

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Chris Gale [chris@beaconzone.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 13, 2005 8:58 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Cc:** Dr. Sharpe  
**Subject:** Santa Catalina Island Eagle Restoration Funding

Dear Sirs,

I am appalled to hear that funding for the Santa Catalina Island Eagle Restoration after 2005, has been denied. I feel that this is an extremely important project and I really hope that you will reconsider the funding options for Catalina Island Eagles.

I live in the state of Delaware and my husband and I drive over 2 hours to a magical place called Blackwater Refuge in Cambridge Maryland.

<http://www.friendsofblackwater.org/camhtm2.html>

We go there to see the eagles, osprey and other of natures' treasures that are being sheltered there. Hopefully some day, if you continue your generosity, you will be responsible for a magical place like Blackwater where there is LIFE, not death.

Why don't you respect nature and try to give something back that has been taken away from us all? It was man who has taken the DDT and destroyed the eagles' eggs so I feel that all of us should compensate the eagles and continue to help them recover!

Please allow generous funding for the Santa Catalina Eagles who are only there due to the money that was set aside for Dr. Sharpe and his wonderful work there with not only the eagles but other species.

Respectfully,

Christine Gale  
204 E. Wayne Way  
Fairview Farm  
Middletown, DE 19709

302-378-7840

But you never were made, as I,  
On the wings of the winds to fly!

The eagle said.

*Will Carleton*

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Audrey Tripp [atripp@surgery.usc.edu]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 13, 2005 9:35 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** eagles nest.

To Whom It May Concern:

I just felt compelled to voice my thoughts, although I unfortunately do not have any solutions to the problems of funding this program. I would like to say my daughter and I are very fond of the eagles nest and we view the nest daily. I have sent the link to all of my extended family and friends, who also enjoy viewing the beautiful eagles in their wild environment. Please exercise all options while considering the programs fate. Thank You.

Audrey A. Tripp

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## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Dianna Moore [dlmoor2@coastaccess.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 14, 2005 8:54 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina Bald Eagle project

Mr. Baker:

As a native Californian who now lives in Washington state, I am saddened to hear the funding for this project is "going away". This program is necessary if the bald eagle is to continue to survive in Southern California due to the dumping of chemicals nearby. DDT continues to play a major role in the health of not just these magnificent birds, but in the health of all creatures...including humans.

The money spent on this program is not nearly enough to make or break a budget; perhaps some of the restitution from the superfund sites can fund this endeavor?

I hope this worthwhile project can be continued. It is a small number of people making a huge difference in the lives of these birds, and in our own lives by getting to watch the process. It truly is PRICELESS!

Thank you for your time and attention.

Dianna L. Moore  
Ocean Shores, Wa.  
dlmoor2@coastaccess.com

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Hagedorn, M.D., Fred [fhagedorn@teamumc.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 15, 2005 1:40 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** CATALINA BALD EAGLE RESTORATION PROJECT

IT IS MY HOPE YOU WILL CONTINUE TO FUND THIS IMPORTANT PROJECT. HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF TOURISTS VISIT THE ISLAND EACH YEAR, AND CATALINA VIGOROUSLY PROMOTES THE RETURN OF THE BALD EAGLES TO THE ISLAND. I KNOW THE PROJECT IS DIFFICULT, SINCE THE EGGS MUST BE RETRIEVED, INCUBATED, AND RETURNED; BUT IT IS A WORTHWHILE ENDEAVOR, AND AN UNMATCHED EDUCATIONAL AND PUBLIC AWARENESS OPPORTUNITY. THE EAGLES MAY BE EASIER TO REINTRODUCE TO OTHER AREAS, BUT THEY WILL NOT HAVE THE IMPACT ON THE PUBLIC THAT THE CATALINA PROJECT DOES. THANKS FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION. FRED HAGEDORN, M.D.

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## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** linda [ttalley9@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 15, 2005 5:23 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** eagles

Gentlemen,

While watching these beautiful birds raise a chick on this cam I am awed with the beauty of nature. Ignorance of dumping chemicals into the ocean have hurt them, but watching the three birds in this cam cooperatively feed the chick is uplifting.

The cost is \$270,000.? Wow! That's cheap compared to welfare. My husband and I are teachers in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and have classes watching the eagle cam and teaching lessons about enviromental issues. I imagine the cost of your study is in the millions. Raising children is hard, raising eagles that have been poisoned by humans is even harder. Please don't cut off this great educational tool.

Linda Talley  
Lee High School  
Baton Rouge, La

Tom Talley  
University Terrace Elementary  
Baton Rouge, La

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** n3mwq [n3mwq@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 18, 2005 12:27 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina Eagle Programs  
**Importance:** High

Dear Mr. Baker,

I am writing to implore you to continue funding the Catalina Island Eagle programs. I believe they are a priority and your choice to continue funding will be appreciated by future generations.

I hope that you will consider allocating the needed money; for this is an important decision regarding California's eagles' future. The eagles need your help. Please don't let them down.

Thank you,  
W.T.Gale III



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## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Jane Riskin [janeriskin@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 20, 2005 2:49 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Eagle Project on Catalina

To whom it may concern:

This project is one of the most exciting, wonderful and hopeful projects that has come to my awareness. Humans, taking responsibility for the errors and oversights of other humans, is one of the most noble and important activities we can do with our lives, and with our money.

In the case of the Catalina Island Bald Eagle Restoration Project, at the very least, your support and money are helping to counter the impact of DDT pollution, which causes thin egg shells, which would prevent the chicks from hatching.

Thanks you so much for all the support, financial and other, that you have provided until now.

PLEASE -- do whatever you can do to continue, and promote funding for this project. Do it for our children and grandchildren.

Thank you,

Jane Riskin

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** CliffRider@aol.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 21, 2005 6:43 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Cc:** wgriffin@visitcatalina.org; AMuscat@catalinaconservancy.org; ralphmorrow@catalinaisp.com  
**Subject:** Comments on draft plan for Montrose Settlement Restoration Program

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
 Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
 501 Ocean Blvd., Ste. 4470  
 Long Beach, CA 90802  
 (562) 980-3236

Dear Mr. Baker,

After hearing about the plan to stop funding for bald eagle restoration efforts on Catalina Island, and then reviewing the executive summary of the draft plan posted on your website, I offer the following observations:

1. Catalina Island is perhaps the only place in Southern California where large numbers of visitors can reliably see Bald Eagles in a natural setting. Seeing a Bald Eagle in the wild does far more to reach the human psyche regarding the need to preserve our environment than any number of newspaper articles or television shows.
2. Catalina Island celebrates its Bald Eagles, and uses the whole Bald Eagle recovery project as a means of enlightening over a million visitors a year regarding conservation. Not only the Catalina Island Conservancy is involved in this promotion, but virtually all the commercial tour operators as well as the Catalina Island Chamber of Commerce, which represents most of the businesses on the island. For example, this year's major promotional effort for Catalina Island is the "Eagles in Paradise" program, which includes street art consisting of giant eagles located throughout the town of Avalon, educational programs for kids and adults, and a big celebration in the Catalina Casino Ballroom in early November...all organized by the Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by the business community of Avalon. In a very real sense, the continued presence of Bald Eagles has a direct impact on the economy of Catalina Island and its thousands of residents. If Bald Eagle recovery on Catalina is abandoned for some of the other projects listed in your draft, I can only imagine the level of negative public relations that will occur as a result.
3. The Bald Eagle on Catalina Island is possibly the best yardstick of measure for the ongoing impact of DDT contamination in Southern California's coastal waters. As the highest level predator, the Bald Eagle concentrates the contamination from all the lower levels in the food chain, producing an "integrated" measure of the bio-environmental presence of DDT over time. What else could provide such a highly targeted and sensitive measurement for tracking the progress of environmental recovery?
4. The Bald Eagle Restoration Program on Catalina Island is nearing success. Finally, after years of efforts, some of the eagle pairs are showing trends in DDT levels that should lead to their ability to successfully incubate their own eggs within a few years. Cutting off funding now, on the verge of the outcome that has been the goal of the program since its inception, seems both short-sighted and ill-advised.
5. I have a philosophical problem with using money...collected from the polluters for the purpose of repairing the damage they did...to fix problems they had nothing to do with. For example, Montrose did not introduce rats and feral cats to the Channel Islands. Removing these animals on those islands is an important and worthy goal. The Catalina Island Conservancy has dealt with numerous feral animal problems and continues to do so. But DDT did not cause those problems, and diverting the DDT settlement money to solve them is not fair to those who suffered direct damage as a result of the DDT contamination. I can't see how such a diversion of funds will stand up to public scrutiny.



6. There is another more complex case for maintaining Bald Eagles on Catalina Island. The Catalina Island Fox has just recently been saved from the brink of extinction due to an epidemic of canine distemper. This was accomplished by spending well over a million dollars and countless hours of both paid professional and volunteer time on the project. Although yet to be proved with certainty, it appears that the presence of Bald Eagles on Catalina prevents Golden Eagles from establishing residence on the island. Where the Bald Eagles have not been re-established on the Northern Channel Islands, Golden Eagle depredation has been one of the principal reasons leading to population crashes of Island Fox. Abandoning the Bald Eagle recovery project on Catalina Island may well result in the same dynamic occurring there in the near future, as its population of Bald Eagles die off or move away due to lack of reproductive success. The fox recovery program on Catalina has received extensive positive local, national, and international coverage, from the first understanding of the epidemic, to the captive breeding program, to the release of fox puppies back into the wild, and finally the release of the captive breeding pairs back into the wild with the declaration that the recovery was successful. Once again, I can only imagine the interest level on the part of all those same newspaper and television reporters to the story that Catalina's Bald Eagle restoration project, on the brink of potential success, is being abandoned in favor of killing cats on the Northern Channel Islands, and that this abandonment may put Catalina's fox in danger once again.

In summary, I believe that there are rational, scientific, economic and equitable reasons for continuing support of the Catalina Island Bald Eagle recovery program, and very real public relations risks for not doing so. I would therefore strongly recommend that whatever program decisions are made as a result of public input to the draft recommendations, that continued full funding of the Catalina Island Bald Eagle recovery program be included in the final outcome.

Respectfully,

Clifford Hague

Note: I have written this letter to you and your organization as an individual expressing my own personal opinions regarding the various points I've raised. I should disclose that I have direct relationships with certain organizations, including a number based on Catalina Island, but also that the statements and opinions expressed above are mine only, and do not reflect any formal position by any of the organizations with which I am associated.

Clifford Hague  
 Chairman, Catalina Transportation Services, Inc.  
 Chairman, Catalina Island Vacation Rentals, Inc.  
 President, Catalina Island Property Management  
 President, Catalina Island Museum Board of Trustees  
 Director, Catalina Island Conservancy Board  
 Member, Catalina Island Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau  
 Member, National Resource Defense Council  
 Member, Nature Conservancy  
 Member, World Wildlife Fund  
 Full-time resident of Avalon, California

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Brooks, Miranda [Miranda.Brooks@fra.dot.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 22, 2005 9:31 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Eagles

What a fascinating and environmentally important the Catalina bald eagle project is! It should not be on anyone's projected agenda to in any way alter or end this program.

We do so much horrible damage to our animals on this planet and most of the time I don't see us doing anything about it. We hear there are studies done but not very often does one see actual events taking place to help a species survive. When one does, it helps keep us from being totally lost in recklessness. This is one project that is working and it gives us humans just a little bit of our humanity back.

Please do not stop the project! If anything this project should be encouraged and supported and continued and hailed as a great thing. We kill baby seals and we are about to do damage to the animals in Alaska. Let this project continue and perhaps it's beacon of humane caring and decency towards our environment and animals will somehow reach out to others.

Thank you,

Miranda J. Brooks

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Dirk H. Van Vuren [dhvanvuren@ucdavis.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2005 10:55 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina Eagles

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program

Dear Mr. Baker;

I am writing to comment on one aspect of the Draft Restoration Plan of the Montrose Trustee Council: the plan to stop funding the restoration of bald eagles to Catalina Island. I am strongly opposed to this action, and I believe the funding for bald eagle restoration to Catalina Island should be continued.

The Draft Plan argues that funding should be stopped because the eagle population on Catalina is not self-sustaining--and that this is because of continued effects of the DDT contamination caused by Montrose. The problem with this argument is that the concept of "restoration" is not limited to establishing self-sustaining populations; rather, it means restoring a functioning ecosystem. Actions by Montrose caused the extirpation of bald eagles from the Catalina Island ecosystem, and settlement funds should be used to undo this damage. The question of whether or not the eagle population is self-sustaining is secondary, and is a financial question, not an ecological one. Many restoration projects require annual support for many years, and funding only those that we can walk away from in a few years generates a short-term mentality that defeats the concept of restoration.

Sincerely,

Dirk Van Vuren, Professor  
Department of Wildlife, Fish, and Conservation Biology University of California  
Davis, CA 95616

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Rick Brown [rnb2@humboldt.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2005 1:21 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Bald Eagle Restoration Dismissed?



Letter in response  
to planned ...

Hello,

Please find the attached comment on the plan to stop funding eagle restoration in the Channel Islands with monies from the Montrose Settlements. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this comment.

Best Regards,

Richard N. Brown  
Department of Wildlife  
Humboldt State University  
1 Harpst Street  
Arcata, CA 95521

Office Phone: (707) 826-3320  
Office Fax: (707) 826-4060  
E-mail: RNB2@humboldt.edu



**HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**Department of Wildlife**

25 April, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
(562-980-3236)  
Email:msrp@noaa.gov

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to provide a comment on the chosen alternative for allocating funds from the Montrose Settlement for the restoration of the Southern California Bight. I am specifically concerned that you are planning to end bald eagle restoration in the Channel Islands. It is clear to everyone that pollution, specifically DDT and PCB contaminants, led to the decline in bald eagles in the region. It is also equally clear that the establishment of nesting golden eagles in the Channel Islands resulted, at least in part, from the decline of bald eagles. Thirdly, predation on island foxes by golden eagles is understood to be a primary threat to the viability of the four subspecies of island foxes listed separately as endangered under the ESA. Thus, humans caused the decline of bald eagles, bald eagle restoration is an essential component of long term management of golden eagles in the Channel Islands, and bald eagles are therefore an essential component in the management of four endangered foxes in the Channel Islands.

