacts from the spill. This original blueprint was generated with input from the public and stakeholders. The proposed projects will divert funds from needed water quality improvement projects.

State Parks sits as a member of the Dune Stewardship Collaborative and works with our partners at the Coastal Conservancy and the Department of Fish and Game on identifying projects to be funded out of the Restoration Sub-Committee portion of the Guadalupe Settlement. The projects funded from this portion of the settlement have a strong geographical nexus to the areas directly impacted by the Guadalupe spill.

We encourage the Regional Board to follow the lead of the Restoration Sub-Committee and continue to fund projects that improve water quality and watershed planning in the watersheds associated with the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Complex. Furthermore, we encourage the Regional Board to create opportunities for the public to

become involved in reviewing and commenting on the projects funded with the Guadalupe Settlement funds.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions, or wish to discuss these issues further, you may contact me at 805-773-7177 or Ronnie Glick, Senior Environmental Scientist at 805-773-7180.

Sincerely;



Andrew Zilke
District Superintendent

cc: Dune Stewardship Collaborative
Dune Center, Bud Laurent
Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo, Bob Hill
California Department of Fish and Game, Melissa Boggs
State Coastal Conservancy, Elena Eger



July 3, 2007

Mr. Jeffrey S. Young, Chairman
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

Re: *Proposed Funding for a Central Coast Low Impact Development Institute and Augmentation of the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program Enrollment (Item 23 on July 6, 2007 Agenda)*

Dear Chairman Young and Members of the Board:

The Dunes Collaborative is a partnership between federal, state, private, and non-profit organizations committed to restoration of the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes and their associated watersheds. Partners include the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes National Wildlife Refuge, The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County, The Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center, California State Parks - Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area, the Center for Natural Lands Management, the County of San Luis Obispo, and the County of Santa Barbara. Many other stakeholders and interested parties participate in the Dunes Collaborative. The Dunes Collaborative mission and commitment to the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes resulted in great interest and concern about the above referenced proposal by the RWQCB Board to reallocate Guadalupe settlement funds.

We are writing to request you postpone and reschedule Item 23, which your Board is scheduled to consider as part of the July 6, 2007 agenda.

Our request is due to the minimal amount of advance notice and opportunity for public participation in the development of this proposal. The Dunes Collaborative partners first learned of the staff report and the pending Board consideration of this item barely a week ago on Monday, June 25, 2007. Apparently the staff report and attachments were not posted to the website until then as well. Insufficient time has been provided to review the proposal and fully understand its implications. Since your meeting will be held in Watsonville three hours away, most of our partners and other parties of interest in this matter are unable to attend. Given the magnitude and importance of the proposal, we respectfully ask that the matter be rescheduled for your September 7, 2007 meeting to be held in San Luis Obispo.

The Dunes Collaborative, and the many other stakeholders involved in the restoration of habitat and water quality of the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes ecosystem, asks your most serious consideration of our request to postpone discussion of and action on Item 23, to reschedule this matter to your September 7, 2007 meeting, and to direct your staff to meet with the Dunes Collaborative to discuss the proposal and the full range of its implications.

Sincerely,

Bud Laurent
Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center

Robert A. Hill
Land Conservancy of
San Luis Obispo County

Oceano Dunes District
California State Parks Management

[Signature]
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes National
Wildlife Refuge

Kathie L. Matsuyama
Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Collaborative

Christine Halverson
People for Nipomo Dunes

Stephen Waef
Central Coast Salmon Enhancement

Larry Veenker
Nipomo Native Garden

Kathie L. Matsuyama
Coastal San Luis
Resource Conservation District



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
299 Foam Street
Monterey, California 93940

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
ATTN: Mr. Young

July 5, 2007

Dear Mr. Young,

I am writing on behalf of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) in support of the proposal for an increased endowment fund for the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program (CCAMP).

The MBNMS was designated by Congress in 1992 for the purpose of resource protection, research, education, and public use. The MBNMS encompasses over 5,000 square miles of marine waters and is home to an enormous diversity of fishes, birds, mammals and other species. A critical element to protection of these unique resources is clean water. Whether it be from a storm drain or a river, pollution entering our waterways and ocean environments that is not from a single, identifiable source (i.e. a factory), is called **non-point source pollution**. Non-point source pollution is the primary source of pollution to the MBNMS.

For many years, the sanctuary has worked collaboratively with numerous partners to develop the Water Quality Protection Program Action Plans. These plans provide a framework for reducing non-point source pollution in the sanctuary. The National Marine Sanctuary Program (NMSP) is updating the management plans for the Cordell Bank, Gulf of the Farallones, and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuaries in what is known as the Joint Management Plan Review (JMPR). For each sanctuary, this includes a review of current and future priorities for resource protection, education, and research programs; the program's resource and staffing needs; performance measures; and the regulatory goals and sanctuary boundaries. The NMSP selected the issues to be addressed in the JMPR following an extensive public process of scoping and issue prioritization.

Within the JMPR is a Draft Management Plan specific to the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. The MBNMS Draft Management Plan includes twenty-five action plans that, once finalized, will guide sanctuary management for the next five years. This Draft Management Plan is a revision of the original management plan, adopted with sanctuary designation in 1992, and is focused on how best to understand and protect the sanctuary's resources. Water Quality Protection is one of the action plans in the MBNMS Draft Management Plan and the CCAMP program is essential in having the information necessary to make responsible decisions regarding Sanctuary resource.

Over the last few years, the Sanctuary Water Quality Protection Program and the Sanctuary Integrated Monitoring Network (SIMoN) have been working to coordinate monitoring, data



management, and water quality assessment efforts on the Central Coast. One year ago, a project was initiated to collate much of the surface water quality monitoring data that exists within the region to perform an assessment of the utility of existing data sources for addressing key management questions about non-point source pollution centered on the sources, status, and trends of non-point source pollutants. Data collected from the CCAMP program were the most substantial of the 13 programs that were used in terms of spatial coverage, data quality, and parameters sampled. Moreover, the CCAMP monitoring design may serve as a model for filling data gaps that have been discovered during the analysis of the available data.

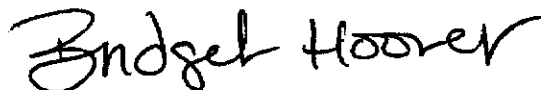
While the CCAMP data sets have shown to be extremely useful for addressing key management questions on a regional scale, there exist critical data gaps on the Central Coast. For example, by compiling much of the data available, we have found that measurements of some metals, organic pollutants, and toxicity are in low abundance compared to other types of measurements and that there is relatively poor spatial coverage in upland areas of Central Coast watersheds.

We have found that few programs maintain long term trend monitoring sites with sufficient statistical power to detect change. The CCAMP Coastal Confluence sites provide a significant capacity for trend detection in our region, but generally require more years of data to build up sufficient statistical power to detect a meaningful level of change. In addition, funding cuts that resulted in cessation of sampling for a period of a year or more have greatly impacted this data set from a trend detection standpoint.

The unstable nature of the funding for many monitoring programs causes gaps in time series data and changes in the types/methods of measurements that are made. Longer data sets and/or higher data density with consistent methods and adequate data management are required if we are to know how water pollutant levels are changing in the near future. Recently, we developed a system to integrate the CCAMP data sets with those of the Sanctuary Citizen Monitoring Network to increase the data density at a number of locations. This has improved the statistical power above that of the individual data sets for detecting trends over time. From our survey of water quality data sources on the Central Coast, the CCAMP program is clearly the monitoring framework we will be using to address non-point source pollution questions, in combination with other data sources in the Region.

