



October 12, 2018

Das Williams, Chair
Board of Supervisors
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: Gaviota Coast Plan - SUPPORT

Dear Chair Williams and Honorable Supervisors:

This comment letter is submitted on behalf of the Environmental Defense Center (“EDC”), a public interest environmental law firm that protects and enhances the local environment through education, advocacy, and legal action. For more than forty years the EDC has represented our community in matters pertaining to coastal protection and development. EDC participated on the Santa Barbara County Gaviota Planning Advisory Committee and took part in the environmental review process for the Plan, as well as hearings before the Planning Commission, Board of Supervisors, and California Coastal Commission. Throughout this multi-year process, we have advocated for policies that recognize the unique agricultural, biological, cultural, scenic, and recreational values of the Gaviota Coast.

We support the California Coastal Commission’s suggested modifications to the Gaviota Coast Plan because they protect these valuable resources. Additionally, the modifications are necessary to ensure compliance with the California Coastal Act and certification of the Plan by the Coastal Commission. If the Plan is not certified it will have no effect in the coastal zone. Pub. Res. Code § 30514(a). Accordingly, **we support your staff’s recommendation that the Board accept and agree to the modifications approved by the Coastal Commission at its August 10, 2018, meeting.**

Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lkrop".

Linda Krop
Chief Counsel