

Letters of Support
Received after January 22, 2019

County of Ventura
Planning Commission Hearing
PL16-0127
Exhibit 26 – Comment Letters Received
After January 22, 2019

Batinica, Meighan

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Monday, January 28, 2019 7:23 PM
To: Batinica, Meighan
Subject: FW: Support for Wildlife Corridor

-----Original Message-----

From: Gale Alcorn <galefernow@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 28, 2019 7:08 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Support for Wildlife Corridor

Hi,

I'm writing to share my support for the wildlife corridor zone. We need to be good stewards of wildlife, including mountain lions who share our space. I believe we can balance the needs of humans with the needs our flora and fauna. Thanks!

Gale Alcorn
Thousand Oaks, CA



January 28, 2019

Shelley Sussman
Principal Planner
County of Ventura, Planning Division, #1740
800 S. Victoria Ave.
Ventura, CA 93009

Re: Hearing Comments: Ventura County's Draft Habitat Connectivity, Wildlife Corridors, and Critical Wildlife Passage Areas Overlay Zone (PL16-0127)

Dear Ms. Sussman:

I appreciate the opportunity to submit PLAN's comment on the Ventura County's Draft Habitat Connectivity, Wildlife Corridors, and Critical Wildlife Passage Areas Overlay Zone. I will focus on the connection between the Los Padres-Santa Susana Mountains-Simi Hills-Santa Monica Mountains (Exhibit 15F). This is the last "open" wildlife and wildlife habitat region and passage corridor that can be the most viable wildlife zone or lost forever causing the collapse of Southern California's wildlife.

Support is recommended for the effort/work of Jeff Sikich, biologist, and Dr. Seth Riley of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area (SMMNRA) studies/collaring-tracking of the larger mammals, mountain lions, bobcats, and all wildlife, to provide and maintain underpasses at the 118 and 101 Freeways. The Liberty Canyon Crossing will be beneficial only if this is designed for wildlife crossing, not humans.

Recognize the Boeing property/North American Land Trust (NALT), is 2400 acres of open space and wildlife habitat, a major resource, Exhibit 4, Subarea F and Exhibit 6 (Simi Hills Critical Wildlife Passage Area Map). Dr. Seth Riley reported at an October nature meeting that mountain lions not only pass through this area but are also "residents". This region connects with Sage Ranch, nearly connects to the Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park, and to the south, the Upper Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space Preserve. NALT is protecting this wildlife habitat, historic cultural Native American and rocket engine development site, native plants and oak woodlands from the enormous forces to develop land for human population growth in Southern California.

There was a landowner who had in years past illegally had tons of dumping in Black Canyon ... alongside of Sage Ranch. A builder in Lake Manor has not been adhering to permits in Chatsworth below and above the Ventura County line on the east side of the Simi Hills. There's great threat of disturbance of the watershed, causing rock/boulder slides, loss of native plants which impacts both Ventura and Los Angeles counties.

The massive development of over 460 KB Homes in Runkle Canyon, Simi Valley, adjacent to the NALT is an example of the housing encroachment into this critical wildlife region. Further development on the east or west side of the Simi Hills, or development on the north and south side of the 118 Freeway will be a chokehold for wildlife passage from the Santa Susana Mountains to the Simi Hills. Thank you for your consideration of creating a protected wildlife zone in this important region and other Ventura County locations.

Sincerely,

Carla Bollinger
Public Land Alliance Network/PLAN (I am also a member of Ventura County-Los Padres Sierra Club and Audubon Society) and a resident of Newbury Park, CA
818 307 6418 | iPhone: planospace@gmail.com | Laptop: carla.bollinger@hale.com

Batinica, Meighan

From: cindychoffmann@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 3:50 PM
To: Wildlife Corridors
Subject: Bell canyon residents

I will not be able to attend the meeting tomorrow but understand our hoa is organizing a bus trip of residents who are opposed to the corridor I am 100% percent in favor of your proposals The recent Wildfires illustrate the urgent need for your protective proposals There are only a few mountain lions left in our areas as well as other endangered species Freeways crossings and the wildfires have been fatal Thank you for your work Cynthia Hoffmann
147 Bell Canyon Rd

xxoo Cindy     

Sent from my iPhone

CONEJO OAK TREE ADVOCATES

conejoaktreeadvocates@gmail.com

January 28, 2019

Ventura County Resource Management Agency
Ventura County Planning Commission
Attention: Shelley Sussman
800 S. Victoria Ave., L #1740
Ventura, CA 93009-1740
Transmitted Via Email: Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org