Unfortunately, funding for conservation programs, even of high profile species including bald eagles and island foxes, is always limited. The Montrose Settlement has been used to support bald eagle restoration in the Channel Islands during past couple of years, and the funding is considered essential for the future viability of the bald eagle restoration program. While I am aware that DDT and PCB levels persist in the food chain, and that eagle reproduction may not be sustainable because of the persistence of these pollutants in and around the Channel Islands, I am also a firm believer in the necessity to maintain high profile conservation efforts. Bald eagles were a top predator, and they are an essential component of the ecological web of the region. By cutting the funding to bald eagle restoration, it is my belief that you are unnecessarily jeopardizing efforts directed toward the recovery of both the bald eagle and the four listed island foxes (which indirectly suffer as a result of pollution on which the settlement is based), and that you are ignoring public demands for the continued conservation of bald eagles. I encourage you to reconsider this aspect of the preferred alternative or to choose a different alternative such as Alternative 3.

Thank you for your time,

*Richard N. Brown*  
Richard N. Brown, PhD, DVM  
Department of Wildlife  
Humboldt State University  
Arcata, CA 95521

707-826-3320  
RNB2@humboldt.edu

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Brian Cagan [brian.cagan@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2005 1:24 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** bald eagle program  
**Importance:** High

Dear Mr. Baker,

I have been following the eagle restoration program on Catalina for over 1 year now and I cannot begin to tell you the great pleasure it has brought me. Knowing that someone is helping to increase the bald eagle population in southern California is very comforting. With humans taking away the habitat from animals all over the world, it is of utmost importance to help them survive when we can. I watched the fostering of the chick into the West End nest last year and checked on her every day. I am again watching the new chick with equal interest. My conversations with friends inevitably include the phrase, "did you see the chick today?"

I had the honor of seeing a Catalina Island eagle up close and it was an experience I will never forget. If this program ends, very few people will ever get to have that amazing opportunity. Having the chance to see a bald eagle, the symbol of our country, is something every child is entitled to. I do not use the term loosely, but they are truly awesome creatures. I know I speak for many people when I say please do not end this program.

Thank you,

Denise Ransom Cagan

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** ANTONIO VILLARREAL [royalvillage33@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 25, 2005 8:23 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Bald Eagles

Is it true that Montrose Settlements Restoration Program is abandoning the project to repair the damages done to the Bald Eagle population? I believe this to be a devastating decision of it is true. I strongly feel that you should not be allowed to abandon your responsible to the environment damages produced by your company. Please continue the efforts to save the Bald Eagle population of Catalina Island. You need to fix what you broke.

ANTONIO

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Pamela Upton [uptonpamela@qwest.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 26, 2005 6:41 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Montrose Restoration Program

Dear Sir:

I am writing to voice my opinion on the Montrose Restoration Program for bald eagles on Catalina islands. Please don't let a corporation get away with polluting a habitat by allowing them to cease funding this program. Only now, some 40 years after DDT was banned are we beginning to see a rebound in the populations of birds of prey here in the Midwest where I live. Restoration efforts must continue!

Thank you,

Pamela S. Upton  
763-323-9853



Alexandra Winqvist  
USC WMSC  
One Big Fisherman's Cove  
Avalon CA 90704

April 26, 2005

In regards to: Bald Eagle Restoration

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlement Restoration Program  
501 Ocean Blvd, Suite 4470  
Long Beach CA 90802

Dear Sir:

Please do not put the Catalina bald eagle program at risk by removing funding. Funding made possible by the Montrose Settlement Restoration Program is vital to the survival of Catalina's burgeoning bald eagle populations, the return of Catalina to a healthy ecosystem, the protection of the endangered Catalina Island Fox, and environmental and marine education in southern California.

At the University of Southern California's Wrigley Marine Science Center we regularly bring people to learn about and admire the beauty of the bald eagle. These people, of all ages, come from all over – from southern California to the maritime provinces of Canada to East Asia. The bald eagle program is essential to our visitors understanding the importance of bald eagles on Catalina, conservation, and the importance of foresight in daily decisions regarding the environment.

Please continue to support the bald eagle program on Catalina.

Sincerely,



Alexandra Winqvist, USC WMSC Education staff

Leslie Baer, MAOM  
Chief Communications Officer  
Catalina Island Conservancy

Comments to the Montrose Settlement Restoration Program Public Hearing  
April 28, 2005 – Long Beach Federal Building

Good morning. My name is Leslie Baer and I am the Chief Communications Officer for the Catalina Island Conservancy. I know that you have already heard the concerns of our President and Chief Executive Officer, Ann Muscat, so I will not restate those here for the Committee in detail. I will however state those concerns in brief for the members of other concerned organizations, and for the public who are here today.

As most people here today probably already know, the Montrose Settlement was established after Montrose Chemical Company and others were found culpable for the systematic dumping of DDT and PCBs over decades. The marine environment around Catalina Island and the San Pedro Basin was particularly hard-hit. These chemicals in the offshore sediments were determined to be the cause of the total disappearance of bald eagles and peregrine falcons from Catalina Island by the early 1960s. They were also the cause of failed nesting of numerous sea birds, and of the contamination of a number of popular eating fish.

Today, 20 bald eagles call Catalina Island home thanks to a comprehensive restoration effort by the Institute for Wildlife Studies (IWS), which works directly with eagle eggs to ensure reproduction; and the Catalina Island Conservancy, which protects in perpetuity the habitat that the eagles and other important species call home.

While the Conservancy's restoration and protection efforts are privately funded, the intensive efforts by the Institute for Wildlife Studies have, in recent years, been funded by monies from the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program. The current proposal by the Montrose Natural Resource Trustees would reallocate these funds to efforts on the Northern Channel Islands and islands well south in Mexico.

The Catalina Island Conservancy respectfully disagrees with the alternatives favored by the Trustees, which would discontinue funding of eagle restoration efforts on Catalina Island and which could have a number of highly undesirable impacts.

There are a number of reasons to continue funding Catalina's bald eagle restoration, and taking it a step further, to allocate additional funding for peregrine falcons and marine fisheries restoration. I'll state six of those reasons today:

First, it is too soon to abandon efforts on Catalina Island. According to the most current data from the Institute for Wildlife Studies, the organization that is actually handling bald eagle eggs on Catalina Island, DDT levels are decreasing in the eggs of at least one pair of nesting eagles. This suggests that Catalina's bald eagles may soon be able to reproduce on their own, and that it is simply too soon to abandon restoration efforts on Catalina.

A second reason to continue funding, is that in the absence of the human intervention which is now ensuring reproduction, the bald eagles now present on Catalina Island may leave. It cannot be assumed that Catalina's current population of eagles would stay on the Island if they couldn't reproduce over the next few years; and, in fact, the reallocation of funds could mean the disappearance once again of bald eagles from Catalina, the island hardest hit by Montrose dumping. And since many eagles produced on Catalina relocate to Northern Channel Islands, discontinuing funding on Catalina could negatively impact restoration efforts on all the Channel Islands.

A third reason to continue funding restoration efforts on Catalina Island, is that based on the stated goals of the settlement, public access to bald eagles should be a priority. With more than a million visitors each year, and as the only Channel Island with significant visitation, Catalina Island is the one place in Southern California that a significant number of people can visit to enjoy bald eagles in a natural setting. Since the Montrose Settlement was meant to restore this natural resource to the public, Catalina should be a priority where funding restoration efforts is concerned.

A fourth reason, is that settlement monies are most appropriately used on and near Catalina. Montrose Settlement monies were meant to address damage to natural resources such as bald eagles that were impacted by DDT and PCBs directly. These monies were not meant for addressing the impacts of introduced predators and invasive plant species that are now negatively impacting sea bird populations. The Trustees are proposing that as an alternative to funding the important bald eagle or peregrine falcon restoration work on Catalina, or fisheries restoration around Catalina, the monies be reallocated to fund bald eagle and marine restoration on the Northern Channel Islands and for the eradication of cats and rats, some of which would be done in Mexico. These locations are far from Catalina and the San Pedro Basin, the site of the greatest impacts of the dumping. In order to meet stated goals of the Montrose Settlement, these funds should be applied in the areas of greatest impact, making Catalina Island and its surrounding waters the most appropriate site for use of Montrose Settlement funds.

A fifth reason to continue funding bald eagle restoration on Catalina, is that in the absence of bald eagles, Catalina's Endangered fox may be at risk. While much is still unknown, it is possible that the presence of bald eagles on Catalina deters the

formation of a golden eagle population. Golden eagles have decimated Island fox populations in the Northern Channel Islands. Discontinuing bald eagle restoration efforts on Catalina is simply too risky to the continued recovery of the Catalina Island fox, which is federally listed as an endangered species and is found on Catalina and nowhere else in the world.

A sixth reason to continue funding on Catalina is pure economics: Catalina is the most cost-effective investment of Montrose monies. An investment in Catalina's recovery efforts is an investment in a comprehensive eagle recovery effort which includes the human intervention still necessary to ensure reproduction, the protection and restoration of bald eagle habitat that is critical to the birds' survival on the Island, and, important educational outreach efforts that engender an appreciation of these magnificent birds and inspire the public to support their reestablishment and protection.

Members of the Committee, in your proposal, your preferred alternatives spend settlement money on species in far-away places. The Catalina Island Conservancy would ask that you create an alternative that guarantees that you will continue to provide funds for bald eagle restoration work on Catalina – just about \$250,000 a year of the \$25 million you have stated remains for this type of restoration. This investment would ensuring that these magnificent birds will fly free for millions of Catalina visitors to enjoy today, and throughout future generations.

We also wish to note that bald eagles, peregrine falcons, and sea birds need a healthy ocean and island. The Committee also proposes to spend significant funds supporting research on fisheries in the recently designated Marine Protected Areas on the Northern Channel Islands. Catalina, the island hardest hit and most visited, should also be considered for funding for its fisheries and ecosystems.

In conclusion, I would respectfully suggest to you today, that not only is it imperative that bald eagle restoration efforts on Catalina continue to be funded, but also, that funding bald eagle restoration on Catalina Island is the very best use for Montrose Settlement dollars, and, is the **ONLY** use that even begins to meet the goal of the settlement to return this resource to the public.

Thank you.

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Post Office Box 484  
Avalon, CA 90704  
April 29, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am writing in regard to the proposal by the Montrose Settlement Restoration Program Committee to end funding of the Catalina Island Bald Eagle Reintroduction Program. I have a concern that such a proposal is under consideration, as I believe that the purpose of this Montrose settlement was supposed to, in part, restore lost natural resources in the southern California area.

I spent my growing up years on Catalina Island and one of the exciting experiences for me and countless other residents and visitors alike was the opportunity to see magnificent bald eagles living along the coastline. The dumping of DDT by the Montrose Chemical Corporation helped put an end to this. Thanks to the efforts of the past twenty or so years, once again, millions of people are enjoying the site of our national symbol residing here.

Three eaglets were recently hatched from eggs produced on the island this year. I understand that this success rate is greater than ever before in eggs hatched through human intervention. It appears to me that progress is being made toward future eggs being able to hatch on their own. What a shame to drop this program when such progress is being made.

Even if eagles were not able to successfully hatch without human intervention, is it not the purpose of the Montrose settlement to restore lost resources? If human intervention is the only way to achieve this with Catalina's eagle population, it would be very much in keeping with that purpose to continue this very worthwhile effort.

More and more is being learned each year as to the importance each native species is to the overall ecological health of Catalina. I respectfully urge the Montrose Settlement Restoration Program Committee to continue funding this important and worthwhile restoration effort.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Rose Ellen Gardner  
President and CEO, Retired  
Catalina Island Conservancy

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Lou Ann Denison [lannd4animals@charter.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 01, 2005 2:08 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Keep Funding for Bald Eagles!

Gary Baker, Program Manager

As you know restoration funds were funded by those companies that were responsible for the decline of animals affected by the duping of DDT. Eagles were especially affected-- so now that money should be used to help restore the important population of Bald Eagles on Catalina Island. This is important to the Catalina Island fox population as well. Please support continuation of the funding for the Bald Eagle Rehabilitation Program!

Thank you.

Mr. & Mrs. James L. Denison  
6931 E. 11th St.  
Long Beach, CA 90815

## GLEN A. SMITH

---

1701 E. Park St.  
Bellflower, CA 90706  
562-804-9152  
smithgl@msa.com

May 1, 2005

**Greg Baker, Program Manager**  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

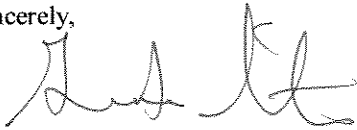
Dear Mr. Baker,

I wish to express my concern that earmarked Catalina Island funds designated to restore the Bald Eagle population on the island is in danger of being reallocated elsewhere. This is a very bad proposal since diversion of funds for the most heavily impacted area providing habitat to such critical keystone species is folly. Restoring the marine system in the Catalina Island and San Pedro basin area is of paramount importance to keeping a stable and thriving environment for this Bald Eagle species.

We all know a healthy wildlife community is representative of a healthy environment, and maintaining such is a positive feedback to island visitors wishing to enjoy a healthy lifestyle!

Please stop the proposed diversion of the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program funds away from the Catalina Island and San Pedro basin area.

Sincerely,



Glen A. Smith

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** The McKays [mckays@catalinaisp.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 02, 2005 12:47 PM  
**To:** greg.baker@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina Island Bald Eagle Project

Dear Mr. Baker,

I am very concerned about your proposal to scrap the Catalina Island Bald Eagle project. This project has resulted in several pairs of breeding birds and a growing population, yet you propose to withdraw funding because the eggs still rely on human intervention in order to be successfully hatched. I cannot fathom your logic. Human intervention was needed at the outset because of DDT in the ecosystem, and that DDT still exists in the waters off Catalina Island. Therefore, human intervention in order to overcome the deleterious effects of the chemical for which the Montrose Fund was established may always be required. I feel you would be making a huge political and ecological mistake to simply abandon the project.

Politically, the public will have an even more negative view of the company responsible for DDT. You will be viewed not only as the creator of this terrible chemical, but the company that pulled the rug out from this highly visible bald eagle project. The return of the eagle has become a major source of pride and symbolic of Catalina Island's native heritage. Thousands of visitors annually are enthralled by the story of the reintroduction of the bald eagle to Catalina Island.

Ecologically, I view the abandonment of these eagles as terribly inhumane. They are finally able, with human assistance, to thrive in their former channel island home. I see withdrawing your support as punishing the bald eagles because they have not been able to overcome the damage created by your DDT in their food chain. I understand that the northern channel islands eagle project may have greater success, due to less DDT in the food chain, but please keep in mind that it was no fault of the bald eagle that DDT nearly caused their extinction. Both projects deserve funding.