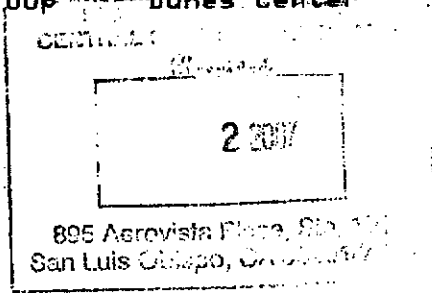
Stabilizing and increasing CCAMP funding will vastly improve the monitoring capacity in the Central Coast. We look forward to working with the staff of the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program in the future. Please contact me at (831) 647-4217 if you would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,



Bridget Hoover

Director, Water Quality Protection Program



P.O.Box 339
 Guadalupe, CA 93434
 Tel: 805.343.2455
 Fax: 805.343.0442
 www.dunescenter.org



Mr. Jeffrey S. Young, Chairman
 Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
 895 Acrovista Place, Suite 101
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906
 (via FAX: 805 543 0397)

June 29, 2007

Re: Item 23 on July 6, 2007 Agenda.-- Proposal to Re-allocate Funds from the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust to:
 a) Fund a Low Impact Development Institute
 b) Increase Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program

Honorable Chairman Young and Board Members:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center to ask you to postpone and reschedule Item 23 on your July 6th agenda. Because your meeting is scheduled to be held in Watsonville, neither I nor several other parties of interest in the referenced matter are able to attend. As an alternative, on behalf of my Board and those parties of interest, I ask that the matter be rescheduled for your September 7th meeting to be held in San Luis Obispo. The following constitutes some of the supporting rationale for this request:

- The proposal to fund a Low Impact Development (LID) Institute is predicated upon re-allocating \$2,000,000 from the RWQCB's remaining share of the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust. While we understand that these funds (originally in the amount of \$15,000,000) may be used within the Central Coast Water Board's region, we hope to persuade your Board that they should be utilized as close to the original pollution event as possible.
- While I personally think that your staff's proposal to create a LID Institute is laudable, and am supportive of your agency "branching out" into the realm of community development, I and many other stakeholders in the restoration of the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes do not agree that the proposal should be funded by the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust. Those funds represent a hard-won opportunity to repair decades-long abuses to the local dunes and adjacent watersheds ecosystem, and we strongly urge your Board to re-affirm their uses for that purpose.

It is difficult for us to believe that the origin of the Low Impact Development initiative began with the State Water Board without an accompanying source of funds; would your Regional staff have been directed by the State Board to develop your own version of a LID program on the premise that you had to find funding from some other source? If so, there is something terribly wrong in this.

Promoting the conservation of the Guadalupe-Nipomo dunes ecosystem through education, research and the support of cooperative stewardship.

- As someone who has been deeply involved in Smart Growth and Low Impact Development politics for at least 17 years, I also have some thoughts on your staff's conceptual proposal to create an institute to foster LID-type practices:
 - First, the staff report states that the Institute will "implement all aspects of Low Impact Development projects," when in fact a voluntary educational facility can implement nothing.
 - Second, the staff's allegation that "the level of services that we are proposing do not exist locally," is an interesting one, in light of the fact we now live in an internet world where such information and services are widely available to anyone seeking them.
 - Third, the staff report includes a wish to avoid "reinventing the wheel" in creating a regional LID Institute; what staff failed to acknowledge is the existence of similar organizations working effectively in California (and recognized nationally) - the prime example being the Local Government Commission which has worked fruitfully and credibly in the arenas of Smart Growth and Low Impact Development for more than 25 years, holding local and regional workshops and providing direct consultation to local government and developers, alike.
 - Finally, I have grave doubts that \$2,000,000 invested to start a similar organization will be neither sufficient for success nor broadly utilized by local or regional land-use agencies who resist perceived usurpation of their authority by other governmental entities. The reason the Local Government Commission has been so successful is substantially due to its nonprofit, independent status - it carries no political baggage; the same may not be said for a government-created institute.

- Your staff has recently completed initial work on the severe water quality problems in the Santa Maria River and Oso Flaco watersheds; their work is a signal contribution to the campaign for habitat and water quality restoration in describing the magnitude, extent and origins of long-ignored water quality problems in that region. Your staff's work also underscores the need for funds to begin a decades-long effort to attack the pesticide and sedimentation problems which have badly degraded the wetland environments of that region. Even if other funding sources are available for this region, this is where the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust should be utilized due to the magnitude of work ahead.

- Your staff's proposal also requests an allocation of \$5,000,000 to fund your CCAMP program, and the Dunes Center would like to better understand whether the funds will be used within the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes watershed systems or elsewhere within the Central Coast region. We believe the primary criterion of projects funded by the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust is "geographical nexus" as clearly stated on Appendix B, page 4, of the Settlement.

- One of the conditions of the Unocal Settlement was the establishment of a "Dunes Collaborative," composed of agencies of federal, state and local government along with local stakeholder organizations like the Dunes Center, the Land Conservancy of San

Luis Obispo County, the Center for Natural Lands Management and People for the Nipomo Dunes. (At one time, the Regional Water Quality Control Board was an active participant, and has been missed at Collaborative meetings.) The great benefit of the Dunes Collaborative is that it provides a forum for, as the name implies, collaboration among all stakeholders to improve restoration and conservation of the dunes ecosystem. It is deeply unfortunate that the Dunes Collaborative was not consulted -- earlier and directly -- about this significant proposal to re-allocate the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust; we would welcome such a discussion with your staff prior to the September 7th meeting.

I'm confident that I speak for the Dunes Center Board when I reiterate praise for your staff's interest in Low Impact Development, but state unequivocally that funding for such an initiative - if it goes forward ultimately - should not, must not, come from the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust. In my opinion, the RWQCB's greatest contribution toward Low Impact Development would be to establish requirements for its implementation so that is no longer discretionary; other already-existing organizations will be happy to provide the consultative LID expertise to local land use agencies and developers that your staff's proposal calls for.

Finally, to repeat a point already made in this letter and one you will hear from all of the other active members of the Dunes Collaborative: the primary criterion for RWQCB selection of water quality projects funded by this settlement is NEXUS, NEXUS, NEXUS. It's worth repeating.

The Dunes Center joins the other members of the Dunes Collaborative, and the many other stakeholders involved in the restoration of habitat and water quality of the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes ecosystem, to ask your most serious consideration of our request to postpone discussion of and action on Item 23, to reschedule this matter to your September 7th meeting, and to direct your staff to meet with the Dunes Collaborative to discuss the proposal and the full range of its implications.

Most sincerely,



Bud Laurent,
Interim Executive Director

cc:

Elena Eger, California Coastal Conservancy
Melissa Boggs-Blalock, California Department of Fish and Game
Andrew Zilke, California Department of Parks and Recreation
Bob Hill, Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County
Assemblymember Sam Blakeslee, 33rd District
Supervisor Katcho Achadjian, San Luis Obispo County
Supervisor Joni Gray, Santa Barbara County
Gonzo Garcia, Chevron, Inc.
James Anderson, ConocoPhillips, Inc.
Steph Wald, Central Coast Salmon Enhancement

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL TOXICOLOGY

July 5, 2007

Jeffrey S. Young, Chair
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
Fax (805) 788-3576 1 page

Dear Mr. Young,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program (CCAMP), and for passage of the agenda item to increase the CCAMP endowment.

