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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, FISH, AND CONSERVATION BIOLOGY
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
FAX: (530) 752-4154

ONE SHIELDS AVENUE
DAVIS, CALIFORNIA 95616-8751

October 26, 2016
Butte County Board of Supervisors
C/O Dan Breedon, AICP
Principal Planner
7 County Center Drive
Oroville CA 95965

Dear Butte County Supervisors:

I would like to express my support for inclusion of a Conservation Overlay of Butte Creek Canyon in the Butte County General Plan 2030. I am a fish biologist who has worked on salmon and trout conservation statewide for over 45 years and have always been impressed by Butte Creek as a refuge for the increasingly rare spring-run Chinook salmon. When I give talks on salmon, I virtually always include photos of salmon in Butte Creek, to show what many California streams were once like as salmon habitat, as well as to demonstrate the beauty of the stream and canyon.

Butte Creek is a blue jewel of a stream that crosses the length of Butte County and is home to the largest run of wild spring-run Chinook salmon in California. This resource is far too valuable to **all** the people of Butte County and the State to be threatened by development. In my opinion, every effort must be made to maintain the integrity of the remaining habitat and the runs of fish, as well as to protect the wonderful vistas of the canyon from rim to rim. It is a unique scenic corridor of great value to the county. It is also an extremely important wildlife corridor for species from migratory songbirds to bears.

Protecting Butte Creek Canyon is protecting one of the defining features of Butte County, as well as an amazing run of salmon. Thank you for considering it as a Conservation Overlay for the benefit of future generations of people, wildlife, *and* salmon.

Sincerely,

Peter B. Moyle
Distinguished Professor Emeritus
Fish Biology
pbmoyle@ucdavis.edu

October 19, 2016

INRE: Butte Creek Canyon Overlay

Allen Harthorn and Pamela Posey
Butte Creek Canyon Overlay Committee

Mr. Harthorne and Ms. Posey,

I want to express my support for your efforts to add the Butte Creek Canyon Overlay to the Butte County 2030 General Plan. The need to protect Butte Creek Canyon from over and irresponsible development is necessary to all life forms and residents who call the Canyon their home. The natural beauty, the recreational activities and the historical significance of the Canyon also affect every resident of Butte County who ventures there to enjoy all the things the Canyon offers.

There are people from all over California, the USA and the world to visit the Honey Run Covered Bridge, the Colman Museum and the Centerville Schoolhouse. The visitor registers and signed envelopes indicate people from as far away as Iceland and New Zealand have visited and their remarks indicate not only how much they enjoyed visiting these sites but how they were affected by the beauty of the Canyon itself. The most common theme is they never expected to find some place this beautiful, this close to a large town. The money these tourists spend in Butte County on motels and hotels, rental cars, restaurants, gasoline and other items positively affects the local economy every year. Not only does the beauty of the Canyon affect the economy, it puts Butte County on the map as a beacon to future families because there are so many activities so close to populated areas which are both relatively unspoiled and full of recreational and educational opportunities which cost little or nothing to visit.

As, President of both the Centerville Recreation and Historical Association and The Honey Run Covered Bridge Association, I am both interested in protecting the recreational, historical and tourist related aspects of the Canyon. Butte Creek supports the largest run of naturally spawned Spring Run Chinook Salmon in the state of California. On any given day in during the summer, Honey Run Road turnouts are jammed vehicles filled with Chico and other Butte County residents swimming, floating and having family outings on the creek. The Honey Run Covered Bridge Park is filled to capacity and on the weekends the Centerville Schoolhouse Complex receives scores of visitors. It would be a shame to see all of this vanish due to over-development of an area which would only line the pockets of a few contractors, offer jobs for a few months at a time, and cost the county millions of dollars in improvements to serve the developments. All for what? So a few can make money at the expense of the happiness of many.

We need to protect salmon, the bears, the river otters, the deer, the foxes and all the other wildlife in Butte Creek Canyon for Butte County residents to enjoy when they visit. We need to

protect the creek and watershed which is responsible for electrical power, drinking water, irrigation and drinking water for residents and wildlife. We need to protect the view shed for Canyon residents who have lived here for years and others who will come in the future. We need to protect our history of the gold rush, the pioneers, the Native-American, the Chinese miners and the legacies they left behind and not see them rolled over by a wave of asphalt and McMansions whose residents could care less of what went before or what is to come after. The Butte Creek Canyon Overlay is the tool needed to preserve while still allowing for limited and responsible development which is fair to everyone who has an interest in the Canyon.

In closing, I applaud your efforts and the efforts of the county planners to develop and implement this overlay. The future enjoyment of the Canyon by all of us who live here, all who visit here and all who wish to come here in the future depends on the success of your efforts.



Robert Catalano
CRHA President
HRCBA President



Wildlife Survey & Photo Service

2443 Fair Oaks Blvd. # 209 • Sacramento, CA 95825 • (916) 747-8537

October 23, 2016

TO: Butte County Board of Supervisors
C/O Dan Breedon, AICP
Principal Planner
Development Services
7 County Center Drive
Oroville CA 95965

From: Ken W. Davis
Aquatic Biologist / Wildlife Photojournalist

Dear Butte County Supervisors,

The purpose of this letter is to express my support for the inclusion of a **Conservation Overlay of Butte Creek Canyon in the Butte County General Plan 2030**.