Sincerely, Karen McKay [mckays@catalinaisp.com](mailto:mckays@catalinaisp.com)



## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Pollina, Bettie Jean [BPollina@stclaircounty.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 03, 2005 8:27 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Bald Eagle funding

I feel that it would be in the best interest of the country to continue the funding. We are starting to bring these beautiful eagles back. Let's keep up the good work, and not lose what has been accomplished.

The Eagle is the representative of our great country. What is next, if we lose them?

*BETTIE JEAN POLLINA*

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Fritz Hertel [fritz.hertel@csun.edu]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 04, 2005 8:52 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Bald Eagles

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Greg Baker,

This is a quick comment with regards to the Montrose Restoration Plan for the California Channel Islands. I have read the section on the Bald Eagle and I would like to encourage continued funding for the their restoration on the islands. I see that funds have proposed for certain aspects of the Bald Eagle project but not necessarily for their reintroduction. I have assisted Dave Garcelon (Institute for Wildlife Studies) with his efforts on various occasions over the years and I think he has made great strides on the behalf of the eagles. Much of what we have learned is the result of his efforts and I think further investment would be worth it. I understand the concerns for not wishing to support certain aspects of the Bald Eagle project but this letter is a word of encouragement for continued support for the reintroduction aspects of the project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Fritz Hertel, Ph.D.  
Department of Biology  
18111 Nordhoff St.  
California State University  
Northridge, CA 91330-8303

Phone: (818) 677-3353  
email: fritz.hertel@csun.edu

*Bette and Frank Brooks*  
27711 Hidden Trail Road  
Laguna Hills, CA 92653  
(949) 643-2301(H)/(949)367-9900(W)  
(949)302-1470 (B-c)/(949)300-1470 (F-c)  
[brooksbe@cox.net](mailto:brooksbe@cox.net)/[brooksfr@cox.net](mailto:brooksfr@cox.net)

May 4, 2004

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker:

Our letter is in regard to the Bald Eagle Restoration Funding Allocation Changes regarding Catalina Island under the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program.

Your Alternative 2 Plan looks comprehensive. It shows the overview of financial allocation; What we can't determine is exactly how it affects that destination which is near and dear to our hearts, Catalina Island. Since the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program monies are designated to work to provide restoration to those areas hardest hit, then most noticeable would be those areas where tourists and Californians can appreciate those restoration efforts. In regard to land masses, it would seem logical to spend much of that restoration money on the hardest-hit island of Catalina and the waters around it, both because it is the most affected, and because people (who ultimately paid the price for this restoration) like to enjoy that area.

While you have yet to determine whether the bald eagle will be able to reproduce on its own or not, it seems that this is exactly what the restoration monies are supposed to do – work at restoring the natural habitat and the natural processes which contribute to it. It may take longer than 'expected' and in fact may never be totally achieved, but the advances made on that behalf are the very purpose designated by CERCLA. The added advantage of potentially restoring the bald eagle population, and quality of water and marine life surrounding Catalina, is that those efforts would be doubly rewarded because of the appreciation of the public for those very efforts. While the other islands may also need attention, they are both farther away from the original contamination (thus hopefully less in need of restoration), and are areas which offer limited access for public enjoyment and appreciation purposes. There must surely be a weight of responsibility on the part of MSRP funding to benefit the public in its restoration efforts. That said, we respectfully request more funding go to Catalina Island's work with the bald eagle population's restoration, and in fact, additional monies be provided for some kind of "Bald Eagle Experience" where the public can enjoy these wonderful birds in their natural habitat.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests in your overall Funding Allocations.

Regards,

*Bette and Frank Brooks*

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Jim & Carolyn Jacob [lobster@sssnet.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 07, 2005 9:28 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina Island Eagle Program

I feel that it would be a tragedy to end what has been a successful and educational program to restore and enhance our national eagle population.

There are so many wonderful people that are involved and so many of us "out here" in the US that care about this project, I cannot imagine that the small percentage of funds from the total budget delegated to this worthwhile cause would be deemed disposable.

I respectfully ask you and your committee to reconsider cancellation of the Catalina Island funding.

I for one will be offering financial assistance to this and three other programs nationally in which I have a personal interest, to the small degree that I can. Hopefully others will too, but we really need a consistent funding source for the base costs to maintain the program.

Hoping for your consideration.

Carolyn Jacob  
4060 Isle Circle NW  
Massillon, OH 44646

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Lou Kridle [Lou@Kridle.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 09, 2005 9:04 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov; Dana@Mail.house.gov; Senator.Lowenthal@sen.ca.gov;  
Frank.clifford@latimes.com; jkay@sfcronicle.com; Cox@Mail.house.gov  
**Subject:** Montrose Settlements Restoration Program - Catalina Island

As you may know, the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program is thinking of discontinuing funding efforts on Catalina Island to restore the bald eagle. They are asking for public comments on their proposal by May 23, 2005.

**Please use your influence to change their mind. Do not let them divert funding away from this critically need effort on Catalina Island.**

Attached, please find a letter I sent to Greg Baker, Program Manager on the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program.

Sincerely,

Lou Kridle

May 9, 2005

To: Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
C/O Greg Baker, Program Manager  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA. 90802

Subject: Funding of eagle restoration efforts on Catalina Island.

Dear Mr. Baker:

**Please do NOT reduce/reallocate funding of the eagle restoration efforts on Catalina Island.**

The Catalina Island effort is a critical part of the Restoration Plan and funding must be maintained at its current level. The recent establishment of an eagle incubation facility ON Catalina Island shows how Catalina Island is the focal point for the successful efforts to reestablish the bald eagle on Catalina Island as well as other Northern Channel Islands.

Monies from the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program must NOT be diverted from efforts on Catalina Island at this critical time. Current data from The Institute For Wildlife Studies indicates that DDT levels are decreasing in the eggs of one pair of nesting eagles. BUT, it is simply too soon to abandon restoration efforts on Catalina Island.

In your options to use available funding in a wise manner, I plead with you to continue funding the eagle restoration efforts on Catalina Island at its current level. Please do NOT divert critically needed funds from Catalina Island's efforts for the restoration of the bald eagle.

Sincerely,

Lou Kridle  
PO Box 8823  
Anaheim, CA. 92812  
(714) 536-7151

- A lover of our natural environment and Catalina Island's wildlife.
- A property owner on Catalina Island, as well as a visitor there for over 50 years.

**Marnie Gaede**

5218 Donna Maria Lane  
La Canada, CA 91011  
818-952-0108

May 8, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlement Restoration Programs  
501 West Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

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MAY 10 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

Dear Mr. Baker:

As a citizen and a teacher I should like to comment on the Draft Restoration Plan that outlines how funds will be used to help wildlife recover from the impact of DDT in the Southern California oceans. I have read your Draft Restoration Plan and in the Executive Summary I would like to differ with the preferred Alternative 2, under which funding for the Catalina Island Bald Eagles would cease after 2005. Instead I prefer Alternative 3 because it would continue the effort to maintain the 5 nests on Catalina Island.

I teach Environmental Issues at Art Center College of Design in Pasadena. There isn't much "good news" and each term I refer my students to the great collaborative work between the Montrose Settlement and the Institute for Wildlife Studies. In fact, this is my visual poster child for a chemical company taking responsibility for the impact of DDT upon wildlife. Each spring my students watch the Bald Eagle's nest, noting the necessity for fostering the chicks into the nests due to weakened eggshells.

I understand that the goal of this program is for the Bald Eagles to be self-sustaining in their re-establishment to the Catalina Island ecosystem. I also believe that there hasn't been enough time given to the project and that continued fostering and manipulation is important. Many have criticized the effort and financial cost made in restoring the California Condor to the wild. Through that effort, many conservation strategies were discovered that have benefited other species recovery efforts. The Catalina Bald Eagles may be able to provide important strategies for long-term chemical impacts and long-term recovery efforts.

A great deal of effort has gone in to establishing the nests and territories for these eagles. If the project loses funding and the nests fail to reproduce offspring, the Bald Eagles may abandon the Catalina ecosystem. If the ecosystem subsequently recovers from the DDT and PCB contamination, the Bald Eagle repatriation would, in effect, need to start over again. That is why I recommend continuing the work of the Catalina Bald Eagles. It is an optimistic investment in the future.

There are many citizens and students that have watched these Bald Eagles via the web cam. For many, including myself, it is wonderful to watch the process of re-establishing this wonderful bird to the Catalina Island ecosystem. The three Eagles on the West End nest are inspirational and educational.

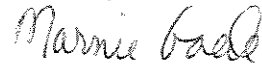
I have given many talks to Elementary and Secondary school classes on the importance of being a good steward to the planet and how to protect wildlife and biodiversity. The Bald Eagle project on Catalina demonstrates how human intervention can work to help repair the damage done to an ecosystem. I always refer to this project in my lectures.

I hope that the Trustees see that these benefits outweigh the cost and the as yet unknown time for complete recovery. It took thirty years and millions of pounds of DDT to create the problem, and I believe it needs more time to see if all the efforts to date can contribute to success in the future. Why jeopardize the Bald Eagle territories before all efforts to stem the effects of DDT have been exercised?

The current program of restoration is the best choice for the Bald Eagles of Catalina and the Channel Islands. This program recognizes the goal to return an injured natural resources to respective baselines. The Institute for Wildlife Studies non-profit has done an outstanding job of including the public in the effort supported by the Montrose Settlement Restoration Program. The techniques learned on Catalina will benefit the effort on the Channel Islands, as well as other ecosystems that have been damaged by chemicals.

I also believe that what is good for the Bald Eagle will ultimately benefit numerous other species in the ecosystem and request continued support for the Catalina Bald Eagles nests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marnie Gaede".

Marnie Gaede



MAY 12 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SMR

Date: May 9, 2005  
To: Greg Baker, Program Manager, Montrose Settlement Restoration Program  
From: Jack Baldelli

Subject: Opposition to Stopping Bald Eagle Restoration Program on Catalina Island

I have been coming to Catalina Island since 1957 and have seen first hand the positive changes that have been taking place in the Island's ecosystem. For over 30 years the Catalina Island Conservancy has worked tirelessly to raise private dollars to restore habitat on Catalina Island. Just this month they discovered a plant thought to be extinct on the Island. The Conservancy has also been paying for the restoration of Catalina's ecosystem so that Bald Eagles can have a healthy habitat in which to live. While the Montrose Settlement has supported the Bald Eagle Restoration Program for the last five years, the Conservancy and others have been contributing to its success for the past 25 years. Nonetheless, I would like to thank the Trustees for their support of the existing Eagle Restoration Program on Catalina Island. It is one of my greatest thrills to see with my own eyes eagles nesting and living on Catalina. It would be a crime to stop this program at this time. It would eliminate our national bird for a second time, and this is wrong and a foolish mistake that should not be allowed to happen.

Here are some of the reasons why I feel the program on Catalina Island should be continued:

1. I do not feel that the Montrose Settlement money should be use to kill cats and rats on Mexican Islands and Northern Channel Islands. While this is something that needs to be done, in my opinion it does not even come close to meeting the guidelines of the trust agreements. This appears to be nothing more than a grab for money, and the guidelines for this agenda do not comply with the Montrose Settlement goals. You could justify feeding the homeless with the Montrose money if you use the same logic that is used to fund killing cats in Mexico.
2. I also feel that the Montrose Trustees (all federal and state agencies) channeling almost all of the money to the Northern Channel Islands, which are primarily under federal and state jurisdiction, is a conflict of interest. Catalina and the San Pedro Channel is where the greatest injury by DDTs has been done, and should be receiving the lion's share of this money.
3. It is too early to abandon this program since some of the breeding pairs egg shells may soon be thick enough to hatch on their own. There must also be other ways that the Trustees and the Catalina Island Conservancy can keep this program going. They both need to think out of the box and come up with a program that is cheaper, better and tries different strategies to keep the eagles alive forever on Catalina Island.
4. Catalina is the only place that millions of people in Southern California can see Eagles in the wild. Some of Catalina eagles are flying to the mainland, so that is

another reason to keep the program going. These eagle are supplying mainland populations.

5. The Conservancy has also saved the endangered Catalina Island Fox from near extinction using all of their own money. If the program ends on Catalina Island and the bald eagles leave, this may open up territories for the golden eagles to come in and kill the fox.
6. The plan only has three choices with no room for compromise. I am sure that there is a way to change the money allocations so the Trustees can save our eagles.
7. The Peregrine Falcon is another example where the Montrose Settlement has let the public down. No money is being proposed to help reestablish falcons on the Island, and very little effort has even been made to monitor for the presence of falcons.
8. It also appears that the DDT plume that extends east and west also extends southward toward Catalina Island and no samples have been taken past the continental drop off. We do not know where this DDT plume stops, it may be next to Catalina now and since the Montrose Settlement Program did not even sample fish and sea life around Catalina for DDT contaminates, the public may be at risk for long range poisoning.

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE THAT I HAVE WRITTEN A LETTER LIKE THIS.

PLEASE SAVE THE CATALINA BALD EAGLES AND SPEND THIS MONEY IN THE PLACE HARDEST HIT.

*Joel Bardell.*

MAY 12 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

Advancement

213•763•3346 t  
213•743•4837 f

Mr. Greg Baker  
Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am writing as a concerned California citizen to protest the discontinued funding of eagle restoration efforts at the Catalina Island conservancy. This decision could reverse years of careful and successful work on behalf of the bald eagle, and its results could be catastrophic. It is my hope that the trustees will reconsider their proposal, and vote instead on behalf of the environment, its species and habitat, and the public, not only in California but also around the world. Our decisions and their impact may feel local, but they are indeed global.

The following summarizes a few compelling reasons for your consideration:

- *Too Soon to Abandon Efforts* – According to IWS's current data, DDT levels are decreasing in the eggs of at least one pair of nesting eagles. This suggests that Catalina's bald eagles may soon be able to reproduce on their own, and it is simply too soon to abandon restoration efforts on Catalina.
- *Eagles Now Present May Leave* – It cannot be assumed that Catalina's current population of eagles would stay on the Island if they couldn't reproduce over the next few years; and, in fact, the reallocation of funds could mean the disappearance once again of bald eagles from Catalina. This could impact all of the Channel Islands.
- *Public Access to Eagles Should Be a Priority!* – With more than a million visitors each year, and as the only Channel Island with significant visitation, Catalina Island is the one place in Southern California that a significant number of people can visit to enjoy bald eagles in a natural setting. Since the Montrose Settlement was meant to restore this natural resource to the public, **Catalina should be a priority** where funding restoration efforts is concerned.
- *Settlement Monies Are Most Appropriately Used On and Near Catalina* – Montrose Settlement monies were meant to address damage to natural

resources such as bald eagles that were impacted by DDT and PCBs directly. They were not meant for addressing the impacts of introduced predators and invasive plant species that are now negatively impacting sea bird populations. The Trustees are proposing that as an alternative to funding the important bald eagle or peregrine falcon restoration work on Catalina, or fisheries restoration around Catalina, the monies be reallocated to fund bald eagle and marine restoration on the Northern Channel Islands and for the eradication of cats and rats, some of which would be done in Mexico. These locations are far from Catalina and the San Pedro Basin, the site of the greatest impacts. In order to meet stated goals of the Montrose Settlement, these funds should be applied in the areas of greatest impact, making Catalina Island and its surrounding waters the most appropriate site for use of Montrose Settlement funds.

