

September 21, 2015



Protecting Marin Since 1934

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman
Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

*Re: Support: Millerton Creek Restoration Phase 1:
A Limiting Factors Analysis and Construction of Exclusionary Fencing*

Dear Mr. Bosco:

Marin Conservation League supports Trout Unlimited's grant request for \$250,000 to improve habitat in Millerton Creek. The eventual purpose of this grant is restoring populations of listed species such as tidewater goby, steelhead trout, and possibly Coho salmon.

The almost three-mile creek, which flows through a salt marsh into Tomales Bay, supported steelhead in the past, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife studies have noted that there is good potential spawning area in upper reaches of the creek. The property through which the creek flows is currently owned by the Marin Agricultural Land Trust, which protects working agricultural lands in Marin County through purchase of conservation easements. The property will remain a working ranch.

The project would also improve overall water quality in Tomales Bay, a wetland of international significance providing crucial habitat for thousands of birds, and fish species including salmon, eel, halibut, sturgeon, and herring.

Stillwater Sciences' assessment will be crucial underpinning for work that would jump start a very exciting project to restore native species. Marin Conservation League looks forward to eventual return of steelhead, and hopefully Coho as well, to this waterway. We urge you to approve this grant request.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kate Powers".

Kate Powers, President

cc: Erik Young, Trout Unlimited

AT/KP:sd

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