



Rancho Simpatica

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Andrea Ozdy
County of Ventura
800 S. Victoria Avenue, L#1740
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November 9, 2012

Dear Ms. Ozdy,

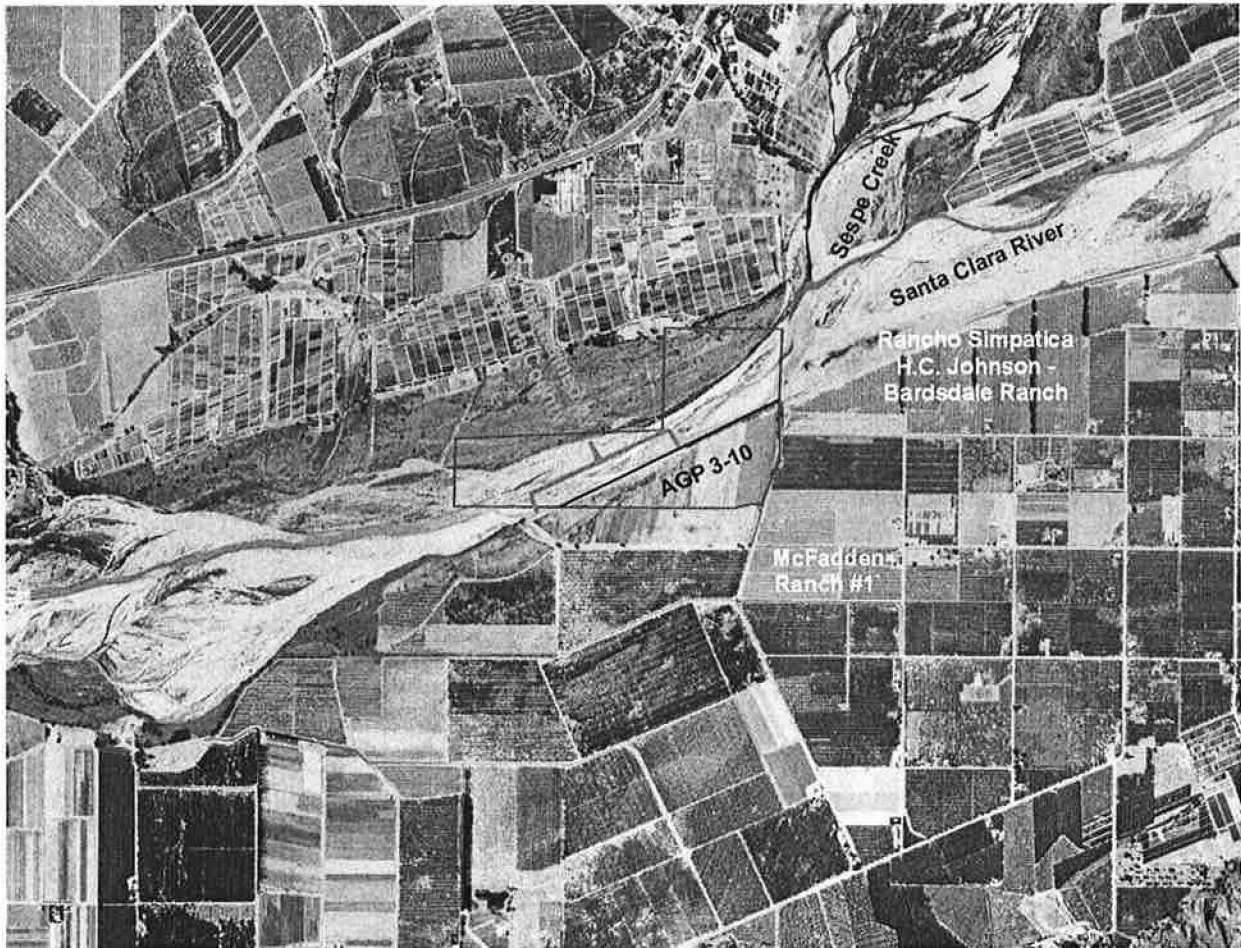
I am the manager and owner of property used for citrus and avocado production adjacent to (east of the property in question) and within 1/4 mile of the Nature Conservancy property described in Case Number PL 12-0071. I did not receive notice of the proposed changes directly from Ventura County but was notified just prior to the Planning Commission hearing by our neighbors. There was not enough time to analyze and comment on the proposed project. I appreciate being allowed to submit these comments to you regarding the project.

The citrus and avocado property that I manage adjacent to the Nature Conservancy property is also in an Agriculture Preserve. We are strong supporters of this type of agreement and have been for decades. My family has been farming in Southern California for 5 generations and it is our goal to continue to do so for generations to come.

As you know from my previous emails, I am concerned about the possible future impacts of the Wildlife Habitat portion of the proposal on our farming operations. I support the Nature Conservancy's efforts to preserve productive Ventura County agricultural land through a LCA contract. If the agricultural portions of the property (shown as AGP 3-10 in the diagram below) are changed from agricultural use to wildlife habitat and the flood protection structure shown is not maintained by Ventura County, many hundreds of acres of downstream agricultural production, including my own, will be put at risk. This is an especially vulnerable portion of the Santa Clara River due to the influence of Sespe Creek. During most years the Santa Clara meanders peacefully through its stream bed. Occasionally during unusual times of very high rainfall the Sespe Creek pushes the Santa Clara out of its normal path. Without the County's flood control structure along the south bank of the river, large tracts of agricultural land to

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Exhibit 25
Letter from Ed McFadden (11/9/12)

the south of the project area would be put at risk. The existing agriculture shown as AGP 3-10 below and exposed acreage to the south of the project could be lost.



In summary, I am supportive of changing local LCA contracts with the goal of preserving Ventura County agricultural ground. I am opposed to this change if agricultural ground is being taken out of agriculture and my property and the property of my neighbors are exposed to risk.

Thank you again for accepting these comments.

Sincerely,

Ed McFadden
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