I'd like to be clear that our UC Davis toxicology laboratory has been funded to conduct analyses for SWAMP (the California Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program) and other CCAMP-related programs. Our group has also been funded to work on the Guadalupe diluent spill and other water pollution projects throughout the Region.

Over the past twenty years, I have been involved with the design, scientific review, and implementation of a number of monitoring programs, including SWAMP, the Bay Protection and Toxic Cleanup Program, EPA EMAP, and the San Francisco Bay Regional Monitoring Program. I've found CCAMP to be exceptionally well organized, with clear objectives and effective workplans, and I believe their choice of indicators and sampling schedules has been entirely appropriate for their objectives and budgetary constraints. The staff is extremely knowledgeable about both the resource values of the Region's watersheds and the policy needs for water quality monitoring information.

CCAMP has been characterized by a high degree of technical and scientific innovation, which has led to significant advancements in monitoring design, data management, and data interpretation. Stakeholder involvement is exemplary; I have participated in a number of meetings where CCAMP staff have successfully engaged municipalities, special districts, counties, farm groups, advocacy groups, and the public to discuss plans and incorporate their input. Of the SWAMP participants, the CCAMP staff is generally the most timely, clear, and concise in their reporting, and I know they have effectively used CCAMP data for 303d listing and other key management purposes, such as informing stakeholders and designing the ag waiver monitoring program.

As a participant in SWAMP since its inception, I am acutely aware of the uncertainty of state funding for the CCAMP program. One of the most important components of a successful monitoring program is adequate funding that can be counted on for planning and design. CCAMP has done an excellent job of continually modifying their approach to meet funding changes, but the program could become a far greater source of information with adequate, stable funding. For example, trend monitoring is extremely important for determining the effectiveness of management programs (and the impacts of land use change), but trend monitoring is entirely dependent on stable funding over many years. The current SWAMP program has been unable to provide stable funding, and the prospect of an increased endowment for this purpose is very exciting. Thank you for considering my support for the increased endowment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Hunt".

John W. Hunt, Research Specialist

7/2/07

Mr. Roger Briggs
 Executive Officer
 Central Coast Water Board
 895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
 San Luis Obispo CA 73401-7906

ccs: Michael Thomas, Gene Crumley, Al Wanger



UC DAVIS
EXTENSION
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Dear Mr. Briggs,

This letter is to express our full support and assistance for your efforts to develop a Low Impact Development (LID) Center within the Central Coast Regional Board area. As you may be aware, we recently established the Center for Water and Land Use at the University of California Davis, Extension; a University-affiliated institute working on statewide efforts to increase the awareness of the relationship between land use/development and its impact on water quality and use. LID is a critical element in minimizing that impact, and your recent proposal to your Board is very complementary to the goals, objectives, and existing expertise of our Center. The Land Use and Natural Resource program at UC Davis, Extension is also responsible for delivering all of the training and education statewide for the State Board and regional boards through the State Water Board's Training Academy. As part of that training, you have been working closely with Gene Crumley, our colleague in an allied Extension unit.

The geographic diversity of California certainly justifies your efforts to focus on exploring LID and sustainability techniques appropriate to California's Central Coast. A center focused on the central coast area of California could help to deliver performance-based outcomes that are regionally specific and meet the development and water quality needs of your area. However, we would like to point out some benefits to considering partnering with our established statewide Center for Water and Land Use here at UC Davis.

- First, we have established expertise in water quality, urban design, sustainable planning and design and storm water management that can be brought to bear on Central Coast issues and projects immediately. Enclosed are our resumes, as well as a short description of the Center. In addition to Tim's water quality expertise and experience in developing hands on LID programs and projects, Jeff has 25 years experience as an urban planner and designer, including considerable work in Central Coast communities.
- Second, we have already developed a variety of training programs and beginning and advanced curriculum in LID and related sustainable development arenas. In 2004 and again this past year, we conducted three major LID classes around the State for Water Board staff and designers, planners, developers, engineers, and other agency staff. We also have several on-going LID-related courses (and numerous sustainable development courses including our Green Building and Sustainable Design certificate program; see attached) in our traditional open enrollment format that are given in Davis or Sacramento, but could be easily transplanted to the Central Coast, or developed on line for use by practitioners in your area.
- Third, we have an established contract for these services with the Water Board (through an EPA 319 grant and the Water Board Academy), an established office with full

administrative infrastructure, a developing web site with links to LID-related resources, and a compliment of allied professionals throughout the State. In particular, we are closely linked to the CALWaLUP network, which is consortium of agencies and organizations working on water and land uses issues, and the Low Impact Development Center run by Mr. Neil Weinstein.

- And, finally, our Center has the capacity for significant flexibility to work throughout the State, and we have access to UC Davis' Distance Learning Studio, a unit in our organization which has produced web-based and electronic training products for nearly a decade. Our program has developed several computer-based training modules for the Water Board including a series on water quality sampling, monitoring and field methods.

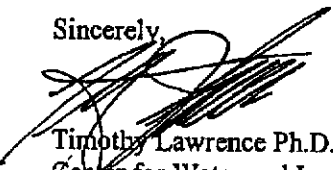
We recognize the need to have a local/regional presence and project-level expertise "at the ready" in your area. But, our hope would be that you and your staff could save time, funding, and avoid duplication by enabling us to forge a partnership with whichever host institution you find in the Central Coast. We have faculty and administrative contacts at UCSB and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo; and would be very happy to work with colleagues there to make this new venture an early success.

We applaud your foresight in conceiving of this Center and for including an educational and training component into your proposal. This approach not only promotes the exploration of innovative techniques, but also provides the practical expertise that jurisdictions and developers will need to meet water quality requirements.

The Center for Water and Land Use at UC Davis has a close working relationship with the State Water Board, the National NEMO Network, Center for Low Impact Development, Center for Watershed Protection, and others to bring the latest knowledge on various LID techniques to Central California. We look forward to partnering with you and sharing that information as you develop and implement your Center. In addition we would like to invite you and your Center to join the UC Davis Extension Center for Water and Land Use, the California Coastal Commission, California Environmental Protection Agency (OEHHA, SWRCB), the Local Government Commission, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, University of Southern California Sea Grant Program, University of California Cooperative Extension Sea Grant Program, and various local partners in becoming a member of Cal WaLUP.

Please call us or contact us as soon as you have a Board commitment so we can help jump start this proposal.

Sincerely,



Timothy Lawrence Ph.D.
Center for Water and Land Use
(530) 754-9008
tlawrence@ucdavis.edu



Jeff Loux, Ph.D.
Land Use Natural Resources Program
(530) 757-8577
jdlox@ucdavis.edu

Jeff Loux, Ph.D., is the director of the Land Use and Natural Resources Program at UC Davis Extension and the Center for Water and Land Use. He directs a professional education program that teaches 140 classes, conferences and training sessions to nearly 4,500 participants annually in the fields of land use planning and law, water resources policy, facilitation and mediation, natural resource management and water quality. Loux's program conducts all of the training and courses for the State Water Resources Control Board and the Regional Boards, as well as courses for DWR. Loux has worked in the public and private sectors on land use planning, resource management and water policy matters for more than twenty years. He has co-authored a book with Karen Johnson linking land use and water resources entitled, *Water and Land Use: Planning Wisely for the Future of California* (Solano Press, 2004), and is completing another book on land conservation. He received his doctorate from UC Berkeley in environmental planning, specializing in groundwater policy in California. He has taught planning and resource management at the graduate and undergraduate levels at UC Davis, UC Berkeley and UC Santa Cruz. Prior to working for the University system, Dr. Loux served as the community development director of the City of Davis for six years, assistant director of planning for Santa Cruz County for two years and as a planning, design and resource management consultant for two major consulting firms for eleven years.

