



State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
South Coast Region
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GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor
CHARLTON H. BONHAM, Director



January 28, 2022

SANDAG
TransNet Environmental Mitigation Program Land Management Grant Program
401 B Street, Suite 800
San Diego, CA 92101

Subject: Proposal for Salt Marsh Bird's-beak establishment at San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve

Dear Proposal Review Committee:

I am writing this letter to express my full support of the project proposed by Conservation Biology Institute and Nature Collective to introduce and establish a population of the federally endangered *Chloropyron maritimum* subsp. *maritimum* (salt marsh bird's-beak) into San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve.

The Chloropyron Outplanting Project (Project) will establish a population of salt marsh bird's-beak in the San Elijo Lagoon Ecological Reserve. This Project will establish a fifth self-sustaining occurrence of salt-marsh bird's-beak (*Chloropyron maritimum* ssp. *maritimum*) in salt marsh habitat to buffer against environmental and demographic stochasticity, promote connectivity to enhance long-term resilience, maintain genetic diversity, and ensure persistence over the long-term.

Potential sites within the Reserve have been identified within the Reserve on both County of San Diego and CDFW land. Restoration activities for the project will include planting the seed and then maintaining and monitoring the sites to ensure the population establishes and can sustain itself.

Please contact Tim Dillingham at (858) 354-9915 or Tim.Dillingham@wildlife.ca.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:
Ed Pert
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Edmund Pert
Regional Manager
South Coast Region

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