Re: Amendments to the General Plan and Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance to Establish
a Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors Overlay Zone, a Critical Wildlife
Passage Areas Overlay Zone, and Related Regulations (PL16-0127)

Dear Ventura County Planning Commissioners:

Conejo Oak Tree Advocates encourages you to fully support the above actions with respect to protection of our important native wildlife and plant communities. Staff's first paragraph on page 2 of the Staff Report under the heading "History and Background: Purpose and Need" beautifully and expertly outlines our County's need to guide future development that could potentially destroy the ability of our endemic species to survive for future generations. Conejo Oak Tree Advocates joins other interested groups and citizens in congratulating Ventura County Staff for leading the way and clearly defining objectives which guide development so as to avoid key habitat areas while incorporating options and exemptions that ensure property owners can continue to use and develop their property.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Gail Bianchino, Marilyn Carpenter, Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin, Joan Edwards, Tina Frugoli, Anne LaFianza, Ed Lawrence and Janet Wall
for **Conejo Oak Tree Advocates**

Batinica, Meighan

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 12:47 PM
To: Batinica, Meighan
Subject: FW: wildlife corridor

Support letter

-----Original Message-----

From: Susan Draffan <susandraffan@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 12:44 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: wildlife corridor

Hello Ms. Sussman,

As a resident of Ventura County, I wholeheartedly support the establishment of wildlife corridors as way to keep both wildlife and drivers safe, and to conserve the viability of our open spaces for wildlife preservation.

For me, open and wild places and creatures are the greatest joys of living in our beautiful area.

Plus, I am a huge advocate for mountain lions. They face so many perils, and this seems an ideal way to help them flourish with less inbreeding and risk of human caused fatalities. Hopefully with access to a greater range, they will also prey less on livestock. Sure feels like a win-win to me!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Susan Draffan
413 Avenida del Recreo
Ojai

Batinica, Meighan

From: Jim Ford <jfoaviator@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 26, 2019 7:39 PM
To: Wildlife Corridors
Subject: Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife movement Corridors

I strongly support passage of the above subject corridors in Ventura County.

James J. Ford
3464 Brokenhill St.
Newbury Park, CA 91320-5501
805-499-1411
JASFOAVIATOR@GMAIL.COM

Batinica, Meighan

From: Tina Graham <tnagraham@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 1:19 PM
To: Batinica, Meighan
Subject: Fwd: Protecting Wildlife

Begin forwarded message:

From: Tina Graham <tnagraham@gmail.com>
Date: January 29, 2019 at 9:59:00 AM PST
To: meighan.batanica@ventura.org
Subject: Protecting Wildlife

Unfortunately many are unable to attend, are uniformed or busy with their own lives to consider the big picture and the unreasonable habitat destruction from urban expansion/development etc.

I believe it's important to aid them in their coexistence with us. Biologists who are experts, along with others who care, have been studying the movement of wildlife through the county land and adjoining mountains and waterways, and have developed a plan.

They realize that movement is essential for the animals to find food, shelter and mates that will create biological diversity for their survival.

As people, we continue to cut off the their natural paths and demolish their habitat for our purposes.

The plan provides provisions that take the animals into account as best they can. Using permeable fencing and keeping lighting as natural as possible, for example, in the areas where people and wildlife cross paths.

Developing land for human use must be done responsibly or not at all.

Population growth has become troublesome to our wildlife. Let's be mindful and responsible.

Thank you!
Christina Graham
Moorpark CA

Batinica, Meighan

From: Louise Heydt <kulungshan@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 27, 2019 12:12 PM
To: Wildlife Corridors
Subject: COMMENTS

Greetings,

I live in Oak View near Creek Road. I fully support the Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridor. My little two acres has a bobcat, deer, grey foxes, and coyotes as regular visitors. The wildlife activity increased after the Thomas Fire. Many of the coyotes have been killed over the years and I don't like that. They are part of the ecosystem. There is also an incredible variety of birds including some that according to the bird book shouldn't be in this area. Many species arrived in the smoke during the fire and found an oasis on my property with a fountain.

Yes, please try to get the lights off at night. I have no idea why people have lights in trees, on fences or anywhere else at night. I yearn for the night sky I had at high altitude in a remote area in northern NM.

Thank you for thinking of the wildlife!