During the last couple months, I have experienced some of the wonders of Butte Creek that include the amazing schools of Spring Run Chinook Salmon, a variety of other wildlife, and magnificent views of the canyon rims. The variety of wildlife includes a stunning Cinnamon-phase Black Bear that we saw on a couple of occasions while photographing the salmon. With camera in hand, we watched the large male bear stalk the spawning salmon and leap at them several times. The image below speaks for itself. Note the salmon in the lower right hand corner. The few people who have seen the bear image were all shocked that he was in Butte Creek.

My images and video of the 2016 Spring Run Salmon have already been used extensively by several groups in California on social media and on their websites. The Spring Run Salmon image (next page) is similar in perspective to video that has been viewed by more than 18,000 people in California, the United States, and numerous other countries. Other videos of the Spring Run Salmon in Butte Creek which I captured with the cooperation of *Friends of Butte Creek* have been viewed more than 20,000 times by interested parties in the United States,



Butte Creek Bear ©Ken W. Davis



Wildlife Survey & Photo Service

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Spring Run Chinook - 2016 Butte Creek

Iceland, Europe, Canada, Japan, even Turkey. In addition, many of my 14,500 Facebook followers have expressed gratitude for sharing footage of this natural event that occurs annually in Butte County. I commonly hear expressions such as "What a treasure!"

I am sharing this information with you as I believe there are certain places on this planet which deserve a high degree of protection - and celebration! Butte Creek Canyon is one of those places and I believe we should do whatever we can to protect the canyon, the wildlife and the associated views. The Spring Run Salmon and the magnificent views of the Butte Creek Canyon rims are valuable resources. It would be a shame, and a tarnish on Butte County, if they were lost or further impacted by uncontrolled development.

As a professional wildlife photojournalist, I am fortunate to routinely experience some of the Earth's most magnificent scenery. Prior to the digital age, my environmental images were published in more than 5000 different encyclopedias, textbooks, and periodicals which includes National Geographic Books, Wildlife Conservation, Zoobooks, Sports Afield, Montana Outdoors, and American Angler. It is my professional opinion that certain views in Butte Creek Canyon are more picturesque than many celebrated views in our National Parks.

I greatly appreciate your support to protect Butte Creek Canyon.

Sincerely,

Ken W. Davis

Aquatic Biologist / Wildlife Photojournalist

Wildlife Survey & Photo Service

2443 Fair Oaks Blvd. # 209

Sacramento, CA 95825

(916) 747-8537

ken@creekman.com

www.creekman.com

Breedon, Dan

From: Greg Heidenreich <gregoryheidenreich@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2016 11:12 AM
To: Breedon, Dan
Cc: pitboss7@sbcglobal.net
Subject: Re: Butte Creek Canyon Overlay

Mr. Breedon,

I am requesting that the TM,TP,AG zones be excepted from ridgetop section like you did with watershed and const. equip. sections.

It is noted that the wording: development on or below canyon ridgelines has been changed to: both sides of the ridgeline which extends the ordinance out of its intended scope and area.

Respectfully,

Greg Heidenreich
APN:063-270-007
(510)701-1507

> On Oct 26, 2016, at 8:43 AM, "Breedon, Dan" <DBreedon@buttecounty.net> wrote:

>
> Thank you Mr. Heidenreich, your comment will be provided to the Planning Commission.

>
>
>
> Dan Breedon, AICP, Principal Planner
> Department of Development Services
> 7 County Center Drive, Oroville, CA 95965
> T: 530.538.7629 (direct) or 530.538.7601 (main) | F: 530.538.7785
> Twitter | Facebook | YouTube | Join DDS Email List | PowerButte

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Greg Heidenreich [mailto:gregoryheidenreich@yahoo.com]
> Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2016 9:02 PM
> To: Breedon, Dan <DBreedon@buttecounty.net>
> Cc: pitboss7@sbcglobal.net
> Subject: Butte Creek Canyon Overlay

>
> Dear Mr. Breedon,

>
> I own a TM-10 with plans for a near net zero SFR as we discussed on the phone.

>
> My selected building placement would not be visible at all from most locations in the canyon.

>
> And I strongly oppose the proposed ridgeline setbacks:

Breedon, Dan

From: Greg Heidenreich <gregoryheidenreich@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 25, 2016 9:02 PM
To: Breedon, Dan
Cc: pitboss7@sbcglobal.net
Subject: Butte Creek Canyon Overlay

Dear Mr. Breedon,

I own a TM-10 with plans for a near net zero SFR as we discussed on the phone.

My selected building placement would not be visible at all from most locations in the canyon.

