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December 13, 2021

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
123 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101
By email to sbcob@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

**RE: Appeal of Director Determination re: Santa Barbara Ranch
Inland Development Agreement Periodic Review**

Dear Chair Nelson and Honorable Supervisors:

This letter is submitted by the Cachuma Resource Conservation District (CRCD) and South Coast Habitat Restoration (SCHR). We have worked on numerous restoration and conservation projects in Santa Barbara County. Our organizations were contracted to put best faith efforts towards the Dos Pueblos Creek Restoration Plan (IDA, Section 2.02.a). The Restoration Plan, as written, is not an implementable plan, therefore additional work and planning efforts were needed to identify funding and develop implementation plans and work with contractors to facilitate on the ground restoration once implementation of the plan could commence. Additional funding was received through a CDFW grant and additional planning and design work were completed to move forward efforts towards the restoration of Dos Pueblos Creek.

At the end of 2019 we were informed that our organizations would not be able to move forward with implementation of the Restoration Plan as a result of owners of Dos Pueblos Ranch North not providing consent to implement the restoration plan on its property. We then began meetings with the County to discuss options to move funds to another watershed per the IDA. Several alternative locations and projects were identified for potential projects along the Gaviota Coast. Some of those included projects along El Capitan Creek, Gaviota Creek, and Arroyo Quemado. Unfortunately, discussions with private landowners and the County of Santa Barbara within these watersheds did not allow for efforts to move forward in those watersheds. Additionally, the County also assisted in identification of alternate locations, but also were unsuccessful in finding an alternate project.

Both organizations have a strong history of restoration and conservation within Santa Barbara County through building partnerships with landowners and funding partners. We will continue to work towards implementing restoration and conservation projects in the County.

Anna Olsen, Executive Director
Cachuma Resource Conservation District

Mauricio Gomez, Director
South Coast Habitat Restoration