



CITY OF FORT BRAGG

Incorporated August 5, 1889

416 N. Franklin Street, Fort Bragg, CA 95437
Phone: (707) 961-2823 Fax: (707) 961-2802
www.FortBragg.com

August 23, 2010

Karyn Gear
North Coast Program Manager
California Coastal Conservancy
2330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, Ca. 94612

Dear Ms. Gear:

The Fort Bragg City Council supports Jug Handle Creek Nature Center's grant request to the Coastal Conservancy to cover the cost of the architectural design phase of the improvements to its teaching facilities, trails and campground.

Hundreds of Fort Bragg school children, as well as environmental organizations and other groups from throughout the region, have benefited from the environmental education and hands-on restoration activities offered by Jug Handle Creek Nature Center; approximately 2,000 people per year visit the Nature Center for overnight visits, workshops and retreats.

The planned improvements to the Nature Center will benefit not only the local community but also the many region-wide schools and other groups who utilize Jug Handle as a low cost alternative for visiting the coast on overnight trips. We urge you to fully support Jug Handle Creek Nature Center's proposal for facility upgrades as a wise investment in the future of the North Coast region.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Doug Hammerstrom in black ink.

Doug Hammerstrom
Mayor

Handwritten signature of Dave Turner in black ink.

Dave Turner
Vice Mayor

Handwritten signature of Meg Courtney in black ink.

Meg Courtney
Councilmember

Handwritten signature of Dan Gjerde in black ink.

Dan Gjerde
Councilmember

Handwritten signature of Jere Melo in black ink.

Jere Melo
Councilmember

cc: Helene Chalfin, Education Director/Grants Manager, Jug Handle Creek Farm and Nature Center

California Native Plant Society

Dorothy King Young Chapter · P.O. Box 985 · Point Arena CA 95468

August 26, 2010

Karyn Gear, North Coast Program Manager
California Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, Ca. 94612

Dear Ms. Gear:

As President of the Dorothy King Young Chapter of the California Native Plant Society, I am writing to express our enthusiastic support for Jughandle Creek Farm and Nature Center's continuing site enhancement project. The next phase is for architectural programming and design.

CNPS is familiar with Jughandle's long history of collaborative education/restoration activities with schools, organizations and stakeholders throughout the coast region. Participating students, K-12, are from the Mendocino, Fort Bragg, Point Arena, Laytonville, Ukiah and Anderson Valley districts. CNPS collected seeds for a collaborative project at Point Arena Lighthouse where local students planted seedlings grown at Jughandle's nursery in one of the earliest projects. More than 10,000 students have participated in Jughandle's education projects since 1991.

The Nature Center, the hub of all of this activity, serves 800 to 1,000 local students a year with free environmental education. Jughandle also hosts about 2,000 overnight guests a year in the farmhouse, cabins or campground. Schools from throughout the region, environmental groups, agencies, family groups and individuals all utilize the nature center for overnight educational visits, workshops, retreats and gatherings.

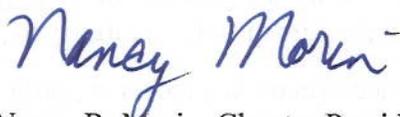
CNPS is impressed with the Nature Center's participation in the City of Fort Bragg's project to restore portions of the former Georgia Pacific mill site on the coast. This participation included advice and consultation, seed collection and experimental plantings.

Another recent project is restoration and re-planting of local native plants at Otis Johnson Park in Fort Bragg. Local students have participated heavily in this work, and CNPS appreciates the efforts of Helene Chalfin to involve school children in many aspects of Jughandle projects.

The proposed improvements will allow the Center to expand its services and strengthen its environmental message to the public. The improvements are focused on demonstrating green construction techniques and sustainable choices to every visitor and guest.

CNPS continues to strongly support the Jughandle Nature Center proposal and plans to support its successful environmental education activities teaching stewardship of coastal resources.

Sincerely

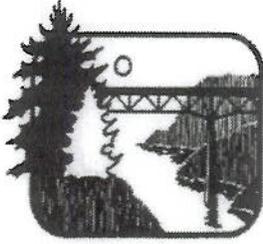


Nancy R. Morin, Chapter President
Dorothy King Young Chapter, California Native Plant Society

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.



FORT BRAGG UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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312 South Lincoln Street, Fort Bragg, California 95437-4416

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September 3, 2010

Karyn Gear, North Coast Regional Manager
California Coastal Conservancy
13th Floor, 1330 Broadway
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Ms. Gear:

On behalf of Fort Bragg Unified School District, I am pleased to offer a letter of support for the Jug Handle Creek Nature Center.

As Superintendent of the Fort Bragg Unified School District I fully support the Grant Application of Jug Handle Creek Nature Center and strongly encourage your approval. This Grant Application, if funded, will provide architectural programming and design to further the improvement of the Nature Center.

The Jug Handle Creek Nature Center has continued environmental education outreach and work with Fort Bragg Unified students from Redwood Elementary School, Noyo High School, Fort Bragg Middle School's MESA program and Fort Bragg High School's Noyo Food Forest Rain Water Collection project during the past few years.

An on-going project to restore Otis Johnson Park has continued with students from Fort Bragg Middle and Noyo High schools led by Jug Handle staff, and has been funded by the local Salmon Restoration Association. In addition, they work with virtually the entire student body of Redwood Elementary school during field activities at Jug Handle or providing classroom presentations on watersheds and Precious Water.

This partnership has produced many rewards, the most important being the enthusiasm the students have for the natural environment that surrounds us. Please consider their grant request.

Sincerely,

Donald F. Armstrong, Ed.D.
Superintendent

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SEP 16 2010

**COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.**