- *Catalina's Endangered Fox is at Risk* – Abandoning bald eagle restoration on Catalina may put the Catalina Island fox population at risk. While much is unknown, it is possible that the presence of bald eagles on Catalina deters the formation of a golden eagle population. Golden eagles have decimated Island fox populations in the Northern Channel Islands. Discontinuing bald eagle restoration efforts on Catalina is simply too risky to the continued recovery of the Catalina Island fox, which is federally listed as an endangered species and is found on Catalina and nowhere else in the world.
- *Catalina's Bald Eagles Fuel Recovery Elsewhere* – The bald eagles that are being produced on Catalina Island are a potential source population for recovery of bald eagles on the Northern Channel Islands, and for the adjacent mainland.
- *Catalina is the Most Cost-Effective Investment* – An investment in Catalina's recovery efforts is an investment in a comprehensive eagle recovery effort which includes the human intervention still necessary to ensure reproduction, the protection and restoration of eagle habitat that is critical to the birds' survival on the Island, and, important educational outreach efforts that engender an appreciation of these magnificent birds and inspire the public to support their reestablishment and protection.
- *Support the Catalina Bald Eagle Alternative* – In their own plan, the Committee identifies an alternative that would use part of the settlement

funds to support eagle restoration on Catalina until Northern Channel Island eagles are reproducing. In that alternative, the Trustees are proposing \$10 million for that purpose, which in fact, at only \$250,000 per year on Catalina, could fund both Catalina Island and Northern Channel Island bald eagle restoration in perpetuity from just the interest! They would prefer, however, to spend the money on species in far-away places. Please ask that they create an alternative that continues to provide funds for bald eagle restoration work on Catalina, ensuring that these magnificent birds will fly free for millions of Catalina visitors to enjoy today and throughout future generations.

- *Support Habitat Restoration on Catalina Island* – Bald eagles, peregrine falcons, and sea birds need a healthy ocean and island. The Committee also proposes to spend significant funds supporting research on fisheries in the recently designated Marine Protected Areas on the Northern Channel Islands. Catalina, the island hardest hit and most visited, should be considered for funding for its fisheries and ecosystems.

We look forward to your continued support.

Sincerely,



Dyan Sublett  
Senior Vice President, Advancement  
Natural History Museum, Los Angeles

**Ron von Freyermann**  
8312 Atlanta Avenue, Unit 102  
Huntington Beach, CA 92646  
714-374-1330

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MAY 12 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

May 10, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Re: Eagle Restoration Program, Catalina

Dear Mr. Baker:

**What are you thinking????**

I just learned that funds previously earmarked to right the wrongs created by the Montrose Company have been tentatively earmarked for other programs that are unrelated to the damage done by Montrose. Montrose's reckless corporate behavior of dumping millions of pounds of DDT and PCB's into the San Pedro basin directly destroyed the marine and wild life environment around Catalina Island. The Company's greed and insensitivity directly destroyed the ability of the American Bald Eagle, **our Nation's symbol**, to reproduce, thus, causing the local extinction of the species. Montrose was ordered to pay nearly \$140,000,000 into a fund to right their wrongs.

Now, your reckless behavior will duplicate Montrose's heinous activities. What are you thinking??? If every dime of the settlement is spent attempting to restore our **Nation's Symbol** to the island of Catalina, it will be money well worth spent!!! To squander valuable resources on environmental issues unrelated to Montrose's merciless acts and in areas other than the United States is mindless and validates Montrose's behavior. You should be ashamed.

I, and millions of other veterans, and the American soldiers currently defending our country have put, and continue to put, their lives on the line to preserve the institutions and culture of our great Country. The Montrose Settlements Restoration Program shuns its moral, ethical, patriotic, and legal obligations to do likewise. A thriving population of our **Nation's symbol** on the island of Catalina, within a few miles of millions of persons in Southern California would be a validation of the intent, if not the letter, of the settlement with Montrose, and a visible and heralded statement of the perseverance of the American mettle. Anything less is unpatriotic.

Very truly yours,



Ron von Freyermann

## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** deanna stone [kahmemela@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 13, 2005 12:44 PM  
**To:** greg.baker@noaa.gov; msrp@noaa.gov; Karnette@assembly.ca.gov; jkay@sfnchronicle.com; Dana@Mail.house.gov; frank.clifford@latimes.com  
**Subject:** bald eagles on catalina island

Dear Sirs and Madames...

This email is a plea to continue the funding for the eagles on Catalina Island. My name is Deanna Stone. I am a adventure kayak guide and a substitute teacher for the islands school. I can tell you that it is truly a gift to be able to see the eagles that live here on this island. Just a few weeks ago Peter Sharpe placed 3 eagle chicks back into there nests, after having to be brooded in an incubator in order for them to survive. The are still unable to make it on their own, due to the chemicals dumped in the ocean. This island , and it's people are dedicated to these eagles. It is a community. We cherish them. Please, continue the funding for the eagle project here. The eagle population is simply not in a place to survive and thrive on it's own.

Below are some supporting reasons for the funding to be continued. Thank you for your time

Deanna Stone

Too Soon to Abandon Efforts □ According to IWS's current data, DDT levels are decreasing in the eggs of at least one pair of nesting eagles. This suggests that Catalina's bald eagles may soon be able to reproduce on their own, and it is simply too soon to abandon restoration efforts on Catalina.

- Eagles Now Present May Leave □ It cannot be assumed that Catalina's current population of eagles would stay on the Island if they couldn't reproduce over the next few years; and, in fact, the reallocation of funds could mean the disappearance once again of bald eagles from Catalina. This could impact all of the Channel Islands.
- Public Access to Eagles Should Be a Priority! □ With more than a million visitors each year, and as the only Channel Island with significant visitation, Catalina Island is the one place in Southern California that a significant number of people can visit to enjoy bald eagles in a natural setting. Since the Montrose Settlement was meant to restore this natural resource to the public, Catalina should be a priority where funding restoration efforts is concerned.
- Settlement Monies Are Most Appropriately Used On and Near Catalina □ Montrose Settlement monies were meant to address damage to natural resources such as bald eagles that were impacted by DDT and PCBs directly. They were not meant for addressing the impacts of introduced predators and invasive plant species that are now negatively impacting sea bird populations. The Trustees are proposing that as an alternative to funding the important bald eagle or peregrine falcon restoration work on Catalina, or fisheries restoration around Catalina, the monies be reallocated to fund bald eagle and marine restoration on the Northern Channel Islands and for the eradication of cats and rats, some of which would be done in Mexico. These locations are far from Catalina and the San Pedro Basin, the site of the greatest impacts. In order to meet stated goals of the Montrose Settlement, these funds should be applied in the areas of greatest impact, making Catalina Island and its surrounding waters the most appropriate site for use of Montrose

#### Settlement funds.

- Catalina's Endangered Fox is at Risk □ Abandoning bald eagle restoration on Catalina may put the Catalina Island fox population at risk. While much is unknown, it is possible that the presence of bald eagles on Catalina deters the formation of a golden eagle population. Golden eagles have decimated Island fox populations in the Northern Channel Islands. Discontinuing bald eagle restoration efforts on Catalina is simply too risky to the continued recovery of the Catalina Island fox, which is federally listed as an endangered species and is found on Catalina and nowhere else in the world.
- Catalina's Bald Eagles Fuel Recovery Elsewhere □ The bald eagles that are being produced on Catalina Island are a potential source population for recovery of bald eagles on the Northern Channel Islands, and for the adjacent mainland.
- Catalina is the Most Cost-Effective Investment □ An investment in Catalina's recovery efforts is an investment in a comprehensive eagle recovery effort which includes the human intervention still necessary to ensure reproduction, the protection and restoration of eagle habitat that is critical to the birds' survival on the Island, and, important educational outreach efforts that engender an appreciation of these magnificent birds and inspire the public to support their reestablishment and protection.
- Support the Catalina Bald Eagle Alternative □ In their own plan, the Committee identifies an alternative that would use part of the settlement funds to support eagle restoration on Catalina in the long term. They would prefer, however, to spend the money on species in far-away places. Please ask that they create an alternative that continues to provide funds for bald eagle restoration work on Catalina, ensuring that these magnificent birds will fly free for millions of Catalina visitors to enjoy today and throughout future generations.
- Support Habitat Restoration on Catalina Island □ Bald eagles, peregrine falcons, and sea birds need a healthy ocean and island. The Committee also proposes to spend significant funds supporting research on fisheries in the recently designated Marine Protected Areas on the Northern Channel Islands. Catalina, the island hardest hit and most visited, should be considered for funding for its fisheries and ecosystems.

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<http://mail.yahoo.com>



**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Kevin Ryan [ryan@iws.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 13, 2005 1:08 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Eagles, Catalina.

Hello Mr. Baker,

I am Writing you this e-mail to encourage you to continue funding the Bald Eagle work on Catalina. I am a biologist working for I.W.S. on Catalina but I am not working on the Eagle of Fox project. I can understand that because of the long-term nature of solving the ddt problem, you may think that the money could be better used elsewhere. I understand that this is an important consideration, however, the presence of the Bald Eagles on Catalina may be a major deterrent to Golden Eagles. We do not want a problem like Santa Cruz island where the Island Foxes are being severely impacted by Golden Eagle predation. Thank you for your time.

Kevin Ryan

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** John King [afishinado@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 13, 2005 3:10 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Blad Eagles on Catalina Island

I run fishing charters around the island and I can tell you that one of the most fascinating experiences for visitors is to see these magnificent birds swoop down from their perch and garb a struggling fish. Although I can understand efforts to move your funding elsewhere, I cannot imagine the return you get could be better anywhere other than Catalina Island. This is one of the most popular destinations in California. Rather than remove funding for the Eagles, I would suggest that you take some of the monies and let folks know what great work you have been supporting for the last number of years.

Just my two cents,

John King  
Afishinado Charters  
323-447-4669

---

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## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Ann Wright [amwright1@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 13, 2005 10:48 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Bald Eagle Catalina restoration

Please do not cut the funding for our bald eagles.

Ann Wright  
212 Descanso  
Avalon

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** colleen mcavoy [mcavoyc@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 13, 2005 11:09 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina Island Bald Eagles

Please continue to fund the effort to restore and protect the bald eagle population on Catalina Island. Having volunteered with the Conservancy last year during my family's annual week-long visit to the Island, I have witnessed their efforts first-hand. Those efforts deserve long-term support. It can take years of steady effort to make a difference!

Colleen McAvoy  
80 Dartmouth Ave  
San Carlos, CA 94070

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** David Barth [davidbarth@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 14, 2005 1:54 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** BALD EAGLES ON CATALINA

I have been a member of the Catalina Conservancy for many years and I applaud Conservancy efforts at restoring the island's natural habitat. But, I have never favored efforts to re-introduce bald eagles to the island, and always considered the eagle program a gigantic waste of money. Money that could have been used for more worthwhile endeavors. Don't waste any more time, effort and money on Catalina eagles.

David Barth, Newport Beach, CA

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Gatsbysimon@aol.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 14, 2005 4:02 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Stop Reallocation of Montrose Funds

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing today to express my great concern at the proposed reallocation of funds for Catalina Island's bald eagle and fox projects. Such reallocation of funds to efforts in the northern Channel Islands and Mexico would greatly harm the worthy, and more importantly, **effective** efforts of the Catalina's resident biologists. Already DDT levels in the eagle eggs have been significantly lowered. Such funding by Montrose to help in clean-up and habitat monitoring have made such important strides possible. To pull funding could potentially take away from such important strides and cause further harm to the future generations of these rare and magnificent creatures. I am also concerned about the future of the island fox as well. Such efforts to repopulate the island after the devastating virus that took the lives of so many fox, would be for naught if golden eagles were to repopulate-- a certainty if bald eagle numbers were to dwindle. Also, like so many visitors to the island, I look forward to seeing the eagles in their natural habitats. It would be a great shame to lose yet another area to view these symbols of our great nation. Perhaps Montrose would prefer to simply settle for a dingy zoo aviary instead?

A Concerned Citizen,

Jennifer Plummer

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Kressgary@aol.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 15, 2005 7:47 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina's Bald Eagle Restoration

Greg,

I ask your support to Continue Funding Catalina's Bald Eagle Restoration. It's too early to give up. The ddt levels are dropping and the eagles are nearly ready, but not yet, to survive on their own. Their survival was the true purpose of the fund. Please don't give up early and divert the money elsewhere.

Gary Kress

Catalina property owner

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** hopedancing@earthlink.net  
**Sent:** Monday, May 16, 2005 2:28 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov; Dana@Mail.house.gov; frank.clifford@latimes.com;  
Karnette@assembly.ca.gov; jkay@sfchronicle.com  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles, OUR NATIONAL SYMBOL!

Dear Friends,

I am a frequent visitor to Catalina Island, and often have had the pleasure of seeing American Bald Eagles in the skies overhead -- both in the interior of the Island, and in Avalon.

I understand that there is much politics around the allocation of funding. In the case of the Montrose Settlement, there appears to be a move to reallocate funding for the restoration of bald eagles from Catalina, the privately-held-for-public-use wildlands most impacted by DDT dumping, to other islands where restoration is managed by federal agencies. (For additional information, see [www.catalinaislandconservancy.org](http://www.catalinaislandconservancy.org) and see story at top of web page).

In this matter, please consider the potential risks to the endangered Catalina Island fox. But beyond the fox, please don't let this kind of politicking endanger the survival on Catalina of bald eagles -- OUR NATIONAL SYMBOL -- which are revered by island residents and the million-plus visitors that journey to the island each year, in part, to see these magnificent birds!

