

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS  
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: Board of Supervisors

BOARD AGENDA # Correspondence1

Urgent ☐

Routine ☒

AGENDA DATE February 5, 2008

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES ☒ NO ☐  
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES ☐ NO ☒

SUBJECT:

Approval of a Letter to Oppose the Proposed Development of the South Side of the Stanislaus River Adjacent to Knights Ferry by the Army Corps of Engineers for the Benefit of the Chinook Salmon and Steelhead

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approve a letter to oppose the proposed development of the south side of the Stanislaus River adjacent to Knights Ferry by the Army Corps of Engineers for the benefit of the Chinook Salmon and Steelhead.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2008-094

On motion of Supervisor O'Brien, Seconded by Supervisor Monteith  
and approved by the following vote,  
Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Grover, Monteith, DeMartini, and Chairman Mayfield  
Noes: Supervisors: None  
Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None  
Abstaining: Supervisor: None

- 1) X Approved as recommended  
2) \_\_\_\_\_ Denied  
3) \_\_\_\_\_ Approved as amended  
4) \_\_\_\_\_ Other:

MOTION:

ATTEST:

  
CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No.



# KNIGHTS FERRY MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

P.O. Box 846, Knights Ferry CA 95361  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

2008 JAN 28 A 11: 38

**CORRESPONDENCE 1**  
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January 27, 2008

Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors  
1010 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 6500  
Modesto, CA 95354

**Attention:** Supervisor William O'Brien

**Subject:** 2006 Anadromous Fish Restoration Program  
Funding Opportunity Number: AFRPO0704

**Dear Supervisor O'Brien:**

On behalf of the Knights Ferry Municipal Advisory Council we respectfully request the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors pass a resolution to stop the above subject project.

Attached please find letter dated June 8, 1999 executed by the Congress of the United States consummating the agreement from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to stop the development of the south side of the Stanislaus River.

The south side of the Stanislaus river adjacent the Knights Ferry community is a habitat for deer, quail, wild turkey, osprey, red tail hawks, buzzard, otter, muskrats and other indigenous animals to the areas. The proposal to benefit the Chinook Salmon and Steelhead directly affects this habitat and negates the commitment the U.S. Congress made for no development

Please assist our community in protecting our rights.

Sincerely,

Eric Feichter  
President

Shavon D. Haskell  
Secretary

Sally Geohring  
Board Member

Jeremy Page  
Board Member

Cc: US Army Corps of Engineers  
Congress of the United States  
Cramer Fish Sciences

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RISK MANAGEMENT AND  
SPECIALTY CROPS  
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON LIVESTOCK, DAIRY,  
AND POULTRY

COMMITTEE ON  
GOVERNMENT REFORM AND OVERSIGHT  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
ECONOMIC GROWTH, NATURAL  
RESOURCES, AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
NATIONAL SECURITY, INTERNATIONAL  
AFFAIRS AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE



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GARY A. CONDIT  
18TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA  
Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

2245 RAYBURN BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0518  
(202) 225-6131

DISTRICT OFFICES:  
FEDERAL BUILDING  
415 WEST 18TH STREET  
MERCED, CA 95340  
(209) 383-4455

920 16TH STREET, SUITE C  
MODESTO, CA 95354  
(209) 527-1914

18TH DISTRICT  
TOLL FREE  
1-800-356-6424

email: Rep.Condit@mail.house.gov

June 8, 1999

Mr. Phil Holcomb  
Park Manager  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
P.O. Box 1229  
Oakdale, CA 95361

Dear Mr. Holcomb:

Thank you very much for taking the time to meet residents of Knights Ferry and my representative last Friday afternoon. I'm pleased that your meeting was so productive. The Corps' assurance that no development will occur on the south side of the Stanislaus river in the Knights Ferry area addressed a great many of the resident's concerns. As you are aware, many in Knights Ferry and the surrounding area have relied on the Corps' assurances that development on the south side will not occur. I'm pleased that this commitment is being adhered to.

The residents were also pleased with the steps you outlined for resolving the other outstanding issues. A capacity assessment for the river and facilities between Knights Ferry and Orange Blossom, along with an analysis of alternate launch points (including the Corps maintenance facility) will address many of the residents concerns. I am personally pleased that the Corps also intends to review the contracts with the raft operators from the perspective of generating greater revenue to cover the costs of operations, facilities and any damage caused by raft usage. I'm sure your analysis will also address the issue of whether or not a ceiling should be established on the number of rafts that should be allowed on the river and also explore incentives to encourage raft use of the river on non-peak days.

Mr. Holcomb  
06/08/99  
Page :2

I want you to know that I appreciate your taking the time to meet with the residents of Knights Ferry. For years, Knights Ferry and the Corps of Engineers have acted as good neighbors on river issues. It is a positive relationship that we would like to see continue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Condit", written in a cursive style.

GARY A. CONDIT  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

GAC/jm

cc: Col. Michael Walsh



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**William O'Brien**, 1<sup>st</sup> District  
**Thomas W. Mayfield**, 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
**Jeff Grover**, 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
**Dick Monteith**, 4<sup>th</sup> District  
**Jim DeMartini**, 5<sup>th</sup> District

1010 10TH Street, Suite 6500, Modesto, CA 95354  
Phone: 209.525.4494 Fax: 209.525.4410

February 6, 2008

Ms. Angie Wulfow, Park Manager  
United States Army Corps of Engineers  
P.O. Box 1229  
Oakdale, CA 95361

**RE: Restoring Side Channels Connections and Floodplains Wetland at Knight's Ferry to Benefit Juvenile Chinook Salmon and Steelhead on the Stanislaus River Funding Opportunity Number: AFRPO0704**

Dear Ms. Wulfow:

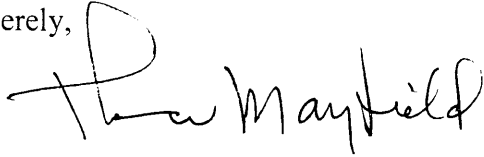
The Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors' took action on February 5, 2008, to oppose the 2006 Anadromous Fish Restoration Program (AFRP) on the Stanislaus River adjacent to Knights Ferry, California. While this project may have a positive impact on the Chinook Salmon and Steelhead it would damage the fragile balance of the river's other wildlife and harmfully affect the look of this historical community.

The Board of Supervisors supports the preservation of natural habitats when they are in the best interest of all concerned. This major restoration project will negatively impact the indigenous animal and bird populations on the south side of the Stanislaus River. It will also cause a tremendous change to the look of the historical character of the Knights Ferry area.

The citizens oppose the "Restoring Side Channels Connections and Floodplains Wetland at Knight's Ferry to Benefit Juvenile Chinook Salmon and Steelhead on the Stanislaus River" project as proposed. In 1999, the citizens of this historical community received a commitment from the United States Army Corps of Engineers that no development would occur on the south side of the Stanislaus River in the Knights Ferry area. This commitment was memorialized in a letter from Congressman Condit dated June 8, 1999.

The citizens of Knights Ferry have had a constructive affiliation with the Army Corps of Engineers and look forward to working with them on projects that benefit the natural habitats of the local wildlife, the salmon and preserve the historical community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas W. Mayfield". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "T" and "M".

Thomas W. Mayfield, Chairman of the Board  
Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors

cc: Senator Diane Feinstein  
Senator Barbara Boxer  
Congressman George Radanovich  
Mr. J.D. Wikert, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services  
Mike Pool, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
Dr. Ayesha Gray, Cramer Fish Sciences