Louise Heydt

Batinica, Meighan

From: PJ <pamjubu@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 4:03 PM
To: Batinica, Meighan
Subject: Wildlife corridor

I am in full support. I don't think you need to hear all the reasons why. I'm sure you already know.

Sincerely,

Pamela Johnson

Sent from my iPad

Batinica, Meighan

From: Lana Lundin <lanalundin@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 4:09 PM
To: Wildlife Corridors
Subject: wildlife corridor

I support a proposed wildlife corridor zone. Wildlife corridors link wildlife habitat and are critical for maintaining ecological processes including allowing for the movement of animals which is important for maintaining a viable wildlife population.

Wildlife corridors help to offset biodiversity loss.

A wildlife corridor zone will protect creeks, reduce night lighting and require clustering of new buildings away from the most threatened part of the corridor so wildlife can pass through open space.

I am hoping the Planning Commission supports this.

Lana Lundin
825 Vista Arriago
Camarillo, CA
93012

Batinica, Meighan

From: David Marusa <david.marusa@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:07 AM
To: Wildlife Corridors
Cc: Heidi Marusa; david.marusa@yahoo.com
Subject: Interested in supporting this cause

Hello! Please add myself and my wife Heidi to this organization. We live in Santa Rosa Valley and will help in any way we can.

David & Heidi Marusa
2883 Las Posas Circle
Santa Rosa Valley, Ca 93012

David.marusa@yahoo.com
Heidimarusa@gmail.com

Sent from my iPhone

Batinica, Meighan

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 2:18 PM
To: Batinica, Meighan
Subject: FW: Wildlife Corridor

Support letter

From: Suzanne McKenna <suzanne7mck@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 2:13 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Wildlife Corridor

Please preserve the safety of our wildlife. We are losing too much of our natural world. A corridor to promote safe passage is the very least we can do.

Suzanne McKenna

Batinica, Meighan

From: Mary Ann M <moore.science05@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 11:46 AM
To: Batinica, Meighan
Subject: Wildlife Corridor

I support the wildlife corridor. Please help protect our wildlife.

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

RAMIREZ CANYON PARK
5750 RAMIREZ CANYON ROAD
MALIBU, CALIFORNIA 90265
PHONE (310) 589-3200
FAX (310) 589-3207
WWW.SMMC.CA.GOV



January 28, 2019

Planning Commission
County of Ventura
800 South Victoria Avenue
Ventura, California 93009

**Amendments to the General Plan and Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance to Establish a
Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors Overlay Zone, a Critical Wildlife Passage
Areas Overlay Zone, and Related Regulations (PL16-0127)**

Dear Commissioners:

The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (Conservancy) robustly supports the County's proposed Habitat Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors Overlay Zone, a Critical Wildlife Passage Areas Overlay Zone, and accompanying Ordinance and regulations designed to secure habitat connectivity and wildlife survival in several regionally significant linkage areas. County staff has gone to unparalleled lengths to work with stakeholders to develop balanced regulations for fencing, exterior lighting, vegetation removal, setbacks from surface water features and wildlife crossing structures, and compact development standards. Even the short-term function of the identified regional habitat linkages is at risk without the proposed actions.

The proposed Overlay Zones, accompanying Ordinance and regulations help implement the *State Wildlife Action Plan* (SWAP, 2015 update). Both the SWAP and the proposed Overlay Zones are grounded in maps produced by the South Coast Missing Linkages Project—a collaborative, inter-agency effort to identify and conserve the highest-priority linkages in the South Coast Ecoregion based on the best available science. The implementation flexibility in the proposed actions can fairly address any mapping issues.

The proposed actions also help implement the primary goal of the federal *Southern California Steelhead Recovery Plan* (2012) "... to prevent the extinction of anadromous steelhead by ensuring the long-term persistence of viable, self-sustaining, wild populations of steelhead ..." within the Monte Arido Biogeographic Population Group comprised of the Santa Maria, Santa Ynez, Ventura and Santa Clara River watersheds.

The proposed actions are consistent with *California Water Action Plan* (2016 update) by highlighting *surface water features* for additional protection. Impacts from development

Planning Commission, County of Ventura
Amendments to the General Plan and NCOZ to Establish HCWC/CWPA Overlay Zones
and Related Regulations (PL16-0127)
January 28, 2019
Page 2

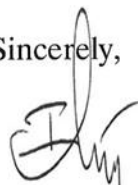
including, but not limited to, declining surface flowage, depleted groundwater, and impaired water quality, will become more prevalent with climate change. Efforts to protect *surface water features* are necessary to preserve sensitive wildlife and habitat as well as maintain a safe environment for Ventura County residents including disadvantaged communities that are more susceptible to adverse impacts of climate change.