Hope Dancing  
hopedancing@earthlink.net

cc:  
Governor Arnold Swartzenegger  
President George Bush

Leslie C. Baer, MAOM  
Chief Communications Officer  
Catalina Island Conservancy  
(951) 733-2588  
lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org  
[www.catalinaconservancy.org](http://www.catalinaconservancy.org)

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**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** XAVIER634@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, May 16, 2005 3:56 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov; Dana@Mail.house.gov; frank.clifford@latimes.com; Karnette@assembly.ca.gov; jkay@sfchronicle.com  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

Gentlemen,

Please, do not abandon the Catalina Island Eagle project. Since its inception, those of us who live on, or visit Catalina Island on a regular basis, have taken huge pride in the successful birthing of our eagle friends. Many have contributed financially to the project as well. Nothing can be more wonderful than watching the eagle parents take the youngsters on their first flight around the harbor. Visiting the nests is a regular part of our daily life. We take pride in the few eagles that we proudly call our own. I looked with amazement in the Pacific Northwest recently at the sight of hundreds of thriving eagles. I know with continued nurturing our National Bird will be alive and well in Southern California as well. Please don't abandon us. It feels like you are burning the flag of our country.

Thank you.

Mary Ann Xavier

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** steve rocco [roccoland@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 16, 2005 4:17 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov; dana@mailhouse.gov; frankclifford@latimes.com;  
karnette@assembly.ca.gov; amuscat@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** save the eagles

Dear Sirs

As a long time visitor to Catalina Island I was quite dismayed upon hearing of your decision to cutback on funding for the bald eagle program. Seeing eagles on the island is always a trip highlight for not only myself but my guests as well. As you are no doubt well aware Catalina hosts more visitors than all the other Channel Islands a hundred times over. Many of these people would live their whole lives never seeing a bald eagle were it not for the efforts of the conservancy to reintroduce them. This is not to say that the other islands are less important but rather that funds should be concentrated where they could do the most good. Environmentalism begins with public awareness and no other island is capable of producing that level of awareness. Therefore I would like you to please reconsider your decision. Sincerely Steve Rocco

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Ben Myhre [bmyhre@countyofglenn.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 16, 2005 4:19 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov; Dana@Mail.house.gov; frank.clifford@latimes.com; Karnette@assembly.ca.gov; jkay@sfchronicle.com  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

Dear Sirs,

Wildlife West, Inc., has been involved for a number of years on Catalina Island with the wildlife management program. Since 1998 I have personally seen the successes of the Bald Eagle program that has been in place. When I first started with the program in 1998 eagles were seen occasionally. Now on any given day you can see an eagle soaring the skies above the Island and this is entirely due to the success of the program the Catalina Island Conservancy has put in place. The staff of the Conservancy and the Institute for Wildlife Studies have put forth great effort in time and man hours to make this project happen and the results are evident every day. The bald eagle is an integral part of the fragile ecosystem that remains on the Island, please do not let the recovery of this key species be set back by removing the necessary funding needed for this program.

Sincerely,

Ben Myhre  
Wildlife West, Inc.  
P.O. Box 282  
Corning, CA 96021

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Marion Vincent [CHASMARVINCENT@peoplepc.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 16, 2005 4:35 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov; Dana@Mail.house.gov; frank.clifford@latimes.com; Karnette@assembly.ca.gov; jkay@sfchronicle.com  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

Please keep the settlement money from the Chemical Companies for Catalina Island!! I totally support the continuing efforts to increase the Bald Eagle & Peregrine population. It's important, too, because of the fox plight to keep these Birds; it's a vital part of the "living" chain! It is imperative to use the monies for which they were intended!

The Island is vastly visited by people worldwide. My family and I have visited the Island several times, including back-packing and hiking the back-country. We thoroughly enjoy all of Catalina and appreciate all the efforts being carried on by the Conservancy. Catalina is probably the only Island I and my family will ever visit and I'm sure we're not alone! Please keep the money to assist the effort in saving these magnificent creatures who have been put in great jeopardy by Montrose.

Sincerely,  
Charlie & Mar Vincent  
56123 Lee Valley Rd  
Coquille, OR 97423

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** James P Hill [hill@shlaw.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 16, 2005 4:46 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov; Dana@Mail.house.gov; frank.clifford@latimes.com; Karnette@assembly.ca.gov; jkay@sfchronicle.com  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

One of my most indelible memories is from our family's annual boating vacation to Catalina Island. I was kayaking alone just off Hen Rock on an early August morning a few years ago, casting a silver spoon into a nearby bait boil, hoping to hookup a yellowtail or hungry kelp bass. With no advance warning, a lone bald eagle swooped in from the nearby cliffs. The eagle glided down just above the water toward me and the bait ball. Deftly, without a pause, the eagle extended its talons to grasp a mackerel, returning to the cliffs with its catch. I just sat there, stunned but glowing from the experience. I didn't make another cast that day. The memory burns bright still to this day.

Whatever other creatures the Catalina Island Conservancy works to protect, please include the restoration of the bald eagle to Catalina Island. Hopefully, others will be able experience as awesome a sight as I had that past August morning.

Thanks.

Jim Hill  
2215 Willow Street  
San Diego, CA 92106

James P. Hill  
**Sullivan Hill Lewin Rez & Engel**  
A Professional Law Corporation  
550 West C Street, Suite 1500  
San Diego, California 92101  
Tel: 619.595.3226  
Fax: 619.231.4372  
E-mail: [hill@shlaw.com](mailto:hill@shlaw.com)

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** PATRICK.MICHELL@lw.com  
**Sent:** Monday, May 16, 2005 5:03 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Cc:** Dana@Mail.house.gov; frank.clifford@latimes.com; Karnette@assembly.ca.gov; jkay@sfchronicle.com  
**Subject:** Do not discontinue funding of eagle restoration efforts on Catalina Island

Greg Baker, Program Manager

Please do not discontinue or reduce funding of eagle restoration efforts on Catalina Island. We have followed this program over the years and attended presentations when we have had an opportunity to visit Catalina. The Bald Eagle is environmentally good for the island.

Thank you.

### **Patrick Michell**

633 West Fifth Street, Suite 4000  
Los Angeles, CA 90071-2007  
Direct Dial: (213) 891-8169  
Fax: (213) 891-8763  
Home: (323) 221-0929  
Email: patrick.michell@lw.com  
[www.lw.com](http://www.lw.com)

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Latham & Watkins LLP

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Sarah Hinton [scullster78@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 16, 2005 6:05 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov; Dana@Mail.house.gov; frank.clifford@latimes.com; Karnette@assembly.ca.gov; jkay@sfchronicle.com  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

Hello,

My name is Sarah Hinton. I have lived in California my entire life. I am currently a Master's student in Geography at SDSU. Every summer since I was a little girl, my family has vacationed on Catalina Island. I really feel that the bald eagle restoration program should be continued on the island. For the past three years, my family members and I have volunteered with the Conservancy during our vacation, and we plan to do so again this year. A highlight of our volunteering efforts has been wonderful visits to the eagle breeding center and meeting with the dedicated and caring staff. There are many reasons the eagle restoration program should be continued:

- 1) I agree with the Conservancy that it is too early to stop funding this program. The eagles are on the brink of recovery and need humans' continued support if they are to survive and flourish.
- 2) This program is the best fit for the stated goals of the Montrose Settlement, specifically using money to restore areas most heavily impacted by the DDT.
- 3) The eagles are an integral part of the natural ecosystem of the island and are perhaps helping to protect the endangered Catalina Island Fox by limited the population of their main predator, the golden eagle. Therefore, the disappearance of the bald eagles could spell disaster for the endemic foxes.
- 4) Catalina is a very cost-effective investment because it is so close to the mainland and is enjoyed by thousands of southern California residents each year.

I have personally seen the eagles soaring over Catalina, and let me tell you, it is a wonderous sight!

I strongly urge the Montrose Natural Resource Trustees to reconsider their proposal to eliminate funding for the eagle restoration program on Catalina Island! As a concerned citizen and admirer of the wonderful work the Conservancy does to protect this amazing natural resource, I will be watching this issue closely.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sarah Hinton

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Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around  
<http://mail.yahoo.com>

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** CHRIS HUFF [CHUF@peoplepc.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 16, 2005 6:16 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov; Dana@Mail.house.gov; frank.clifford@latimes.com; Karnette@assembly.ca.gov; jkay@sfchronicle.com  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

Dear MSRP:

I'm a science teacher with a M.S. degree in wildlife and fisheries sciences. According to IWS's current data, DDT levels are decreasing in the eggs of at least one pair of nesting eagles. This suggests that Catalina's bald eagles may soon be able to reproduce on their own, and it is simply too soon to abandon restoration efforts on Catalina.

Sincerely,

Chris Huff, M.S.

"Democracy is hard work. American democracy requires constant vigilance to survive and nothing short of total engagement to flourish." Steve Earle



## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** John Laun [jlaun@apogee.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 16, 2005 7:07 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov; Dana@Mail.house.gov; frank.clifford@latimes.com; Karnette@assembly.ca.gov; jkay@sfchronicle.com  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

As a Southern Californian who regularly enjoys Catalina Island's many delights, I would like to urge the continuation of funding by the Montrose Natural Resource Trustees for the Catalina Island Bald Eagle program. The Bald Eagle is majestic, and a vital habitat for the beautiful creature so close to so many citizens is a treasure.

Thanks for your consideration of this plea.

John Laun  
San Diego, CA  
619.840.4804

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** michael-stuart@sbcglobal.net  
**Sent:** Monday, May 16, 2005 8:41 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov; Dana@Mail.house.gov; frank.clifford@latimes.com;  
Karnette@assembly.ca.gov; jkay@sfchronicle.com  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

To all interested parties,

The word Restore means, to return to the original condition. In relation to the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program, the bald eagles on Catalina Island are still a very long way from being restored to the healthy breeding colony they originally were. Montrose Chemical and the other's fatal misjudgment may very well have a severe impact on these birds and other species in the future. Without the continued support of the Institute of Wildlife Studies and the Catalina Island Conservancy the symbol of our country, these bald eagle, may become one more environmental failure do to further misjudgment of funding.

When protecting a species you need to look at the big picture and not the quick fix and I speak from the voice of experience. I'm the founder of the Amazonia Foundation which is well known for its successful environmental related projects in South America over the last 16 years.

Thank you,

Michael Stuart

[amazoniafoundation.org](http://amazoniafoundation.org)

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Sea Peterson [teacher@catalinas.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2005 5:12 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Eagles Restoration on Catalina Island

Dear Mr. Baker and board members.

It is early Saturday morning on the Isthmus of Catalina Island, boats are gently rocking on their moorings while a pair of Eagles are nursing their eaglets in a nest high on a knoll above Catalina Harbor. My name is Sea Peterson. I am the teacher at the local Little Red Schoolhouse and a 25 year resident of Two Harbors. It has come to my attention that the Eagle Restoration program is being threatened for lack of funding. I want you to know that because of efforts by the Institute of Wildlife Studies eagles are beginning to make a come back on Catalina Island. This seemingly simple event is the culmination of many labor intensive hours of monitoring, capturing eggs, incubation, and restoration. The eagle population is fragile here and still requires human intervention to succeed. If IWS were to leave the island at this point, everything they have worked for would be lost. The eagle restoration program is on a precipice with its success in the balance. Without funding and intervention the eagles will once again parish. Please consider continuing the funding of this vital program through its completion.

Sincerely,

Sea Peterson

Teacher

Two Harbors Elementary School

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Paulette B Caudill [PauletteCaudill@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2005 6:43 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina Bald Eagle Restoration

Mr. Baker,

Please help keep the Catalina Island Bald Eagle Restoration Project alive because it is the right thing to do. Why spend more money, that is in limited supply, starting a new project when you have an existing program that is working. I encourage you to vote to continue this valuable program.

Sincerely, Paulette Caudill

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Pat Jamieson [pjamieson@visitcatalina.org]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2005 8:14 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov; Dana@Mail.house.gov; frank.clifford@latimes.com; Karnette@assembly.ca.gov; jkay@sfchronicle.com  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

To Whom It May Concern,

I fully support and commend the wonderful job that was done to restore the beautiful Bald Eagle on Catalina Island. She adds precious beauty to a very precious Island for both residents and tourists alike! Keep up the good work!

Pat Jamieson  
Catalina Island Chamber of Commerce  
Member Services Sales Manager

## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Jjhf9@aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2005 11:39 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** bald eagles

Dear Montrose Settlements Restoration Program folks:

Those people have an obligation to reverse the damage they have done to this important species, the bald eagle. There should be NO modification in the existing program. Recently I was with a group of people when someone spotted a bald eagle. I have never seen one in real life and neither had any one in the group. The sight was so startling, so magnificent, it caused a cheer to go up, eyes were wet with tears.

Let's not blow it now.

Sign,  
Jennifer Horsman  
3013 Mt. View Drive  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651  
949.494.7780

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Mary Chabre [mchabre@adelphia.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 17, 2005 9:10 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina Bald Eagle Restoration

Please continue the good work on Catalina Island with bald eagle restoration.

Thank you.

Mary Chabre

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Lisa Marks [lisamarks99@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2005 7:23 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** bald eagle recovery program

To Whom This May Concern:

Please continue the bald eagle recovery program. It's not their fault that DDT was dumped in their habitat. Let's do the right thing, for the eagles, for the region, and for the generations to come.

Thank you

Lisa Marks  
31522 Eagle Rock Way  
Laguna Beach, CA.  
92651



## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** irenei@cox.net  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2005 8:38 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Cc:** dana@mail.house.gov  
**Subject:** Montrose Settlements Restoration Program

Dear Mr. Baker,

I am e-mailing you to voice my support for the continuation of the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program's funding of the Institute for Wildlife Studies. I am specifically referring to the IWF's restoration program of the bald eagle to Catalina Island.

As the Program was initially funded to address environmental damage caused by DDTs and PCBs off the Palos Verdes Peninsula, and the environment around Catalina Island and San Pedro Basin was especially hard hit (especially the bald eagle and peregrine falcon populations), it is appropriate to focus funding to ensure that these animals' survival is restored to their prior levels.

Some of the reasons I believe this is important are:

1. The Catalina bald eagles impact the survival of other species, e.g., such as the rare Catalina fox, by complex interactions with other species.
2. A supporting population could provide a source population for other Channel Islands.
3. It is not clear yet that the bald eagle population would not be successful without continued human intervention. The work on the Catalina bald eagles is finally showing promise, and deserves further funding to see if we can correct the damage that human intervention caused in the first place.
4. As the most visited and visible of the Channel Islands, a positive public relations opportunity exists to show the public how delicate the environment is and on how society can correct their environmental mistakes.

I encourage you to continue the funding for the Catalina bald eagle restoration efforts. As a Southern California resident who has has been a student on Catalina Island and spent many years enjoying the Island from the water and on land, it is my hope that future generations can enjoy the Island and all the natural beauty it has to offer, including as much of its native flora and fauna as possible.