Timothy Lawrence, Ph.D., is manager of the Center for Water and Land Use at UC Davis Extension. Prior to moving to California he spent 16 years with Ohio State University Extension where he was the founding director of the highly successful Ohio NEMO program and the award-winning campus ecology program CampUShed. Dr. Lawrence is a highly qualified and accomplished Ecosystem Management and Water Quality Extension Education Professional with more than 21 years of experience managing and making significant contributions to a broad range of environmental programs. His Extension educational programming has spanned such issues as agricultural health and safety, pesticide safety, land use, low impact development, urban-rural interface, water quality, working with underserved populations and collaborative efforts with local and state jurisdictions. He holds a Ph.D. from Ohio State University in environmental science. Lawrence's dissertation research focused on the human dimensions of environmental policy by studying local officials' response to environmental regulations and importance of multi-jurisdictional collaboration. He also holds a Master's of Science in Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, and a Bachelor's of Science in Apiculture and Pomology from the University of California, Davis.

UC DAVIS EXTENSION

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About our Programs

Center for Water and Land Use

The Center for Water and Land Use's mission is to increase awareness and understanding of the relationships between water resources and land use policies and practices through education, training, applied research, collaboration and dissemination of information.

Areas of concern include:

- source water protection
- the quality of water in our streams, rivers, lakes and wetlands
- the impact development can have on water quantity
- wise use of this precious resource through water conservation
- protection of the habitat and ecology of our aquatic resources

Focus

Due to the rapid expansion of development in California the center will focus its attention on commercial and residential development issues. Many new federal and state regulations require local jurisdictions to limit the impact of development on water quality and quantity. The center will work to identify resources that will provide jurisdictions with information needed to address and comply with these regulations.

Resources

The center will also develop key resources for local communities, neighborhoods, jurisdictions, stakeholders and watershed organizations interested in low impact development (LID). LID is far more than just high density development and LID principles can be incorporated into many development types. Not all LID principles are suitable or appropriate in all locations or under all circumstances. No one practice or series of practices will provide the level of protection mandated by federal and state regulations. Using a natural resource-based comprehensive land use planning approach that incorporates site and regional LID, best management practices as well as natural systems such as wetlands, riparian areas and floodplains, communities can meet their development needs while protecting the environment.

Outcome

Through incorporation of a systematic approach that includes a site, regional and natural systems approach for achieving water discharge requirements, water quality and quantity objectives can achieve a measure of maximum practicability.

Proposal for Grant Expenditure

Contract No. 98-289-4

***Gragnani Property - Paradise Beach
Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Complex***



Prepared for:

**Mr. Roger Briggs
Mr. Michael Thomas
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board**

Prepared by:

The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County

December 2007

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND:

The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County proposes to acquire a 143 acre parcel located just north of Point Sal and fronting Paradise Beach in the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Complex from Mr. and Mrs. Don and Irene Gragnani. The property includes approximately ½ mile of coastline, including a portion of Paradise Beach and several tide pool areas tucked into small, protected coves. The purpose of the acquisition is to protect the important conservation values found on the property, including unique water resources which we believe warrant grant funding consideration by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board.

The Gragnani Family has agreed to sell the property at full market value, \$2.15 million, in accordance with an appraisal prepared by Mr. Todd Murphy with the San Luis Obispo firm of Schenberger, Taylor, McCormick, & Jecker. The Nature Conservancy has recommended assignment of the remaining funds in the "Piecing Together a Protected Landscape Initiative" contract¹ that they enjoy with your agency in the amount of \$900,000. This grant facility was set forth as part of the first round of contracts awarded under the Guadalupe Oil Field Settlement Water Quality Trust. The State Coastal Conservancy has recommended \$1.25 million for the transaction and will bring forward their recommendation for funding at their January 17th meeting.

Although the parcel is technically landlocked from any public road (see figure 1), it is immediately adjacent to public lands owned by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the County of Santa Barbara Parks Department. Point Sal State Park is, in turn, adjacent to the BLM and County of Santa Barbara parcels. If the proposed conservation transaction is successful, Santa Barbara County Parks has expressed a strong interest in the long-term ownership and management of the property.

Proposed Funding Arrangement

State Coastal Conservancy	\$1,250,000.00
<u>RWQCB/NFWF/TNC</u>	<u>\$900,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$2,150,000.00

Contract Funding History and Total Project Value (as Proposed)²

Choin Property Acquisition (2003)	\$500,000.00	Total Project Value	\$900,000.00
Rossi Property Acquisition (2005)	\$600,000.00	Total Project Value	\$2,000,000.00
<u>Gragnani Property Acquisition (2008)</u>	<u>\$900,000.00</u>	<u>Total Project Value</u>	<u>\$2,150,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$2,000,000.00		\$5,050,000.00

¹ Contract number 98-289-4 between The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and The Nature Conservancy for the benefit of the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

² The Choin and Rossi acquisitions were also completed by The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County under assignment of funds from The Nature Conservancy

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY, CONSERVATION VALUES, AND WATER RESOURCES:

The Gragnani Property comprises 143 acres within the approximately 800-acre Point Sal Reserve Management Area. The most significant feature of this property is its inclusion of nearly one-half mile of Paradise Beach. This white, sandy beach extends from Mussel Rock to an area of tidepools just north of Point Sal, and supports a well-used marine mammal haulout area and mussel bed within the protected rocky areas at its southern end (see photographic exhibits 1-3). Paradise Beach is framed by steep bluffs (see photographic exhibit 4). A sandy upland area of intact coastal dune scrub vegetation exists behind the bluffs and extends inland (see photographic exhibit 5). The bluff edges contain very unique freshwater seeps identifiable by the presence of willows and cattails, some of which feed freshwater pools on the beach that are used by wildlife (see photographic exhibits 6 and 7). Further inland, the coastal dune scrub gives way to heartier central maritime chaparral and central coastal sage scrub communities. The *Point Sal Reserve Management Plan* (Storrer and Semonson, 1991) also depicts a wildlife dispersal corridor in this area of the property (which connect significant wildlife habitat areas, thus helping to mitigate effects of habitat fragmentation by facilitating dispersal of individuals between substantive patches of remaining habitat).

Pre-existing dirt roads and trails exist on the property (see photographic exhibit 8). The current owners have owned the property since the 1970's and have used it only for camping and occasional hunting. The property is zoned for agriculture and agricultural-related uses (including a primary residence and guesthouse), but there is no known historical use of the property for farming or residential; the land is largely unsuitable for sustained grazing, and there are no permanent structures on the property. Off-site views from the property include expansive vistas of the Pacific Ocean, Mussel Rock, the surrounding hillsides, and range from Point San Luis to the north, to Point Sal and Point Arguello to the south (see photographic exhibits 9 and 10).

