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#25

El Dorado Ranch Acquistion to Be Heard September 23, 2014 at 10 AM (Agenda #25; 14-1208)

1 message

Alan Ehrgott <ehrgott@arconservancy.org> To: edc.cob@edcgov.us

Mon, Sep 22, 2014 at 12:48 PM

Dear Mr. Mitrisin,

If possible would you please place the attached letter of support from the State Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) within the Board packets for tomorrow's (9/23) Board meeting. This letter of support confirms DFW's intent to take title to the subject

property and manage that land as a Wildlife Area for public purposes. Thank you very much for your assistance. Best regards,

Alan Ehrgott

Executive Director

American River Conservancy

Office: (530) 295-2190

Email: ehrgott@arconservancy.org

DFW Letter of Support for El Dorado Ranch Acquisition.pdf 229K



State of California – Natural Resources Agency DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE North Central Region 1701 Nimbus Road, Suite A Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 www.wildlife.ca.gov EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Governor CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



September 19, 2014

The Honorable Norma Santiago Chair, El Dorado County Board of Supervisors 330 Fair Lane Ct. Placerville, CA 95667 Attention: Supervisor Norma Santiago

Subject: El Dorado Ranch Habitat Acquisition Project

Dear Supervisor Santiago:

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) assessed the El Dorado Ranch Habitat Acquisition Project area for biological and multi-use recreational values. This project secures the protection of approximately 2,139 acres of oak woodland and riparian habitat along the Upper Cosumnes River. CDFW intends to conserve this area in perpetuity as El Dorado County's first State Wildlife Area.

CDFW considers this property a high priority acquisition because it supports oak woodland habitat in a "Priority Conservation Area" identified by El Dorado County's Oak Woodland Management Plan (OWMP – May, 2008). The acquisition would also preserve and provide habitat linkages, and offer multi-use recreational opportunities such as hunting, hiking, bird watching, and horseback riding. Based on our evaluation of the project, we strongly support an allocation of \$120,000 from the El Dorado County Oak Woodland Preservation Account to complete the acquisition of Phase 1B of the project.

Upon the placement of grant funding into escrow, the American River Conservancy (ARC) would acquire the subject 1,080 acres of the El Dorado Ranch (Phase 1B) and then donate and transfer the entire 2,139 acres to CDFW for its management as a State Wildlife Area. It is our intention to accept the land donation from ARC.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, or need additional information, please contact Environmental Scientist, Shelly Blair at (530) 295-3510 or shelly.blair@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

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Tina Bartlett Regional Manager

Ec: Garry Kelley Jason Holley Shelly Blair Alan Ehrgott Canh Nguyen *California Dept. of Fish & Wildlife*

> *Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1870* 14-1208 Public Comment BOS Rcvd 9-22-14