Sincerely,

Irene Ing

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** John Merrell [jmerrell@hbllp.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2005 9:04 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

Greg Baker:

I am e-mailing you to express my strong concerns that funds currently being used to assist the return of bald eagles to Catalina Island may be diverted to other purposes and other areas. I am a third generation Californian and Catalina is a part of my past and my heritage. My grandfather's family owned a home in Avalon before the turn of the century (20th). My grandfather and his extended family have sailed, hiked, swam and enjoyed Catalina for many years. The conservation of this unique asset is vital to the way of life in Southern California. To pull funding of a program such as this puts it at risk and we stand the chance of losing yet another natural wonder. I urge you not to adopt the revision in question and continue the funding of the eagle program.

Very truly yours,

John H. Merrell  
Hutchinson and Bloodgood LLP  
101 N. Brand Blvd., Suite 1600  
Glendale, CA 91203  
(818) 637-5000  
(818) 240-0949 FAX  
[jmerrell@hbllp.com](mailto:jmerrell@hbllp.com)  
[www.hbllp.com](http://www.hbllp.com)

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Hamilton, Bill [wjhamilton@ucdavis.edu]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2005 12:52 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** eagles

Greg,

I read the argument for continuing handled replacement of eagle chicks. I support your alternative, to wait until birds can lay eggs they can hatch. The current procedure may be useful in maintaining public support for habitat but, given the huge importance of reduction and elimination of exotic organisms elsewhere on the Islands the priority lies there, not with the captive egg hatching program.

William J. Hamilton III  
Professor, Ecology, UCD  
Certified Senior Ecologist, ESA

(currently 12 years into successful Tricolored Blackbird restoration)

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Martha Mapp [mlmapp@mac.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2005 1:31 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** MSRP Plan - Public Comment

Dear Mr. Baker,

I am writing to encourage the Montrose Trustee Council to continue support for the Catalina Bald Eagle Recovery Program. While I have no scientific nor direct involvement in this effort, I am a concerned citizen who can relate to the Council that the work these folks do, and especially their eagle nest web cams, are vital to creating and maintaining general interest in conservation efforts. I have emailed the link to their web site to many people across this nation and it has been heartwarming to see the responses. So many people have thanked me for telling them about the site and relate that they watch it frequently with utter fascination as they watch the chicks grow and read about the work that this group does. This is probably one of the best educational outreach programs ever.

Thank you for your time and for reading my letter.

Sincerely,

Martha Mapp  
2728 Escobar Way  
Sacramento, CA 95827

Michael D. Fowlkes  
20950 Castle Rock Road  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651-1115

May 5, 2005

Re: Habitat Restoration on Catalina Island

As a long time resident of Southern California and a frequent visitor to Catalina Island, I strongly urge you to continue your support of the Habitat Restoration on Catalina Island.

**Reasons to Continue Funding Catalina's Bald Eagle Restoration, and to Allocate Funding for Peregrine Falcons and Marine Fisheries Restoration**

- Too Soon to Abandon Efforts – According to IWS's current data, DDT levels are decreasing in the eggs of at least one pair of nesting eagles. This suggests that Catalina's bald eagles may soon be able to reproduce on their own, and it is simply too soon to abandon restoration efforts on Catalina.
- Eagles Now Present May Leave – It cannot be assumed that Catalina's current population of eagles would stay on the Island if they couldn't reproduce over the next few years; and, in fact, the reallocation of funds could mean the disappearance once again of bald eagles from Catalina. This could impact all of the Channel Islands.
- Public Access to Eagles Should Be a Priority! – With more than a million visitors each year, and as the only Channel Island with significant visitation, Catalina Island is the one place in Southern California that a significant number of people can visit to enjoy bald eagles in a natural setting. Since the Montrose Settlement was meant to restore this natural resource to the public, Catalina should be a priority where funding restoration efforts is concerned.
- Settlement Monies Are Most Appropriately Used On and Near Catalina – Montrose Settlement monies were meant to address damage to natural resources such as bald eagles that were impacted by DDT and PCBs directly. They were not meant for addressing the impacts of introduced predators and invasive plant species that are now negatively impacting sea bird populations. The Trustees are proposing that as an alternative to funding the important bald eagle or peregrine falcon restoration work on Catalina, or fisheries restoration around Catalina, the monies be reallocated to fund bald eagle and marine restoration on the Northern Channel Islands and for the eradication of cats and rats, some of which would be done in Mexico. These locations are far from Catalina and the

- San Pedro Basin, the site of the greatest impacts. In order to meet stated goals of the Montrose Settlement, these funds should be applied in the areas of greatest impact, making Catalina Island and its surrounding waters the most appropriate site for use of Montrose Settlement funds.
- Catalina's Endangered Fox is at Risk – Abandoning bald eagle restoration on Catalina may put the Catalina Island fox population at risk. While much is unknown, it is possible that the presence of bald eagles on Catalina deters the formation of a golden eagle population. Golden eagles have decimated Island fox populations in the Northern Channel Islands. Discontinuing bald eagle restoration efforts on Catalina is simply too risky to the continued recovery of the Catalina Island fox, which is federally listed as an endangered species and is found on Catalina and nowhere else in the world.
  - Catalina's Bald Eagles Fuel Recovery Elsewhere – The bald eagles that are being produced on Catalina Island are a potential source population for recovery of bald eagles on the Northern Channel Islands, and for the adjacent mainland.
  - Catalina is the Most Cost-Effective Investment – An investment in Catalina's recovery efforts is an investment in a comprehensive eagle recovery effort which includes the human intervention still necessary to ensure reproduction, the protection and restoration of eagle habitat that is critical to the birds' survival on the Island, and, important educational outreach efforts that engender an appreciation of these magnificent birds and inspire the public to support their reestablishment and protection.
  - Support the Catalina Bald Eagle Alternative – In their own plan, the Committee identifies an alternative that would use part of the settlement funds to support eagle restoration on Catalina in the long term. They would prefer, however, to spend the money on species in far-away places. Please ask that they create an alternative that continues to provide funds for bald eagle restoration work on Catalina, ensuring that these magnificent birds will fly free for millions of Catalina visitors to enjoy today and throughout future generations.
  - Support Habitat Restoration on Catalina Island – Bald eagles, peregrine falcons, and sea birds need a healthy ocean and island. The Committee also proposes to spend significant funds supporting research on fisheries in the recently designated Marine Protected Areas on the Northern Channel Islands. Catalina, the island hardest hit and most visited, should be considered for funding for its fisheries and ecosystems.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Fowlkes

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Nancee Wells [grancee@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2005 2:54 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** IMPORTANT NEWS ABOUT THE BALD EAGLE!

Dear Mr. Baker,

You should be receiving my letter and petition about continuing the bald eagle program on Catalina Island. As the letter reads, I am a frequent visitor to Catalina Island and a Laguna Beach resident. The people here urge you to PLEASE continue the funding for the program on Catalina. The biologists and others who work with the eagles are saying it's too early to discontinue funding! Everyone I have talked to on the mainland, (Laguna Beach &

surrounding areas) are so supportive on this issue! After reading all the facts about the incubation and hatching of the bald eagle, everyone can see they still need human intervention. If you have ever seen a bald eagle up close

not just for a second, but for a sustained amount of time will see how magnificent this bird is.

I hope you can do something about this problem.

Everyone will be so happy if we continue to see the bald eagle in our community.

Thank you for your time,

Nancee Wells

[Grancee@cox.net](mailto:grancee@cox.net)

## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Bob Rhein [bobrhein@att.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2005 3:07 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

Dear Mr. Baker:

I was astounded when I heard about the possibility funding would be pulled from Catalina Island for a long shot on eagle research in the northern Channel Islands -- and then, that research may not be funded.

From what I understand, the team on Catalina is doing a great job. I saw a news report that showed researchers dangling from a helicopter to retrieve the eggs. The sight of them returning the newly hatched eagles to their nest was breathtaking!

Please allow this to continue on Catalina Island. It looks like they are doing it right!

Sincerely,

Bob Rhein  
Fullerton, California



## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Leah Vasquez [leahvasquez@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2005 3:07 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Bld Eagle support

I am so pleased to see eagles in and around the south coastal and Laguna Beach areas. I whole-heartedly support the continuation of the protections fo these noble creatures and our symbolic image of pride, independence and courage. Please count on me to write in behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves such as the bald eagle.

Leah Vasquez,

Laguna Beach, CA.

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** cindy shannon [c1shannon@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2005 4:28 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** bald eagles

Dear Mr. Baker,

Please consider keeping funding from the Montrose Settlement on the hardest hit areas such as Catalina Island. Islands are particularly vulnerable to environmental degradation and restoration needs to be continued to assure recovery of wildlife populations. And in particular the bald eagle though many other species will benefit as well.

Thanks.

Karen Bagne  
Dept of Biology  
University of California  
riverside, CA 92521

## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Robert Keet [rkeet@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2005 4:56 PM  
**To:** Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

Please save the Catalina Island Bald Eagle Program. This is one of the most important conservation programs going on in California at the moment and it would be a disaster for the funding to stop coming in. The funding the Montrose Natural Resource Trustees puts in to the program conducted by the Institute for Wildlife Studies (IWS) is for a problem that still exists as the DDT and PCB levels still affect the eggs of the American Bald Eagles that are at Catalina Island.

PLEASE DO NOT STOP THE FUNDING GOING TO THE INSTITUTE FOR WILDLIFE STUDIES.

Thank you.

Robert Keet

May 10, 2005

DEPT. OF COMMERCE - NOAA  
RECEIVED

MAY 10 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

To Greg Baker, Program Manager

Dear Mr. Baker

I am writing on behalf of the Institute for Wildlife Studies (IWS) and the Catalina Island Conservancy. I do not believe that funds for the bald eagle project should be relocated to the Northern Channel Islands and islands in Mexico. Catalina Island has had an excellent restoration project. Please consider the following points.

The data of IWS shows that DDT levels are decreasing in the eggs of a least one nesting pair of eagles. The bald eagles may soon be able to produce on their own.

The eagles now present may leave if they cannot reproduce.

Catalina is the one place where visitors in Southern California can see bald eagles in a natural setting.

The Montrose settlement was meant to address damage by DDT and PCBs. These funds should be applied to the areas of greatest impact, making Catalina Island and its surrounding waters the most appropriate site for use of the funds.

Catalina Island is the most  
Cost-effective investment in comprehensive  
eagle recovery. Human intervention is  
still needed to ensure reproduction.  
At \$250,000 dollars a year the eagles  
could be restored in perpetuity and the  
Northern Channel Islands could also  
be funded.

I hope you give this serious  
consideration.

Sincerely,  
Nan Durantini  
1053 Peninsula St.  
Ventura, CA 93001

MAY 13 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

May 11, 2005

John Greene  
1213 East Fern Drive  
Fullerton, CA 92831

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

RE: Catalina Island Bald Eagle Project

Dear Mr. Baker,


Please accept this letter as opposition to the Montrose Settlement Trustee Council's intention to eliminate funding of the Catalina Island Bald Eagle Project.

I have had the pleasure of watching the project over the years through the media – in an IMAX movie I took my entire family to at the Irvine Spectrum a few years ago, on the Animal Planet “Killer Jobs” program, on various news programs, in magazines and in the Los Angeles Times. All of these have been wonderful presentations of this heartwarming story, but none have matched the Institute for Wildlife Studies' Eagle Cam. I have had innumerable hours of entertainment in the past couple of years watching the eagles nest and chicks develop. I have even made the excursion to Catalina Island several times to see the eagles first hand.

I don't ask for the project to continue solely for its entertainment value. I strongly believe that a wrong was done to the inhabitants of Southern California when DDT was dumped into the sewage system. Humans did it – a fact no one will deny. Why is it that the eagles – our national symbol – are the ones that will now pay the ultimate price? They have been lovingly attended to for many years now – relying on risk-taking biologists to help them perform their only function, reproduction, because we have been foolhardy with our chemicals? It appears to me inhumane to stop funding this program now.

I have read the executive summary of the Draft Resolution Plan. Unfortunately, I wasn't able to attend a public meeting. By no means does my absence imply my apathy. I support the efforts to fund self-sustainable projects in all the other areas, i.e. sea birds and fishing. But I strongly object to the termination of funding to the Catalina project just because the problem is so bad it can't take care of itself. Isn't that the reason there is a settlement in the first place?

Sincerely,

  
John A. Greene

12 May 2005

DEPT. OF COMMERCE - NOAA  
RECEIVED

MAY 13 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SW2

**SUBJECT: Comments in Response to the Programmatic EIS/EIR for the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program Draft Restoration Plan**

Dear Mr. Baker:

The City of Rancho Palos Verdes appreciates the opportunity to comment upon the draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) for the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program Draft Restoration Plan. The City offers the following comments on the EIS/EIR and the plan itself:

1. In the discussion of Noise Impacts within the affected environment (Section 3.9.2, p. 3-81), Table 3.9-1 lists residential development and Point Fermin Park as sensitive receptors within Coastal Reach 3, which includes the City of Rancho Palos Verdes. The City respectfully requests the inclusion of Abalone Cove Beach Park and the Portuguese Bend Co-op Preschool as sensitive receptors in Coastal Reach 3. Also, the City has recently approved the 582-room Long Point Resort Hotel on the site of the former Marineland aquatic park, which might also qualify as a sensitive noise receptor upon its completion.
2. In the discussion of Tier 1 and Tier 2 Evaluations of Restoration Ideas (Sections 5.2.6 and 5.3.2, pp. 5-9 and 5-13, respectively), two restoration ideas within the City of Rancho Palos Verdes that were not carried forward from the Tier 1 evaluation to the Tier 2 evaluation are briefly mentioned: restoring overgrazed seashore at Abalone Cove; and acquiring and enhancing peregrine falcon habitat on the Palos Verdes Peninsula. Based upon their brief description in the draft Plan, the nature and scope of these restoration ideas is not entirely clear. However, we would note that the City of Rancho Palos Verdes and the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy have been involved for many years in the preparation of a Natural Communities Conservation Plan (NCCP) for the City, in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). The City and the Conservancy are also

actively pursuing the acquisition of hundreds of acres of undeveloped land containing coastal sage scrub (CSS) habitat as permanent open space for an NCCP reserve. If the NCCP and the open space acquisition are ultimately successful, they may have the affect of indirectly implementing the two rejected restoration ideas proposed within the City.

