

# FRIENDS OF THE NORTH COAST

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April 12, 2022

The Honorable Anna Eshoo  
Congress Member, CA District 18  
272 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jimmy Panetta  
Congress Member, CA District 20  
406 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**Re: Cotoni-Coast Dairies National Monument Northern Parking Location**

Dear Congress Members Eshoo and Panetta,

Last Friday, April 8, 2022, the Davenport North Coast Association (DNCA) wrote to you regarding the very significant changed circumstances regarding BLM's prior planning assumptions at the proposed Northern Entrance for Cotoni-Coast Dairies. The purpose of this letter is to inform you that Friends of the North Coast (FONC) and Rural Bonny Doon Association (RBDA) strongly support DNCA's request that you seek the following from BLM:

- Agreement by BLM to jointly ask the IBLA to refer the IBLA Appeal filed by DNCA, FONC, and RBDA to an Alternative Dispute Resolution process (as expressly authorized and encouraged by IBLA Rules); and
- In light of the pending departure of BLM's Field Manager by the end of May, request the BLM State Director and appropriate other BLM staff to meet on-site with DNCA to view and discuss the northern access alternatives.

FONC and RBDA agree with DNCA that there is a tremendous opportunity for BLM and the Davenport community get on the same page in light of:

- BLM having secured the \$2.5 Million grant to restore the historic Mocettini Barn;
- BLM's apparent recognition that:
  - Historic Barn parking would best be provided at the site of DNCA's proposed alternative; and
  - BLM's proposed Warrenella Gate Parking Lot cannot feasibly serve as parking for the visitors (including school children) to the historic Mocettini Barn.

A combined parking lot for the restored historic Mocettini Barn and the RMZ 1 Trailhead would save the taxpayers from substantial unnecessary and inefficient spending, while providing a better experience for visitors. The latest iteration of the Warrenella Gate Parking Lot (as very recently shown to DNCA Board Members by the BLM Field Manager) will reduce the number of visitor parking spaces from 69 down to 42, while requiring major expense for grading and landform alteration as well as removing at least four

old eucalyptus trees which serve as Monarch habitat (see photo attached). None of that is consistent with what the Coastal Commission approved. All of that would be avoided by DNCA's alternative.

Notably, DNCA is open to a solution which jointly seeks Coastal Commission approval for installing the DNCA proposed parking site as a "temporary" project, enabling opening of the northern access by Fall 2022 as BLM is currently targeting. This would be consistent with the path taken for the Kaiser Permanente Arena in Santa Cruz which the Coastal Commission deemed to be temporary, even though the facility had a 15-year warranty. The Coastal Commission can then process a permanent modification of its Federal Consistency Concurrence while the public has access.

We hope you will actively pursue the requests made by DNCA. Thank you.

Friends of the North Coast

*Jonathan Wittwer*

Rural Bonny Doon Association

*Kendra Turk-Kubo*

Attachment: Photo of Monarch Habitat on Cement Plant Road

Cc: John Laird, District 17 State Senator  
Mark Stone, District 29 State Assembly  
Ryan Coonerty, District 3 County Supervisor  
Karen Mouritsen, BLM State Director  
Chris Heppe, BLM Central California District Manager  
Ben Blom, BLM Central Coast District Field Manager  
Dr. Kate Huckelbridge, Deputy Director Federal Consistency, California Coastal Commission  
Sempervirens Fund  
Davenport North Coast Association