Within the definition for *surface water feature* (Article 2, Section 8102-0), the Ordinance states: "The term *surface water feature* does not include ponds, lakes, marshes, wetlands, or *agricultural water impoundments* or associated *riparian habitat areas* that are human-made." Whether human-made or natural is not the operative factor for functional connectivity or wildlife usage. The ecological value of the overall proposal could be greatly increased if the definition of surface water features was amended to include most human-made *surface water features*. Often the line between human-made and natural is not easy to distinguish.

The proposed actions will bring the County into a leadership position on protecting habitat connectivity, and such actions will also help with climate change adaptation and resiliency.

Thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions, please contact Paul Edelman, Deputy Director Natural Resources and Planning, at (310) 589-3200 ext. 128, edelman@smmc.ca.gov, or at the above letterhead address.

Sincerely,



IRMA MUÑOZ
Chairperson

#

Batinica, Meighan

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 2:35 PM
To: Batinica, Meighan
Subject: FW: Wildlife Corridor

Support letter

-----Original Message-----

From: LM Pinizzotto <consciouscatcare@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 2:21 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: Wildlife Corridor

I am writing to express my fervent support for the proposed Wildlife Corridor regulations.

We need to develop ways to coexist with these amazing creatures or stop new housing at the wilderness interface completely.

Thank you,

LM Pinizzotto
805-798-3359

Sent from my iPhone

Batinica, Meighan

From: cheryl rietveld <cherylriet@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 8:23 AM
To: Wildlife Corridors
Subject: Wildlife Corridor

Good Morning,

We are writing to show our support of the proposed Wildlife Corridor amendment to the County General Plan and Zoning Ordinance.

As residents and property owners in Box Canyon for over 30 years, we are 100 % behind your efforts to preserve the corridors for safe movement of our wildlife. We believe that this can be achieved in a way that also assures property owners, ranchers, and farmers are not harmed by this effort. We have a total of 4 lots totaling almost 2 acres and our children were born and raised in Box Canyon.

Please take note of our support of this plan and we hope that the communities that will be impacted by this will realize the positive impacts for our area, our wildlife and our future.

Thank you,

Willem and Cheryl Rietveld
Box Canyon
Ventura County

Batinica, Meighan

From: diana4insurance@yahoo.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 4:28 PM
To: Batinica, Meighan
Subject: I support wildlife corridor

Hi Meighn,

I cannot make it to the meeting, but wish to show my support for a wildlife corridor.
I won't go on about the benefits. But please count this as my opinion.

Thanks,
Diana

Diana Stone
ICF Insurance
6821 Tulane Ave
Moorpark, CA 93021
CA Lic. #0C03234
805.990.4574

Letters of Opposition
Received after January 22, 2019

Batinica, Meighan

From: Patti Bedrosian Long <patilong@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 3:25 PM
To: Batinica, Meighan
Subject: Wildlife Corridor

Hi Meighan, I was told to also write to you about how the Wildlife Corridor could be a financial hardship for me as well as others. My husband passed away and I have realized how difficult five acres is for one person to maintain. There could be a possibility of selling my house in a few years and it looks like these Wildlife Corridor regulations could lower my value or make it difficult to sell. Here is the letter I sent to the Ventura County Supervisors. Thank you!

To Ventura County Supervisors and Commissioners,

As a home/land owner in Lockwood Valley, Ventura County, I am concerned about the upcoming Wildlife Corridor regulations/restrictions that I hear are going to be implemented. I am especially concerned about financially prohibitive environmental impact statements that would make it impossible to sell my home or rebuild my home in the case of a fire. As a retired person, this could possibly be financially devastating to my future. Friends in Los Angeles County lost their home in a fire and were not able to rebuild due to a requirement of an \$80,000 environmental report that they couldn't afford. They are older and now without a home.

Lockwood Valley is already a Wildlife Corridor! It is a huge valley with a sparse population of I believe around 200 people. I cannot recall anywhere in Lockwood where wildlife is inhibited to roam. Lockwood Valley is so far off the beaten path that there is very little traffic danger to wildlife. Lockwood Valley isn't in danger of development due to existing restrictions and the fact that most of the land is National Forest owned. Heartbreakingly, the real devastation to wildlife in California is forest fires. From what I've heard from fire fighters over the 24 years I've been up here is that the forests are not being managed causing danger to them, residents, wildlife and indigenous plant life.