As detailed in the *Point Sal Reserve Management Plan* (Storrer and Semonson, 1991), the larger Point Sal Reserve Management Area, of which the Paradise Beach property is a part, is regionally unsurpassed in terms of its natural and cultural resources. The diversity and integrity of the area's geologic formations, biotic habitats, and prehistoric sites are considered to be unprecedented in mainland California. Several of the area's plant communities are designated as "environmentally sensitive" in the Conservation Element of the Santa Barbara County Local Coastal Plan and Comprehensive Plan ("LCP"), and the area has been designated an "Area of Critical Environmental Concern" by the Bureau of Land Management. Of particular concern, the Gragnani Property supports a population of Surf Thistle (*Cirsium rothopilum*), a candidate for the Federal endangered species list (see photographic exhibit 11).

Point Sal lies in the Coast Range Geomorphic Province and is composed of Mesozoic and Cenozoic era rocks and structures. The area contains some of the oldest rocks (Jurassic period) reported to be exposed on the Central Coast, comprised of deformed igneous,

sedimentary and metamorphic rocks that are believed to have originated during sea floor spreading. Considerable plate tectonic movement brought this piece of ocean plate to the edge of the continent. Point Sal is thus a well-preserved record of the birth of ocean plate material. (Storrer and Semonson, 1991). The rugged shoreline of Point Sal was formed by a combination of erosional forces such as waves, landslides and slumps. Sand dunes, formed by beach sand being blown inland by strong onshore winds, comprise much of the northwest area north of Point Sal Ridge. The dunes are comprised of ancient dune soils, known as the Orcutt Sands, as well as active, modern sand dunes. These dune habitats are near the southern end of the larger Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Complex, the only well-developed dune system remaining on California's southern/central coastal mainland, leading to its designation as a National Natural Landmark by the National Park Service.

Point Sal's location has given rise to an area uniquely rich in plant species. A total of 14 plant communities were identified within the Pt. Sal Reserve Management Area: central maritime chaparral; central dune scrub; needlegrass grassland; active coastal dunes; foredunes; coastal bluff scrub; central coastal sage scrub; chamise chaparral; ehrharta grassland (a non-native annual grassland); freshwater seeps; central coast arroyo willow riparian forest; dune slack pond; and freshwater marsh. The region also contains unique ridge soils derived from Franciscan volcanics, which are also found on the Channel Islands, making Point Sal floristically more similar to the offshore islands than any other mainland location. (Storrer and Semonson, 1991).

Finally, the *Point Sal Reserve Management Plan* (Storrer and Semonson, 1991) states that the region contains an unusually large number of cultural resource sites at an unprecedented site density (see photographic exhibit 12).

ON-SITE PHOTOGRAPHY:

(Note: All on-site ground photography was taken on two separate field visits in December 2006 and November 2007 by Robert A. Hill.)



Exhibit 1: Tidepools at the southern extent of the property



Exhibit 2: Marine mammal haul-out area at the southern extent of the property



Exhibit 3: Mussel bed located on the property

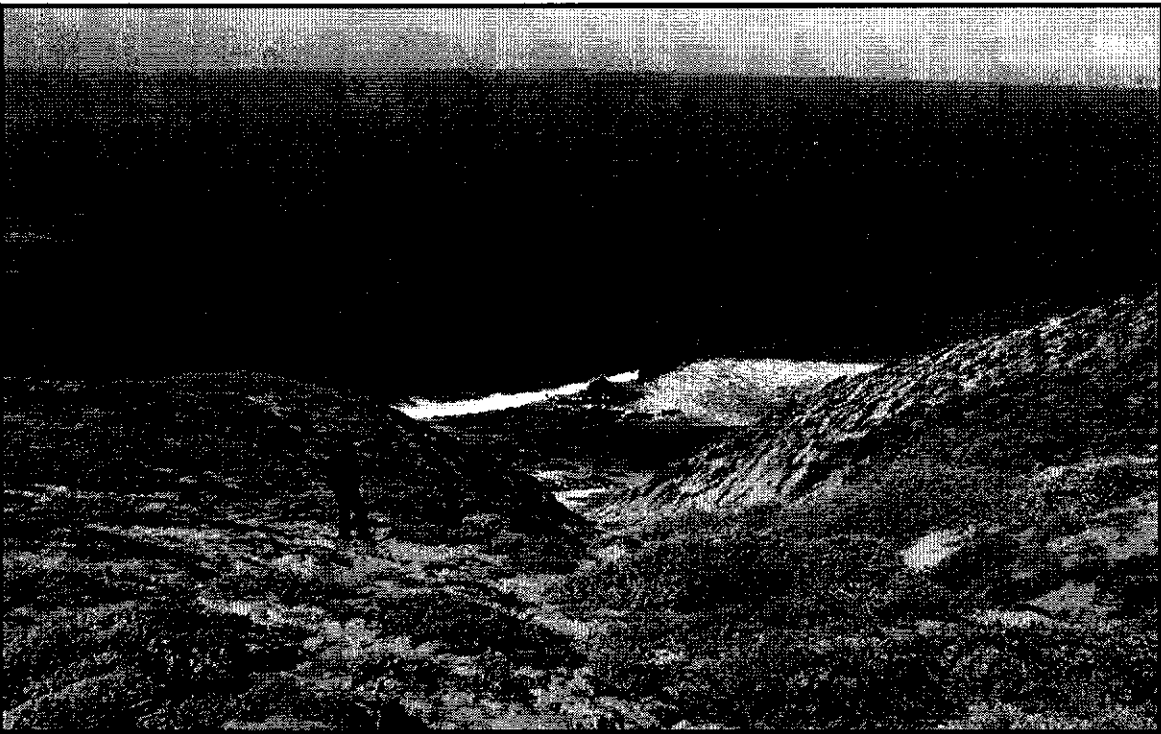


Exhibit 4: Steep bluffs lead down to Paradise Beach and the tidepools on the property