3. In the detailed discussion of the proposed Fishing and Fish Habitat Restoration Actions related to the construction of artificial reefs and fishing access improvements (Section 6.1.1, p. 6-3 and Appendix A1), the draft Plan indicates that such improvements are evaluated in concept, and that supplemental analysis would be required. Within the City of Rancho Palos Verdes, the most likely location for any future fishing access improvements would appear to be at the City's existing Point Vicente Fishing Access. Also, at the public meeting on 28 April 2005, MSRP's fish biologist stated that new data regarding levels of DDT and PCB contamination in fish might now support proposals for such access and habitat restoration projects along the shore of the Palos Verdes Peninsula, which was previously thought to be too contaminated to be considered for such projects (see Appendix A, Figure A1-4, p. A1-9). If a more definitive list of possible future access projects includes the Point Vicente site, the City would like the opportunity to review the nature and scope of such improvements so as to ensure that they are compatible with surrounding land uses.
4. In the discussion of Restoration Alternatives 2 and 3 (Section 6.2, pp. 6-17 through 6-25), slightly more than half of the \$25 million allocated for Phase I restoration efforts is earmarked for various bald eagle, peregrine falcon and seabird restoration projects in California's Channel Islands (excluding Santa Catalina Island) and the Coronado and Todos Santos islands off the coast of Baja California, while just under half is allocated to on-shore and near-shore restoration of fishing resources and fish habitat. The City understands that the presence of DDTs and PCBs in fish has contributed to the decimation of bird populations beyond the immediate area of the contaminated sediments between the Palos Verdes Peninsula and Santa Catalina Island. However, given the close proximity of the Peninsula to these sediments and the likelihood that the capping and containment of these sediments will never be completely possible or feasible, we expect that the City of Rancho Palos Verdes will continue feel the indirect effects of these contaminated sediments long into the future. Therefore, the City respectfully suggests that whichever restoration alternative is eventually selected, the higher priority for distribution of the settlement proceeds to the various restoration projects be given to those projects located nearer to the physical source of the problem (i.e., the contaminated sediments) than those projects located further away.



**Greg Baker**  
**12 May 2005**  
**Page 3**

5. In the discussion of the environmental consequences of the Plan (Section 7.1, p. 7-2), the project is identified as having insignificant impacts with respect to soils, geology and geologic hazards. The City of Rancho Palos Verdes has experienced constant land movement related to the active Portuguese Bend landslide, as well as the catastrophic failure of a portion of the Trump National Golf Club (formerly Ocean Trails Golf Course) in 1999. The City respectfully suggests that any future near-shore artificial reef or fishing access projects that might be proposed along the base of the City's coastal bluffs be carefully designed to address the potential to trigger and/or exacerbate any landslide movement.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at (310) 544-5228 or via e-mail at [kittf@rpv.com](mailto:kittf@rpv.com).

Sincerely,



**Kit Fox, AICP**  
Senior Planner

cc: Mayor and City Council  
Les Evans, City Manager  
Joel Rojas, Director of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement

MAY 13 2005


OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

May 15, 2005

Dear Civic Leader:

*Please consider the letter below as a request to continue funding for Catalina Island restoration efforts. The island has been a source of rest and inspiration for thousands of travelers, young and old, for many decades. I believe the funding is critical to the survival of the restoration project(s)! Thank you for securing the beauty of the natural habitat for generations to come.*

## Reasons to Continue Funding Catalina's Bald Eagle Restoration, and to Allocate Funding for Peregrine Falcons and Marine Fisheries Restoration

- **Too Soon to Abandon Efforts**  
– According to IWS's current data, DDT levels are decreasing in the eggs of at least one pair of nesting eagles. This suggests that Catalina's bald eagles may soon be able to reproduce on their own, and it is simply too soon to abandon restoration efforts on Catalina.
- 
- **Eagles Now Present May Leave** – It cannot be assumed that Catalina's current population of eagles would stay on the Island if they couldn't reproduce over the next few years; and, in fact, the reallocation of funds could mean the disappearance once again of bald eagles from Catalina. This could impact all of the Channel Islands.
  - **Public Access to Eagles Should Be a Priority!** – With more than a million visitors each year, and as the only Channel Island with significant visitation, Catalina Island is the one place in Southern California that a significant number of people can visit to enjoy bald eagles in a natural setting. Since the Montrose Settlement was meant to restore this natural resource to the public, Catalina should be a priority where funding restoration efforts is concerned.
  - **Settlement Monies Are Most Appropriately Used On and Near Catalina** – Montrose Settlement monies were meant to address damage to natural resources such as bald eagles that were impacted by DDT and PCBs directly. They were not meant for addressing the impacts of introduced predators and invasive plant species that are now negatively impacting sea bird populations. The Trustees are proposing that as an alternative to funding the important bald eagle or peregrine falcon restoration work on Catalina, or fisheries restoration around Catalina, the monies be reallocated to fund bald eagle and marine restoration on the Northern Channel Islands and for the eradication of cats and rats, some of which would be done in Mexico. These locations are

far from Catalina and the San Pedro Basin, the site of the greatest impacts. In order to meet stated goals of the Montrose Settlement, these funds should be applied in the areas of greatest impact, making Catalina Island and its surrounding waters the most appropriate site for use of Montrose Settlement funds.

- **Catalina's Endangered Fox is at Risk** – Abandoning bald eagle restoration on Catalina may put the Catalina Island fox population at risk. While much is unknown, it is possible that the presence of bald eagles on Catalina deters the formation of a golden eagle population. Golden eagles have decimated Island fox populations in the Northern Channel Islands. Discontinuing bald eagle restoration efforts on Catalina is simply too risky to the continued recovery of the Catalina Island fox, which is federally listed as an endangered species and is found on Catalina and nowhere else in the world.
- **Catalina's Bald Eagles Fuel Recovery Elsewhere** – The bald eagles that are being produced on Catalina Island are a potential source population for recovery of bald eagles on the Northern Channel Islands, and for the adjacent mainland.
- **Catalina is the Most Cost-Effective Investment** – An investment in Catalina's recovery efforts is an investment in a comprehensive eagle recovery effort which includes the human intervention still necessary to ensure reproduction, the protection and restoration of eagle habitat that is critical to the birds' survival on the Island, and, important educational outreach efforts that engender an appreciation of these magnificent birds and inspire the public to support their reestablishment and protection.
- **Support the Catalina Bald Eagle Alternative** – In their own plan, the Committee identifies an alternative that would use part of the settlement funds to support eagle restoration on Catalina in the long term. They would prefer, however, to spend the money on species in far-away places. Please ask that they create an alternative that continues to provide funds for bald eagle restoration work on Catalina, ensuring that these magnificent birds will fly free for millions of Catalina visitors to enjoy today and throughout future generations.
- **Support Habitat Restoration on Catalina Island** – Bald eagles, peregrine falcons, and sea birds need a healthy ocean and island. The Committee also proposes to spend significant funds supporting research on fisheries in the recently designated Marine Protected Areas on the Northern Channel Islands. Catalina, the island hardest hit and most visited, should be considered for funding for its fisheries and ecosystems.

Sincerely,

  
Diane Silvers

DEPT. OF COMMERCE - NOAA  
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MAY 16 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

May 16, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Sir:

Over the past few years the Catalina Island Conservancy took the lead in restoring the bald eagles to the island. The program desperately needs continued funding from the Montrose Resource Fund. I am dismayed that if support from the fund is withdrawn, the eagles now present may leave or die out.

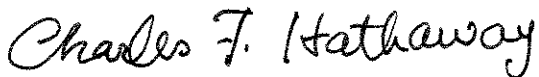
The bald eagles bring awareness and joy to the countless thousands who visit this island.

Another successful program has been saving the small Island Fox. There is a fragile balance that could be destroyed if the bald eagles leave and the American eagles return.

Funding from the Montrose Settlement Fund should be continued.

On behalf of the 1,500 members of the California Yacht Club, I urge you to allow these programs to continue.

Sincerely,



Charles F. Hathaway  
Honorary Commodore



## CATALINA ISLAND CONSERVANCY

*A responsible steward of its lands through a balance of conservation, education and recreation*

DEPT. OF COMMERCE - NOAA  
RECEIVED

MAY 18 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

May 17, 2005

**Greg Baker, Program Manager**  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
562.980.3236  
Email: [msrp@noaa.gov](mailto:msrp@noaa.gov)

Dear Mr. Baker:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, the Executive Staff and scientific professional staff of the Catalina Island Conservancy, this letter reflects the Conservancy's formal response to the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program (MSRP)—Draft Restoration Plan.

The overall goals of the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program as stated in settlement documents are:

- 1) *"To restore, replace, rehabilitate or acquire the equivalent of the injured natural resources and the services that those resources provide; and,*
- 2) *To compensate for the interim lost services of the injured natural resources while those resources are recovered."*

It is our position that these goals can best be achieved through the MSRP targeting its *"efforts on a narrower range of actions that would place greater emphasis on primary restoration of injuries and lost services."* This means continuing the Bald Eagle Restoration Program on Catalina Island into the foreseeable future. In addition, we ask for further consideration of the Restoration Alternative that restores peregrine falcons to the Southern Channel Islands, including Catalina Island. And finally, we feel strongly that marine fisheries enhancement work should be considered for the near shore environment of Catalina Island--an alternative that is not even discussed in the plan as it now stands.

We strongly and respectfully disagree with the Natural Resource Trustee's preferred Alternative 2, which proposes ideas not directly linked to the loss of natural resources from DDTs and PCBs contamination (e.g. wetland recovery and implementation of Marine Protected Areas in the Northern Channel Islands), and directs significant portions of the settlement funds away from the severely damaged sites to locations in the Northern Channel Islands and Mexico.

We believe there are a number of compelling reasons that support this disagreement:

- ***It is Simply Too Soon to Abandon Efforts for Catalina Island's Bald Eagles*** – According to the Institute for Wildlife Studies' (IWS) current data (Dave Garcelon, personal communication), DDT levels are decreasing in the eggs of at least some of the nesting eagles. This suggests that Catalina's bald eagles in the not too distant future may be able to reproduce on their own.

The Natural Resources Trustees have begun a bald eagle restoration program on the Northern Channel Islands. The oldest birds on the Northern Channel Islands are only three years old, and will not start breeding until they are five or six years old. If the Catalina effort is abandoned, no new eaglets will be fledged in the Channel Islands at least until 2007-2008. Since we are not sure of DDT levels in and around the Islands to the north, we don't really know if their bald eagles will fare any better than Catalina's in the years to come.

- ***Eagles Now Present on Catalina Island May Leave*** – It cannot be assumed that Catalina's current population of 20 eagles will stay on the Island if they cannot reproduce over the next few years. In fact, the reallocation of funds could mean the disappearance once again of bald eagles from Catalina. This could impact all of the Channel Islands since Catalina is the only venue that can presently guarantee eagle reproduction.

In the words of the MSRP, "*One potential outcome of stopping human intervention and allowing the nests to fail is that eagle pair bonds may break down and the birds may abandon the Island. If that is the case, additional restoration efforts may be needed to reestablish breeding bald eagles on Santa Catalina Island in the future should contaminant levels decline sufficiently to allow for successful reproduction.*" Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been spent on the effort on Catalina; reallocating funding now threatens what has already been accomplished and could amount to a waste of those dollars.

- ***Broad Public Access to Eagles Should Be a Priority!*** – With **more than a million visitors each year**, and as the only California Island with significant visitation, Catalina is the one place in Southern California that diverse audiences can enjoy bald eagles in a magnificent natural setting. Since the MSRP is meant to restore this natural resource to the public, **programs on Catalina should be a priority**. Catalina's bald eagles are also enjoyed in highly populated mainland areas like Newport and Huntington Beach, which regularly reports sightings of tagged Catalina eagles.

- ***Settlement Monies Are Most Appropriately Used On and Near Catalina*** – MSRP funds were meant to address the damage to natural resources such as bald eagles and peregrine falcons that were impacted by DDTs and PCBs directly. They were not meant for addressing the impacts of introduced predators and invasive plant species that are **now** negatively impacting sea bird populations. The Trustees are proposing that as an alternative to funding the important bald eagle or peregrine falcon restoration work on Catalina, or fisheries restoration around Catalina, the funds be reallocated to fund bald eagle and marine restoration on the Northern Channel Islands and for the eradication of

cats and rats, some of which would be done in Mexico. These locations are far from Catalina and the San Pedro Basin, the sites of the greatest impact.

Removing cats and rats from other Channel Islands, and even from an island in Mexico that is an important haven for seabirds, are worthy undertakings. Our Conservancy has and will continue to fund conservation work that deals with the impacts of introduced species, and we know first hand what havoc they can wreak. However, these sea bird populations have for the most part recovered from the impacts of DDTs and PCBs and now are suffering the impacts of a different problem than the one the MSRP was intended to address.

While we understand that the notion of “compensatory restoration” within CERCLA regulations allows for such considerations, we would argue that doing these efforts **in lieu of** continuing to fund a successful eagle recovery program on Catalina Island that, arguably, was hardest hit by the damage, would be an inappropriate trade-off both scientifically and philosophically.

• ***Catalina’s Endangered Fox is at Risk*** – Abandoning bald eagle restoration on Catalina may put the Catalina Island fox population at risk. The MSRP Restoration Plan states, “*No other species plays the same ecological role as the bald eagle. In the absence of bald eagles on the Northern Channel Islands, golden eagles (not native to the Northern Channel Islands) have become established. Nesting adult bald eagles defend territories and would likely have excluded golden eagles from establishing on the islands (USFWS 2004). The golden eagle, a terrestrial predator, has had tremendous negative impacts on native island foxes, a species that does not have evolutionary adaptations to avoid predation (Coonan 2001, Roemer 1999.*” Discontinuing bald eagle restoration efforts on Catalina is simply too risky to the continued recovery of the Catalina Island fox, which is a federally listed endangered species.

Catalina Island’s fox population is still in recovery after an outbreak of canine distemper in 1999. This required an expensive and comprehensive recovery program wholly funded by the Conservancy that included research, vaccination, captive breeding and now intensive monitoring. At this time, with the presence of bald eagles on Catalina, there are no golden eagles, voracious fox predators, on the Island. We don’t have enough information to rule out that the loss of bald eagles on the Island could threaten our fox population, which, at just about 300 animals, is only beginning to recover.

• ***Catalina’s Bald Eagles Fuel Recovery Elsewhere*** – Bald eagle restoration efforts on Catalina Island are a source population for recovery of bald eagles on the Northern Channel Islands, and for the adjacent mainland. More than 90 chicks have been successfully released on Catalina and some are now in residence on Northern Channel Islands and dozens have traveled to the mainland, being sighted as far north as Canada.