I am urging the County to not pass this wildlife corridor plan as written and work for other real solutions to protect our wildlife.

Batinica, Meighan

From: Sunnie Rose <sunnie@frazmtn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 2:32 PM
To: ClerkoftheBoard, ClerkoftheBoard
Cc: Batinica, Meighan
Subject: Letter To The Kern County Supervisors and Commissioners

Letter To The Kern County Supervisors and Commissioners,

As a home and land owner in Ventura County, Lockwood Valley precisely, I am troubled and concerned about the upcoming Wildlife Corridor regulations and restrictions that I understand are going to be voted on and potentially carried out. I am deeply concerned about the wildlife and our forests and about the financial hardships that this will have on myself and my family and neighbors in that it would potentially make it impossible for us to sell our home or rebuild in the event of anything catastrophic. As a hard working person it has taken me all my life to earn enough to purchase land and a home so that I can be able to retire comfortably. This could possibly be financially devastating for the future of my family and lead to homelessness, or our reliability on the county and state for assistance. Should I ever have to walk away, I'd have nothing. Everything I have worked so hard for my entire life is invested in my home.

Lockwood Valley is naturally a Wildlife Corridor. It is a huge valley with a sparse population. Wildlife is presently able to roam freely where ever they want. Lockwood is a remote area and provides little to no danger to wildlife. We embrace and love our wildlife, we protect them and live harmoniously with them. Lockwood Valley is not in danger of development due to the already existing meticulous restrictions and that in fact, most of the land is National Forest and protected.

Residents and Homeowners are not what are causing danger to our beloved wildlife; it's sadly the devastation from forest fires and the forests not being properly overseen for dangerous natural fuels that are causing danger not only to residents but to wildlife. It is not a fair burden that homeowners be made accountable for the losses the County Supervisors and Commissioners

I am encouraging you and the County to not pass this wildlife corridor plan as it is currently being presented and to please work with us, together, to come up with a real solution to protect our beloved wildlife, our national forest treasures, our homes, and all that we have worked so hard for, all of our lives to partake of.

I am abundantly grateful for your service, and the work is not done. This proposal is not the answer. We must continue to find a way to fulfill our mutual objective without infringing on the rights, and backs of the community's that are what make this county strong.

Most Sincerely,
Rose Berger

Batinica, Meighan

From: Janice Dickenson <jb.dickenson@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 28, 2019 8:34 PM
To: Batinica, Meighan
Subject: Wildlife Corridor Ordinance

Dear Ms. Batinica,

Please include us with the multitude of people opposing the wildfire corridor ordinance. This ordinance would have horrific consequences regarding prudent and necessary land management, specifically with regards to fire protection. The Thomas Fire went through our ranch and our family has several generations of experience in ranching and land management. This ordinance needs to be stopped.

Thank you,

Bruce and Janice Dickenson
Flying D Ranch
Santa Paula, CA

Batinica, Meighan

From: Glaza <kghorsemanship@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 11:00 AM
To: Batinica, Meighan
Subject: Wildlife Corridor

Attention Ventura County Planning Commission:

I oppose the revised wildlife corridor ordinance. There is no need for these extreme limitations on private property especially since there is an abundance of adjacent public lands.

This infringement on the use and enjoyment of private property must NOT pass. We are property owners and tax paying citizens and these outrageous and unnecessary regulations must be stopped.

We love our land and the wildlife that passes through, these regulations are extreme and unnecessary.

Kimberly Glaza

Batinica, Meighan

From: Judy Munzig <jmunzig@topa.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 11:24 AM
To: Wildlife Corridors
Subject: Wildlife Corridors

Ventura County Planning Division
Attn. Wildlife Corridors
Kimberly L. Prillhart, Director

Dear Director Prillhart:

I am writing in response to your letter of Jan. 14, 2019 regarding proposed regulations for wildlife corridors. As a farmer in the east end of the Ojai Valley, I am required to protect organic orchards from neighbors who trespass, and who would pass through neighboring properties contaminated with soil and water-borne diseases such as phytophthora cinnamoni, root rot. Our GAP regulations ((Good Agric Practices) required by our packing houses go so far as to state that animal feces not be present in the orchards during annual inspections.