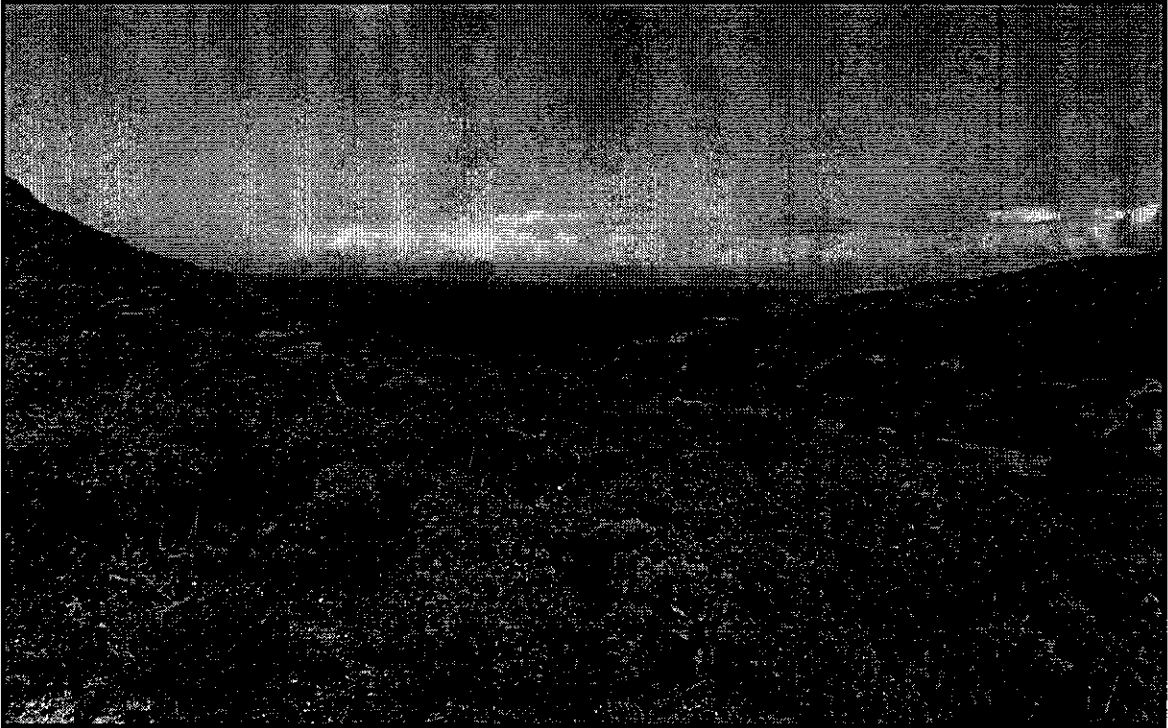


Exhibit 5: Intact coastal dune scrub located on the property



Exhibit 6: Freshwater pool on the beach – terrestrial mammal use was evident from prints in the sand



Exhibit 7: Freshwater seep leading from the bluff to the beach on the property

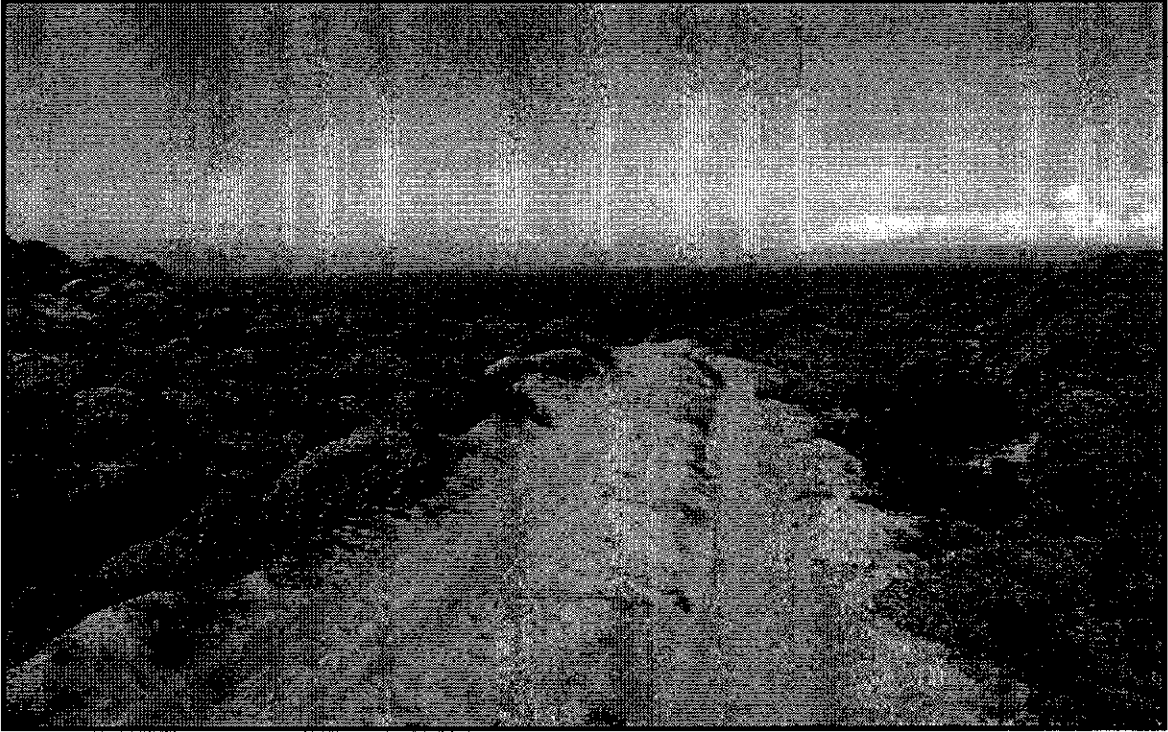


Exhibit 8: Pre-existing dirt / sand road on the property



Exhibit 9: Mussel Rock with Point San Luis in the far background (looking north)



Exhibit 10: Lion Rock and Purisima Point and Point Arguello to the south of Pt. Sal

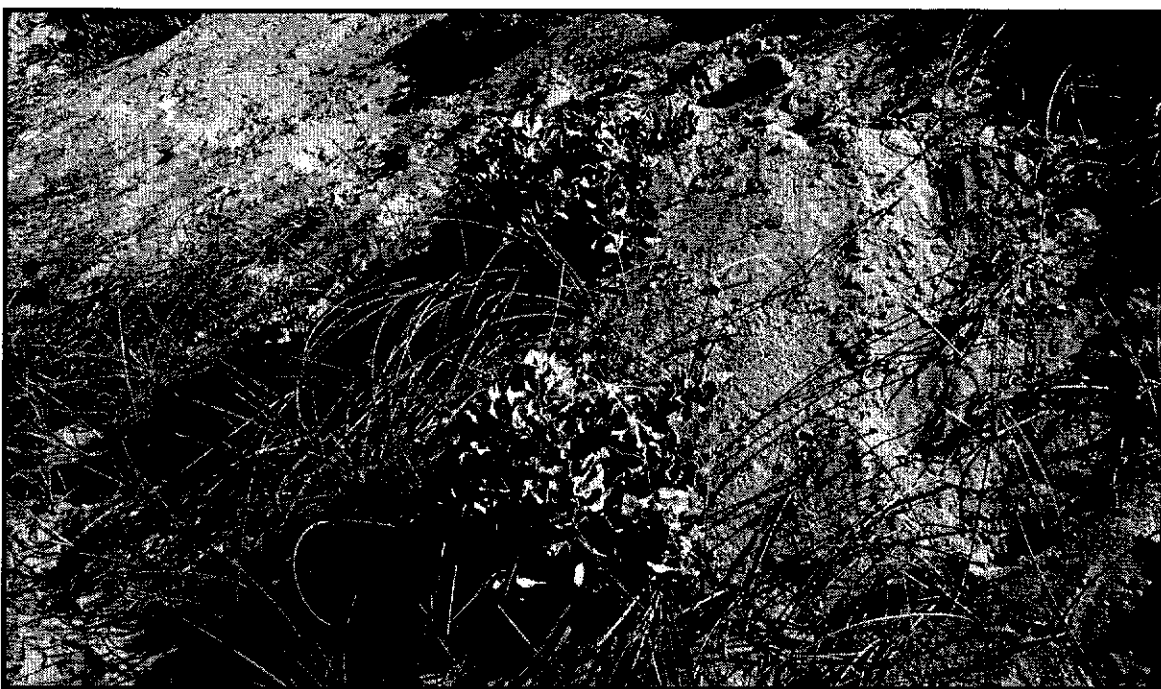


Exhibit 11: Surf Thistle identified on the property (Cirsium rothophilum)

