



BUTTE CREEK
WATERSHED CONSERVANCY
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December 22, 1998

Ecosystem Roundtable
CALFED
1416 9th Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Proposal 98-F02 – Butte Creek Watershed Coordinator Assistant

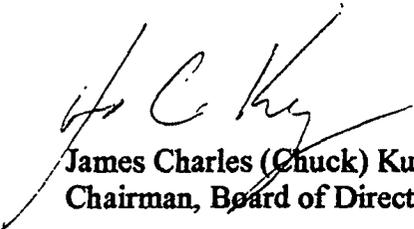
Dear Members of the Ecosystem Roundtable:

The Butte Creek Watershed Conservancy (“Conservancy”) Board of Directors respectfully invites the CALFED Ecosystem Roundtable to consider a funding increase for the following grant proposal - *Butte Creek Watershed Coordinator Assistant # 98-F02*. The amendment is a request for funds to help offset the Conservancy’s growing annual operating costs. This is a one-time request. In the future, relevant operating costs will be incorporated into proposed project budgets. The original grant proposal for a Coordinator Assistant was submitted well over a year ago. Since that time, the Conservancy’s role, efforts, and duties have increased markedly. The Conservancy has the significant responsibility of providing a forum where local stakeholder concerns are raised and resolved on the many important and often controversial issues stemming from the CALFED planning process. There is an increasing amount of restoration activity taking place within the Butte Basin. The request for additional funding will assist the Conservancy in its ongoing effort to further initiate and implement watershed education, restoration, conservation, and monitoring activities that support the goals and objectives of the CALFED Program.

Butte Creek is one of the most significant tributaries of the Sacramento River that provides important habitat to many aquatic and terrestrial species including the spring-run Chinook salmon, fall-run Chinook salmon, and steelhead trout (all CALFED 1st tier priority species). Similarly, Butte Creek is the largest of the four remaining tributaries that support spring-run Chinook salmon, which was recently listed as “threatened” under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). This year a record 20,000 spring-run Chinook salmon entered the Butte Creek system for spawning! This historic event has increased local landowner resolve to work closely with local, state, and federal agencies in creating strategies for adaptively managing the Butte Creek ecosystem. In light of these changing circumstances, please carefully consider this request for a funding level increase. If you

have any questions, feel free to contact either Chuck Kutz or Brendan Vieg at the Conservancy Office at (530) 893-5399.

For the Conservancy,



James Charles (Chuck) Kutz
Chairman, Board of Directors



Brendan Vieg
Watershed Coordinator

cc: Dr. Donald Holtgrieve, CSUC Watershed Projects
Kristin Cooper-Carter, CSUC Research Foundation