



California State Senate

ABEL MALDONADO
FIFTEENTH SENATE DISTRICT

November 21, 2005

Mr. Doug Bosco, Chair
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Fl.
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Coastal Conservancy grant in the amount of \$400,000 to the Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County to acquire portions of the Argano Ranch along lower San Luis Obispo Creek.

This project will provide permanent protection for 17.5 acres of prime farmland and high quality riparian and in-stream habitat for steelhead. Preservation of portions of the Argano Ranch would be of great significance to the community and would be an important part of the conservation efforts in this area. I also support making a portion of the site available for a segment of the City to the Sea Trail, a recreational trail planned by our community to extend from downtown San Luis Obispo to Avila Beach.

I urge you to give every possible consideration to supporting the Coastal Conservancy grant request. If I can provide any additional information to assist you in your decision, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Abel", written over a faint, illegible typed name.

ABEL MALDONADO

Senator, 15th District

RECEIVED

NOV 18 2005

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0033
(916) 319-2033
FAX (916) 319-2133

Assembly California Legislature

DISTRICT OFFICE
1104 PALM STREET
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93401
(805) 549-3381
FAX (805) 549-3400



SAM BLAKESLEE
ASSEMBLY MEMBER, THIRTY-THIRD DISTRICT

November 22, 2005

Mr. Doug Bosco
Chair, Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Fl.
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Acquisition and restoration of portions of the Argano Ranch property along lower San Luis Obispo Creek

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am writing to express my support for the proposed Coastal Conservancy grant to the Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County to acquire portions of the Argano Ranch along lower San Luis Obispo Creek.

Acquiring and permanently protecting this property, which extends for 800 feet along lower San Luis Obispo Creek, and features high quality riparian and in-stream habitat for steelhead, plus 16 acres of farmland currently used for irrigated row crop, dry farming, and grazing, will serve to enhance our county's natural resource and agricultural values. I also support making a portion of the site available for development of a segment of the City to the Sea Trail, a recreational trail planned by our community to extend from downtown San Luis Obispo to Avila Beach.

For over a decade, the Land Conservancy has been a leader in the protection and management of critical riparian areas and farmland along San Luis Obispo Creek, and has demonstrated the capacity to successfully complete key land conservation projects for the public's benefit. I urge you and your fellow board members to approve funds for this important project.

Sincerely,

Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee



DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

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

POST OFFICE BOX 47
YOUNTVILLE, CALIFORNIA 94599
(707) 944-5500



November 17, 2005

Mr. Tim Duff
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Duff:

Support for Argano Property Acquisition Project

In response to California Coastal Conservancy's consideration of funding the purchase of the Argano Property, San Luis Obispo County, California, the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) lends its support to the proposed acquisition. Representatives from the Fisheries Restoration Grant Program have reviewed the site and view the acquisition as a valuable property in the restoration of steelhead in the Central Coast.

The property contains a section of San Luis Obispo Creek that contains high quality steelhead trout habitat. In addition to protecting steelhead habitat, the project reach is adjacent and connected to significant conservation areas already acquired. In combination with the adjoining protected property, the Argano Property Acquisition Project will combine to preserve over 2.5 miles of conserved steelhead habitat along San Luis Obispo Creek. This property will assist in protecting southern steelhead, listed as a high priority for DFG's Steelhead Restoration objectives.

We respectfully request your consideration of DFG's support when reviewing the project for your agency's staff report and pending funding. Thank you for helping to protect steelhead restoration in San Luis Obispo County and southern California.

If you have any questions, please contact Bob Coey, Senior Fisheries Biologist, at (707) 944-5582.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Floerke
Regional Manager
Central Coast Region

cc: Joe Carboni
Native Anadromous Fisheries and Wildlife Branch
Department of Fish and Game

RECEIVED

NOV 18 2005

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.



city of san luis obispo

OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

990 Palm Street ■ San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-3249 ■ 805/781-7119

DUFF

November 9, 2005

Mr. Doug Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA. 94612

Subject: Support for the Proposed Argano Ranch acquisition

Dear Chairman Bosco:

It is my great pleasure to write to you in support of acquisition of the 17.5 acre Argano Ranch in the Avila Valley by the Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo, using funds transferred from the grant of \$400,000 awarded last year to the City of San Luis Obispo in support of the Ahearn property acquisition project, which unfortunately and after much effort, recently came to a halt. We are pleased to see these funds used on a project very close to the City of San Luis Obispo, and in support of a project very near and dear to the community's heart, that of the Bob Jones City to the Sea Trail.

The project site has many features to recommend it, including high quality habitat along San Luis Obispo Creek, agricultural production, and connection to other conservation properties that together will permanently protect over 100 acres of land on the City's southern gateway, as well as nearly 1.75 miles of San Luis Obispo Creek.

Residents of San Luis Obispo will benefit greatly from this project and we again are pleased to offer our support for the project itself and especially the retention of previously awarded funds in our area.

Sincerely,

David F. Romero
Mayor

cc: City Council
Ken Hampian
Neil Havlik

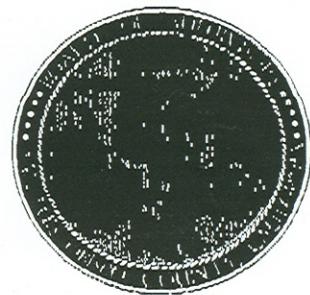
RECEIVED

NOV 14 2005

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1055 MONTEREY, ROOM D430 • SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA 93408-2040 • 805.781.5450



November 21, 2005

JERRY LENTHALL
SUPERVISOR DISTRICT THREE

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

RE: *Support for Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County's Acquisition of the Argano Property on San Luis Obispo Creek*

Dear Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to express my support of the proposed Coastal Conservancy grant to the Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County for the acquisition and restoration of the Argano Property located in Avila Valley next to San Luis Obispo Creek.

This acquisition is a high priority for conservation in my District, as it will protect important steelhead trout habitat, keep the property in production agriculture, and will preclude development in an active floodplain. Also, of great importance to me, is the property will become part of the second phase of the Bob Jones City to Sea Bikeway, which will ultimately stretch from the City of San Luis Obispo to the coastal community of Avila Beach.

In order for this acquisition to occur, a lot line adjustment will be needed in order to meet with the seller's desire to retain the existing residence that is a part of the property. Although this has not yet been approved by the County, I understand that it is supported by staff in the planning department, parks and recreation department, and the agricultural commissioner's office.

The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County has been the leader in the protection and restoration of San Luis Obispo Creek for over ten years, and I believe they are an organization that is well-suited to carry out this important project.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of the above.

Sincerely,


Jerry Lenthall
District Three Supervisor