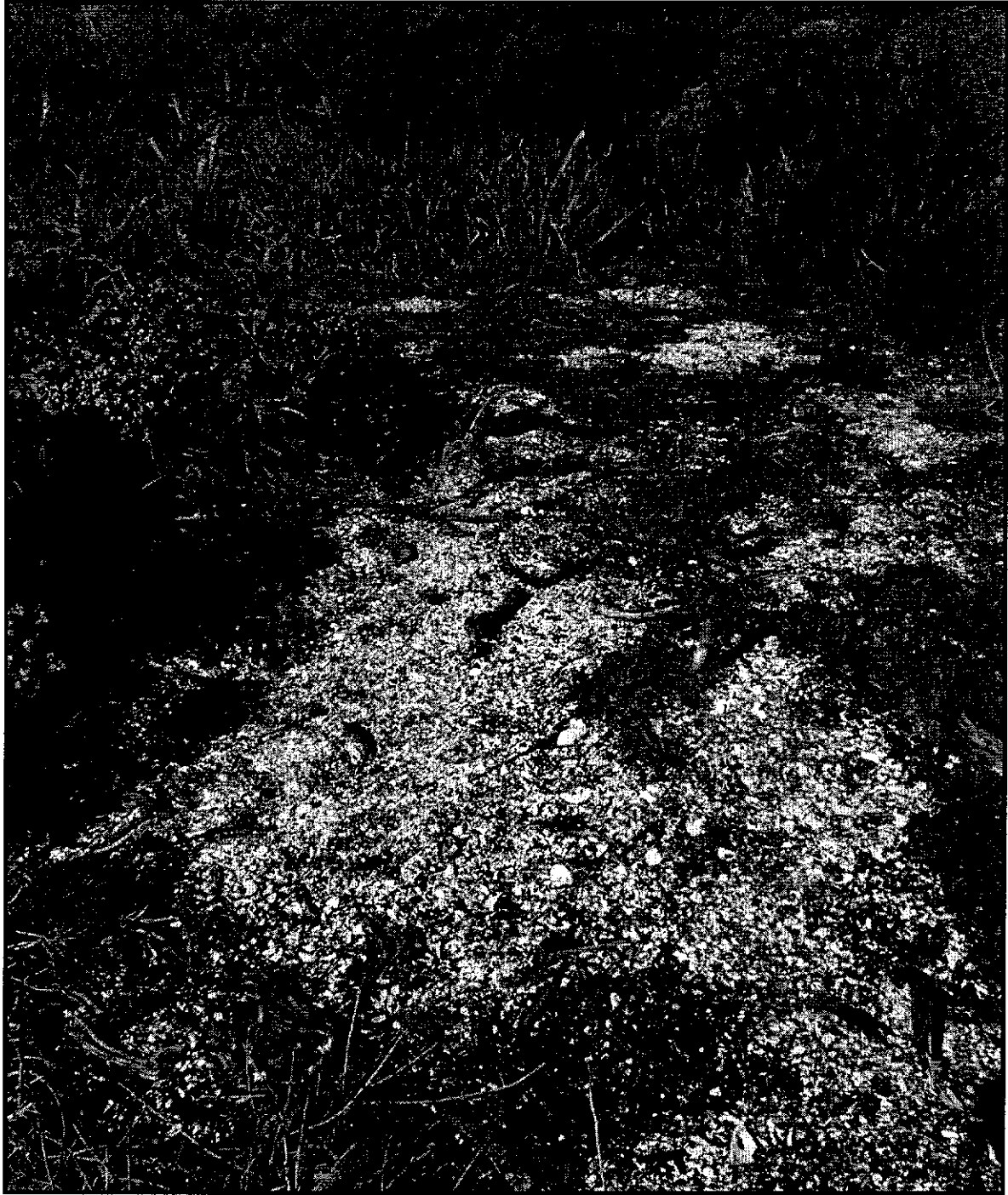


Exhibit 12: Chumash midden site – one of numerous sites on the property and near Pt. Sal

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY AND MAPS:

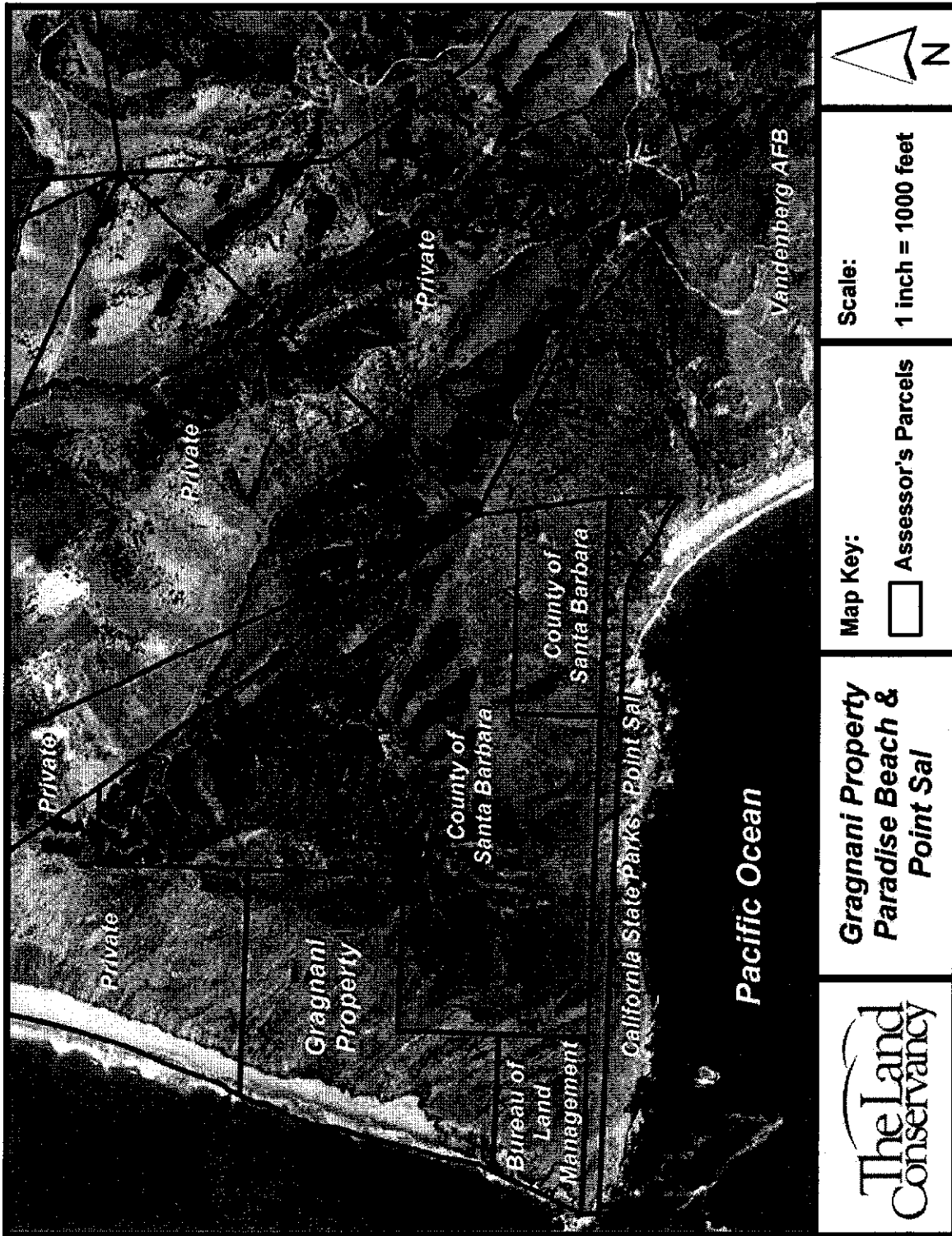


Figure 1: Map of Point Sal and Paradise Beach area.