I do appreciate the need to provide safe passage for wildlife in true wildlands and wilderness areas. However, it is imperative that you consider the costs to Ventura County farmers and the need to protect the economic and environmental viability of agriculture in our County.

Sincerely,
Judith G. Munzig

Topa Topa Ranch
600 McAndrew Rd.
Ojai, CA 93023
jmunzig@topa.com

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Batinica, Meighan

From: Melissa Sayer <melissa@matilijalaw.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 10:00 AM
To: Batinica, Meighan
Subject: Wildlife corridor

I am unable to attend the meeting today but wanted to express my concerns over the Wildlife Corridor ordinance. It does not appear to adequately address flexibility for necessary brush clearance for fire abatement among other concerns with agricultural operations.

Melissa H. Sayer
Sayer Ranch
Santa Paula

Batinica, Meighan

From: Arnout van den Berg <arnout777@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 28, 2019 9:33 PM
To: Wildlife Corridors
Subject: comments for Jan 31, 2019 Public Hearing on wildlife corridor

comments for Jan 31, 2019 Public Hearing on wildlife corridor

I am a property owner in Simi Valley that owns parcels that are inside and outside of the proposed wildlife corridor.

Comment #1

These new wildlife regulations are intended to benefit the entire county by preserving nature. As such, all beneficiaries should bear the cost. It's not fair that only the few land owners that own property in the new wildlife corridor pay the entire cost for the benefit of the entire county. These proposed land use regulations will decrease the value of the parcels in the wildlife corridor and in some areas appear to make the land completely unbuildable thereby taking away all of land value.

There are two obvious solutions to this injustice. (1) not to implement these new regulations on existing communities and only implement it on land currently designated as open space. This would still allow the county to implement most of the plan. (2) calculate the lost value that this plan would cause to each of the parcels and create a proposition asking the citizens of the county to pay for the cost of the program. If the citizens of the county find value in the wildlife corridor then they should be willing to pay the costs.

Comment #2

If my first comment is ignored, then at the very least the definition of a "Surface Water Feature" should be cleared up. The current proposed definition reads as follows:

"Surface Water Feature - An area containing a stream, river, wetland, seep, or pond, the riparian habitat area associated with the feature, as well as a development buffer area that is 200 feet as measured from the farthest extent of the surface water feature and its associated riparian area. The data used to designate the areas is obtained from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory Dataset. Areas designated as surface water features are shown on the 'Surface Water Feature Buffer' map within the Planning GIS Wildlife Corridor layer of the County of Ventura – County View Geographic information System (GIS), as may be amended by the Planning Director. The term surface water feature does not include ponds, lakes, marshes, wetlands or agricultural water impoundments or associated riparian habitat areas that are human-made."

There are many things that could be considered a surface water feature. The definition of a surface water feature is left completely open for interpretation of the Planning Director. As such, there are many lots that could be completely unbuildable if the Planning Director decided to include more water features. Water features are not changing so if the County wants to include a particular water feature then it should be clearly identified as part of proposed regulation. As such, the definition should be rewritten to only include the water features that are currently shown on the 'Surface Water Feature Buffer' map within the Planning GIS Wildlife Corridor layer of the County of Ventura – County View Geographic information System (GIS).

Batinica, Meighan

From: Sussman, Shelley
Sent: Monday, January 28, 2019 5:33 PM
To: Batinica, Meighan
Subject: FW: County of Ventura Wildlife corridor proposal

Opposed

From: Marc Whitman <marc@whitman-architect.com>
Sent: Monday, January 28, 2019 4:56 PM
To: Sussman, Shelley <Shelley.Sussman@ventura.org>
Subject: County of Ventura Wildlife corridor proposal

Regarding regulations for building projects in the proposed wildlife corridor.

Dear Shelley

I am all for protecting the wildlife and trying to live in harmony with nature.

But I am opposed to is a over regulated government that uses these kind of regulations to stop projects form proceeding.

I personally have experienced extreme delays to my projects for a simple tree permit which can take 6 month or more.to process. .

When my clients are confronted with these burdensome regulations ,they often drop their projects due to exasperation with the system.

I have the following recommendations.

1. There should be a limit to the amount a time a application can take. A over the counter permit would be ideal.
- 2 There should also be clear and precise guidelines so the public understand exactly what is required.
- 3 There should not be vague regulation left to the interpretation of the County staff person.

thank you

Marc Whitman
A.I.A., LEED, NCARB
Whitman Architectural Design, Inc.
805.646.8485