

A-2

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Katherine Douglas *Public Comment*

**From:** Carla Mena <carla@forestwatch.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2026 2:48 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Public Comment | A-2 Resolution recognizing the importance of biodiversity.  
**Attachments:** LOS BioResolution\_SBCo\_.pdf

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Greetings,

Attached please find Los Padres ForestWatch's letter of support for Item A-2, "Adopt a Resolution recognizing the importance of biodiversity". We respectfully request that this letter be included in the written comment record for the May 12, 2026 Board of Supervisors meeting.

Sincerely,  
Carla



**Carla Mena, M.P.P.**  
**Director of Policy & Legislative Affairs**

t: [805-617-4610](tel:805-617-4610) ext 5 | d: [805-770-8692](tel:805-770-8692)  
e: [carla@forestwatch.org](mailto:carla@forestwatch.org) | w: [forestwatch.org](http://forestwatch.org)  
a: PO Box 831, Santa Barbara, CA 93102

Protecting Los Padres National Forest, Carrizo Plain National Monument,  
and other public lands along California's Central Coast.





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May 12, 2026

County of Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors  
511 East Lakeside Parkway,  
Santa Maria, CA 93455  
submitted via email to [sbcob@countyofsb.org](mailto:sbcob@countyofsb.org)

Re: Strong Support for Item A-2: Resolution Recognizing the Importance of Biodiversity

Dear Chair Nelson and Members of the Board of Supervisors,

Los Padres ForestWatch along with its 30,000 members, supporters, and online advocates expresses its strong support for Item A-2, the resolution recognizing the importance of biodiversity in Santa Barbara County.

Our organization has long been an active participant in California's 30x30 movement. Santa Barbara County lies within California's Central Coast region, recognized as a global biodiversity hotspot. Our region's public lands, particularly Los Padres National Forest, provide essential core habitat that supports countless rare, threatened, and endemic plants and wildlife. As a vital ecological linkage, Los Padres National Forest connects southern California's coastal ranges to northern habitats enabling essential wildlife movement across vast distances. Protecting this critical corridor is fundamental to maintaining healthy connected ecosystems on a regional and statewide scale.

For these reasons, we urge the Board to adopt this important resolution and encourage staff to identify funding resources for advancing biodiversity efforts in alignment with state and regional conservation plans and goals. Thank you for your leadership on this important issue and for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Carla Mena, M.P.P.  
Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs  
Los Padres ForestWatch