Figure 2: Photograph of Point Sal and Paradise Beach, looking southeast.

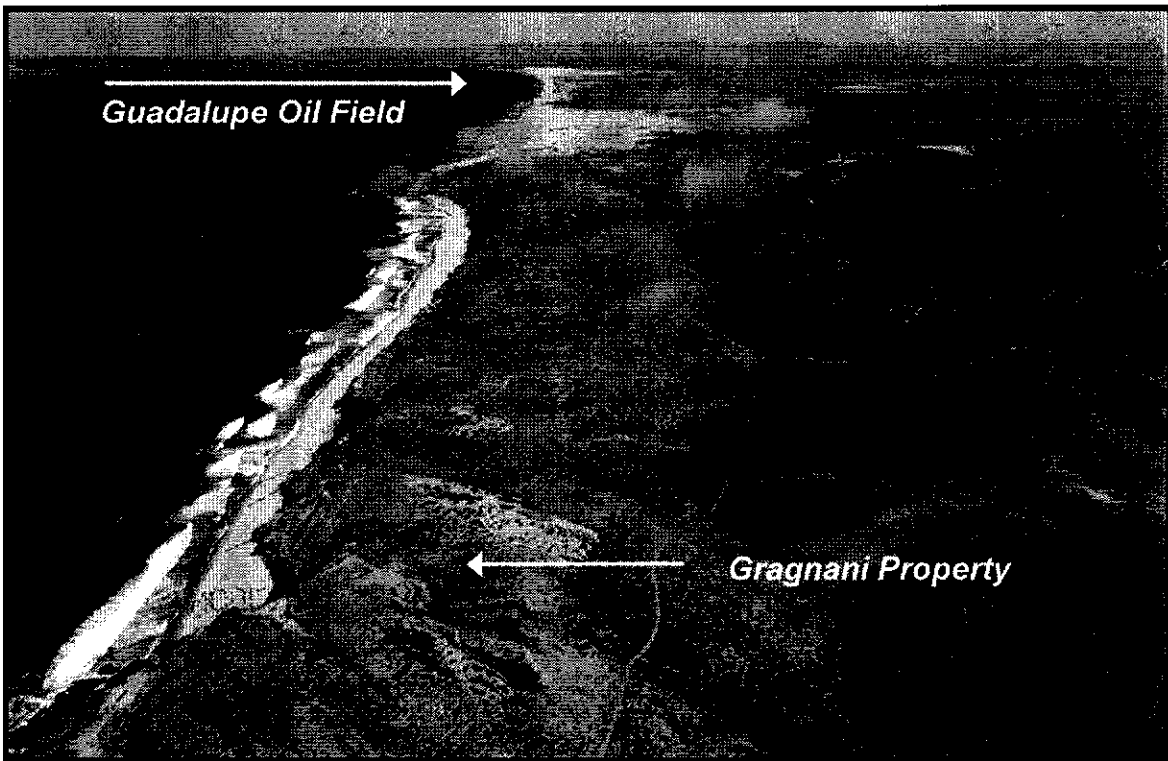


Figure 3: Photograph of Paradise Beach and Mussel Rock, looking north.

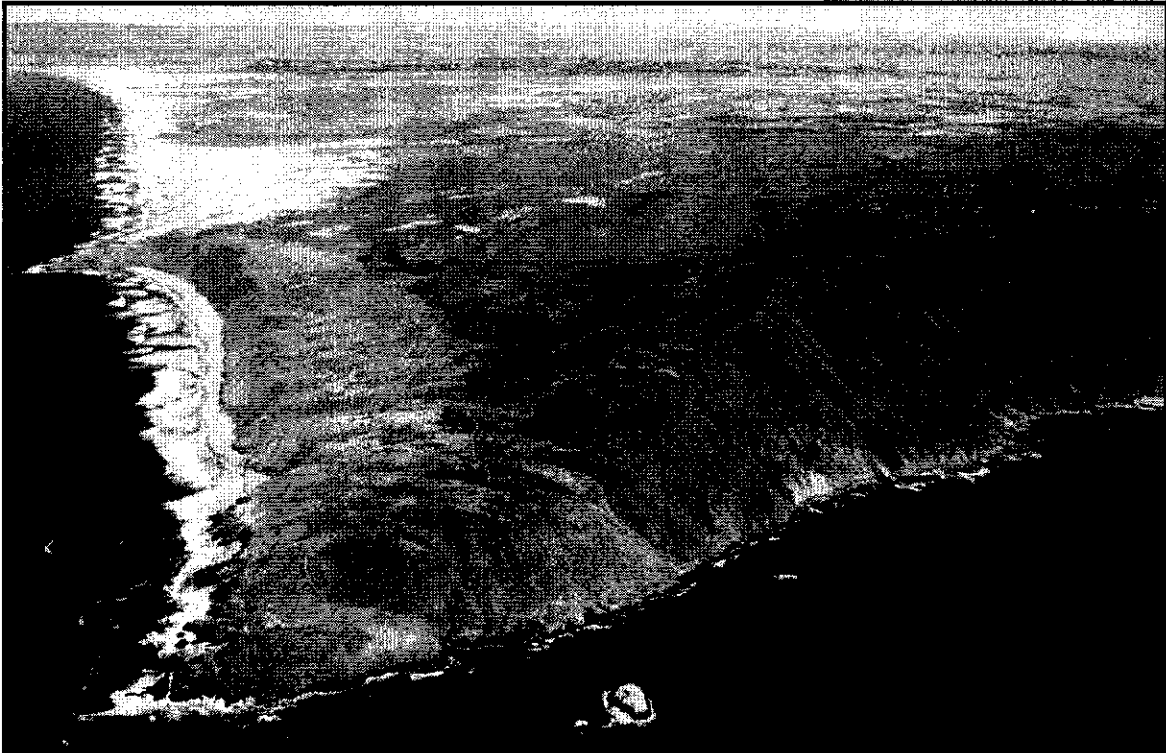


Figure 4: Pt. Sal Reserve Management Area



Figure 5: Topographic map of the Pt. Sal area with property boundary showing



Figure 6: Topographic map of the region showing Pt. Sal in relation to the Guadalupe Oil Field



17 January 2008

Mr. Michael Thomas
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

**RE: *Gragnani Parcel Acquisition, Paradise Beach
Confirmation of Matching Funds***

Dear Michael,

At its scheduled meeting today, the Board of Directors of the State Coastal Conservancy approved by unanimous vote a grant facility in the amount of \$1.27 million towards the acquisition of the Gragnani Property at Paradise Beach. Accordingly, please accept this letter as our confirmation that all matching funds needed to close the transaction have been secured. As you know, the Coastal Conservancy's funding plus the funding that we have proposed for your agency to consider will support the entire purchase price of \$2.15 million plus ancillary closing costs.

Thank you again for your good help with this project. Please feel free to contact me with any question or concerns which may arise.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert A. Hill".

Robert A. Hill
Conservation Director