And I strongly oppose the proposed ridgeline setbacks:

- 'Planning Ridgelines' as drawn could be up to or over 150' back from the actual very jagged ridgeline -resulting in an effective double or greater setback.
- 100-150' is extremely excessive -there is limited near level ground on a ridge which sometimes occurs only near the ridge, and is the most appropriate building site.
- The 100-150' setback goes well beyond the stated 'development on or below canyon ridgelines' intent of section 4 -it reaches far to the Little Chico Creek side.
- Prohibiting fences anywhere in an AG/timber Zoning district is completely inappropriate.
- Consider using Planning Staff knowledge and discretion, on a case by case basis, to start an attempt to regulate setbacks from the ridge, as never done before, rather than impose a strict regulation to fit the worst case scenario.
- Ridgeline setback regulation is unsupported by the Purpose Statement.
- Ridgeline properties, with their views, required premium prices and we have an interest in retaining that right to property.

Respectfully,

Greg Heidenreich
APN:063-270-007
(510)701-1507

Butte County Board of Supervisors
C/O Dan Breedon, AICP
Principal Planner
Development Services
7 County Center Drive
Oroville CA 95965

BUTTE
COUNTY
OCT 24 2016
DEVELOPMENT
SERVICES

October 19, 2016

Bonnie Burnham
107 Northwood Cmns Pl
Chico, CA 95973

Dear Supervisors of Butte County,

As a former resident of Butte Creek Canyon for over 30 years, I would like to thank you for supporting the maintenance of acceptable rural and agricultural zoning, the recognition of the special and sacred nature of Butte Creek Canyon and the Spring Run Salmon, and the efforts to assist the residents and supporters to develop a special Conservation Overlay for the Canyon. This jewel of a stream travels the length of Butte County, nearly bisecting it, and is the home of the Last Best Run of Wild Spring Run Chinook Salmon in California. This resource is far too valuable to **all** the people of Butte County and the State to be squandered by rampant development. Every effort must be made to maintain the integrity of the remaining habitat and protect the incredible vistas from rim to rim. It is a scenic corridor of great value to our County. And it is the most important unbroken wildlife corridor for the multitude of species we share this special place with.

Once again, thank you for diligently protecting this resource!

Sincerely,

Bonnie Burnham

Butte County Board of Supervisors
C/O Dan Breedon, AICP
Principal Planner
Development Services
7 County Center Drive
Oroville CA 95965

October 20, 2016

Liz Heller and Max Dobeck
420 Orient St.
Chico, CA 95928

Dear Supervisors of Butte County,

We would like to thank you for supporting the maintenance of acceptable rural and agricultural zoning, the recognition of the special and sacred nature of Butte Creek Canyon and the Spring Run Salmon, and the efforts to assist the residents and supporters to develop a special Conservation Overlay for the Canyon. This jewel of a stream travels the length of Butte County, nearly bisecting it, and is the home of the Last Best Run of Wild Spring Run Chinook Salmon in California. This resource is far too valuable to **all** the people of Butte County and the State to be squandered by rampant development. Every effort must be made to maintain the integrity of the remaining habitat and protect the incredible vistas from rim to rim. It is a scenic corridor of great value to our County. And it is the most important unbroken wildlife corridor for the multitude of species we share this special place with.

One of the things that really drew us to Butte county was the investment in our natural resources. This project definitely aligns with those community values, and makes us feel great about being Butte county residents.

Once again, thank you for diligently protecting this resource!

Sincerely,

Liz Heller and Max Dobeck

Breedon, Dan

From: Caryl Brown <carylbrown10k@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2016 11:16 AM
To: Breedon, Dan
Subject: Thank you

**Butte County Board of Supervisors
C/O Dan Breedon, AICP
Principal Planner
Development Services
7 County Center Drive
Oroville CA 95965**

October 26, 2016

**Caryl and Matt Brown
5 Merle Court
Chico, CA 95928**

Dear Supervisors of Butte County,

Thank you for supporting the maintenance of acceptable rural and agricultural zoning, the recognition of the special and sacred nature of Butte Creek Canyon and the Spring Run Salmon, and the efforts to assist the residents and supporters to develop a special Conservation Overlay for the Canyon. This jewel of a stream travels the length of Butte County, nearly bisecting it, and is the home of the Last Best Run of Wild Spring Run Chinook Salmon in California. This resource is far too valuable to all the people of Butte County and the State to be squandered by rampant development. Every effort must be made to maintain the integrity of the remaining habitat and protect the incredible vistas from rim to rim. It is a scenic corridor of great value to our County. It is the most important local unbroken wildlife corridor for a multitude of species.

Once again, thank you for diligently protecting this resource!

Sincerely,

Caryl and Matt Brown

Breedon, Dan

From: michael connolly <mikec1363@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, October 21, 2016 10:45 PM
To: Breedon, Dan
Subject: Butte Creek Canyon Overlay Oct. 27

I'm all for the preservation of Butte Creek Canyon, because I live there. I am concerned about the setback for Ridgetop development, because that affects me. I think the people who own property have rights to have a view also. People who live somewhere and don't want to see anybody else around them, well, that sounds a little like NIMBYism to me.

I am for protecting the salmon. I don't know how the Salmon counts have been from year to year. But I know there are more deer, bear and bald eagles around then there were 20 years ago.

Michael Connolly
Butte Canyon resident

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android