• ***Catalina is the Most Cost-Effective Investment*** – An investment in Catalina’s recovery program is an investment in a comprehensive Island restoration effort. These efforts include the human intervention still necessary to ensure eagle reproduction, the protection

and restoration of eagle habitat that is critical to the birds' survival on the Island, and, important educational outreach efforts that engender an appreciation of these magnificent birds and inspire the public to support their reestablishment and protection.

The Catalina Island Conservancy makes an annual investment in the millions of dollars into the ongoing ecological health of the Island and the ecological literacy of its resident and visiting populations. The \$270,000 per year Bald Eagle Restoration Program on Catalina is not only an investment in a single restoration effort focused on fostering chicks into nests, but rather it is an investment that is part of **a comprehensive effort that protects and restores critical habitat and provides on-going public outreach and education**, both of which are central to the Conservancy's mission. As an example of the latter, we are in the process of producing an educational video on the eagle program and creating an eagle exhibit in a new Nature Center in Avalon, both at our own expense.

You have asked us that if this program is so important to the Conservancy why don't we just support it ourselves. The fact is that we already support this effort through our ongoing protection and restoration of the habitat the eagles call home, an effort that costs millions of dollars each year, and through ongoing educational outreach. In terms of why we are unable to provide cash funding to the Institute for Wildlife Studies, we are a small organization that is stretched beyond our capacity in managing 42,000 acres in a way that is appropriate both to nature's needs and human needs. Some of the enormous conservation challenges that we face include invasive (76 species) plant removal and management; introduced faunal species management including feral cats and mule deer; ongoing monitoring of our Island fox recovery and assessing a new threat, cancerous ear tumors that lead to death in older foxes; and, assessing the causes of oak woodland dieback and developing effective restoration strategies; to name just a few. In addition, we have more than \$6 million in deferred maintenance of roads, buildings and runways that the Conservancy must address over the next five to ten years, infrastructure that allows access to the Island for residents and the visiting public, and supports researchers working on the Island.

But beyond the challenges of the Conservancy to absorb additional, major restoration projects, the fact is that the Montrose Natural Resource Trustees are managing funds set aside to address environmental damage done to Catalina and the surrounding waters. The Conservancy did not dump DDTs and PCBs; Montrose and other polluters did. Montrose Settlement funds were meant precisely for the type of eagle restoration work that is currently taking place on Catalina Island, and applying those Montrose funds to that work is the most appropriate use of the funds, and is in the best spirit of **public-private partnerships that leverage scarce dollars for the public good**.

The Trustees are proposing to spend \$3.3 million on the Northern Channel Islands (NCI) Bald Eagle Feasibility Study. For a five-year study, this amounts to \$660,000 per year, almost two and a half times what the bald eagle work on Catalina is costing. The Montrose Natural Resource Trustees funded five years of work on Catalina Island for \$1.2 million. What accounts for this significant difference in cost?



The Trustees indicate that \$6 million will be left after funding the NCI Feasibility Study and the past five years of the Catalina Island program. If those dollars were placed into a long-term endowment, and assuming a traditional 5% return on investment (which even builds principal assuming a portfolio performs at 8-9%), \$300,000 per year could fund the Catalina Island effort in perpetuity, if that were required. If the NCI Feasibility Study found that a self-sustaining population is not possible on the Northern Channel Islands, then a decision could be made about how the investment income should be spent, with perhaps a sharing between the Northern and Southern Channel Islands. However, if those dollars are spent on restoring sea bird populations in Mexico and the Northern Channel Islands, which have recovered from the impacts of DDT, there won't be sufficient funds to support a continued presence of bald eagles on Catalina Island and perhaps even the rest of the Channel Islands.

The early scientific work done with bald eagles on Catalina Island was the most compelling evidence that eventually lead to the negotiation of the Montrose Settlement. It would be a travesty of justice if this Island, the one place millions of people can view their national symbol in a natural setting, was abandoned.

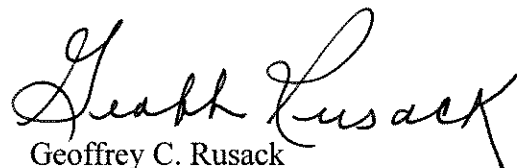
We strongly urge the Trustees to reconsider their approach, and to create an alternative that 1) supports ongoing bald eagle restoration on Catalina Island, 2) establishes funding for peregrine falcon restoration in the Southern Channel Islands, including Catalina, and 3) establishes a program to restore marine fisheries in the waters around Catalina Island – site of the greatest negative impacts from the chemical dumping.

We understand these are difficult management decisions and there are very rarely easy, clear-cut choices. We want to thank the Trustees for the last five years of bald eagle support on Catalina Island and we stand ready to discuss with you alternatives that place greater emphasis on the primary restoration of injuries and lost services in the area suffering the greatest loss of natural resources.

Sincerely,



Ann M. Muscat, Ph.D.  
President and CEO



Geoffrey C. Rusack  
Chairman of the Board

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** ashton@kutztown.edu  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2005 5:49 PM  
**To:** Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org; webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

Dear Mr. Baker,

having performed field research on rattlesnakes on Santa Catalina Island, I am very familiar with the island and its fauna. I am upset to hear that funding for Bald Eagle restoration on Catalina from the Montrose Settlements Program may end soon. Bald Eagles are a prominent species, one which the general public enjoys observing whenever possible. Catalina Island provides one of the best opportunities in California to view Bald Eagles.

Discontinuing restoration funding would be premature and foolish. If the goal of the restoration settlement was to make amends for damage done from pesticide pollution, funding should be continued until it is assured that the lingering effects of the actions of Montrose on the reproduction of Bald Eagles are no longer present. That takes time and money. Given the horrific nature of the crime, polluting our environment with chemicals that decimate natural populations, it is absolutely necessary that any settlement funds go to ensuring that affected populations are COMPLETELY restored prior to switching focus to other areas. Otherwise, only halfway solutions are being provided. And halfway solutions are NO solution at all!

Sincerely,

Kyle Ashton

Dr. Kyle G. Ashton  
Department of Biology  
Kutztown University  
Kutztown, PA 19530

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Roy [rcturney@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2005 7:57 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov

Please do not withdraw funds from the protection of bald eagles on Catalina Island. The island suffered mightlly from Montrose's illegal dumping and The Catalina Conservancy has been working hard to restore Catalina Island's wildlife both plant and animal. Help them until the bald eagle recovery program is more fully achieved.

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Jared Figurski [jared\_figurski@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2005 8:17 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Support Alternative 2

MSRP

I support implementation of alternative #2, providing funding for restoration of eagles, peregrine falcons, seabirds and fisheries. The release of DDT into the environment over thirty years represents one of the most appalling and difficult environmental problems our society must face. In particular, we cannot undo the damage to the system, however we can attempt to restore those groups of organisms most impacted. The funds must be used strategically to impart the greatest restoration benefit per dollar. I think focusing on the restoration of nesting seabirds in the southern bight is the most efficient use of funds. Even though eagles suffered tremendously and restoration of their population would be applauded by the general public, the evidence suggests that residual levels of DDT in the environment may be too high for them to successfully reproduce. Therefore, I support the use of some of the funds for exploration of the feasibility of restoring eagles, however I support the stipulation that diverts eagle funds to seabirds if the evidence demonstrates that eagles will not be able to support themselves.

The damage to fish populations as a result of chronic poisoning by DDT will never be entirely known. However, the poisoning of fisheries stocks is a crime against the ecosystem, fishers, and society as a whole. Restoration of fish stocks will mitigate the damage suffered by all parties. Fortunately, novel ecosystem-based management plans such as Marine Protected Areas are being applied and evaluated along the coast of California. Providing funds for evaluating the effectiveness of Marine Protected Areas or researching essential fish habitat for commercial species would be a very productive use of the money available.

Thank you for considering my opinion,  
Jared Figurski

~~~~~  
Jared Figurski  
University of California, Santa Cruz  
Long Marine Laboratory, Center for Ocean Health  
100 Shaffer Rd. Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Office: (831) 459-5783 / Home: (831) 420-1813/ Cell (831) 818-2769  
~~~~~

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** ajcpve@cox.net  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2005 9:55 PM  
**To:** Greg Baker  
**Subject:** Catalina Bald Eagle program funding

Mr. Baker,

If you have ever had the good fortune to see from a boat four magnificent Bald Eagles perched on the skyline at the West End of Catalina as I did a few years ago, I am sure you would not wish to jeopardise the future of that very successful program by shifting resources to other programs, worthwhile as they may be, particularly since your funding was 'derived' from the environmental damage to the Palos verdes Peninsula/Catalina Island area. I urge you and the Montrose Natural Resource Trustees to reconsider the proposed reallocation of funding away from the Catalina Island program. I am writing to you as a member of KHYC who first sailed to Catalina in 1953, who treasures the Island as it is and supports the Catalina Island Conservancy efforts to restore and maintain the island's ecosystem. Thankyou,

Allen J Curtis

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Larry [archhill581@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 18, 2005 10:32 PM  
**To:** Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

Hello,

I know there are a lot of causes out there. It seems everyone has one.

But everything I've known about the Catalina Conservancy (and I suppose I know more than the average Angeleno) is that they have been doing a wonderful job with these bald eagles. Why stop funding while progress is being made? If you're going to shift funds at least wait until the project is complete.

Please reconsider. These birds and the Conservancy need your help.

Larry Travis  
581 Arch Place  
Glendale, CA 91206

**Devora Hertz**  
31901 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Laguna Beach, Ca  
92651  
949 499-0117  
**PlanetLaguna@msn.com**

May 18, 2005

**Mr. Greg Baker Project Manager**

501 West Ocean Blvd Suite 4470

Long Beach, CA 90802

Ph: 562 980-3236

Email [msrp@noaa.gov](mailto:msrp@noaa.gov)

**Re: Continuation of the Bald Eagle Recovery Program**

Dear Mr. Baker,

I am writing out of concern for the Bald Eagle Recovery Program. It is my understanding that there is some thought of discontinuing the program. I urge you to continue with these recovery efforts.

Long Term Viability

The recovery program is just one portion of this bird's viability. I am not aware of any long-term studies indicating that these birds are in fact able to survive and reproduce on their own in the wild. The California Condor recovery program is a good example. Although able to successfully breed the Condor's in captivity, they found that when released into the wild had a high mortality rate. It was discovered that they were eating lead pellets from hunting rifles. Where they were able to successfully overcome one problem they discovered another that needed to be resolved before survival of the species could be anticipated. The same should be done with the Bald Eagle.

The Basic Underlying Problems Continues

As long as there continues to be that quantity of DDT buried off the Coastal Waters the threat continues. As long as this threat continues a program insuring, their continued existence should be in effect. It seems premature to discontinue the program while the basic problem persists.

Expansion on Closure

Many species of birds have been impacted by DDT, such as the Brown Pelican. If anything, it seems that the recovery program could expand not close. Your work has just begun not finished. If anything, expansion of the program seems to be what is needed, not closure. Now that you have mastered the caring process for the bald eagle, why doesn't the center take this success and expand upon it.

You serve a most valuable function. All species are at the mercy of man's new technological forays. Moreover, where we have not yet determined the particular significance, each species contributes; we know that the chain cannot function with missing links. So some of this greatness your contributing to nature has to rely on blind faith that what your doing is right and what your doing is good. For the animal and other species cannot speak for themselves. They will not be shaking your hand or presenting rewards to you at any conventions. The reward is to see them return to the normal functioning behavior. Nevertheless, this can be the most inspiring gift of all.

I hope you will consider the most important gift you are giving to these animals and the natural habitat that surrounds you. Please consider keeping the recovery program open.

Sincerely,

Devora Hertz



**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Joan Matthias [joanmatthias@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 19, 2005 1:01 AM  
**To:** Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program  
**Cc:** dana@mail.house.gov; senator.lowenthal@sen.ca.gov  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

Dear Mr. Baker,

I have been fortunate enough to be a volunteer for the Catalina Island Conservancy working on various projects for them. I am aware that you are considering pulling the money to support the Bald Eagle Restoration Project. I have seen up close the magnificent eagles on the island and they are truly a sight to behold. I can't imagine that you would discontinue funding now when significant progress has been made in their reproduction cycle. It is too soon to abandon efforts and to deprive the public of seeing this magnificent bird in its natural surroundings.

The majority of the damage from the Montrose dumping of DDT and PCB has been on Catalina Island. It stands to reason that they should receive sufficient funds to reestablish what the Montrose Company destroyed. Why would you force abandonment of a program that is operating successfully to support a program for eagles in the Northern Channel Islands and for the eradication of cats and rats on islands south in Mexico?

By forcing the abandonment of the bald eagle restoration on Catalina you are putting the Island fox population at risk. It is possible that their presence on Catalina deters the appearance of Golden Eagles which prey on the fox, which is federally listed as an endangered species. Why would you put this fox at risk?

As a concerned citizen, I ask that you do not cut the funding for the Eagle Restoration on Catalina Island.

Sincerely,  
Joan Matthias

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Do you Yahoo!?

[Yahoo! Mail](#) - Helps protect you from nasty viruses.

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Bernie Tershy [tershy@islandconservation.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 19, 2005 9:28 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Support for Option 2 MSRP

Dear Mr. Baker;

Congratulations to you and the Montrose Trustees for producing an outstanding draft restoration plan.

Attached is a letter outlining our support for MSRP option 2. The letter is in PDF format.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely

Bernie Tershy, PhD  
Executive Director,  
Island Conservation  
*100 Shaffer Rd  
Center for Ocean Health  
University of California,  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060*

(831) 459-1461

[www.islandconservation.org](http://www.islandconservation.org)



## Island Conservation

Center for Ocean Health, University of California  
100 Shaffer Rd, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 USA  
Telephone: (831) 459-1476  
Fax: (831) 459-3383  
Tershy@IslandConservation.org  
www.IslandConservation.org

*Dedicated to preventing extinctions and protecting natural ecological and evolutionary processes.*

### **Advisory Board**

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Island Foundation  
**Bernie Tershy**  
University of California

**Greg Baker, Program Manager**  
**Montrose Settlements Restoration Program**  
**501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470**  
**Long Beach, CA 90802**  
**msrp@noaa.gov**

**19 May 05**

Dear Mr. Baker and Montrose Trustees:

I am writing to comment on the Draft Restoration Plan for the Montrose Settlements and Restoration Program. My organization, Island Conservation, strongly supports option #2, the preferred option.

Island Conservation is a science-driven, non-profit organization dedicated to preventing extinctions and protecting natural ecological and evolutionary processes on islands. We do this by integrating and applying the five main steps of biodiversity conservation:

- Research & Priority Setting
- Education & Policy Work
- Capacity Building
- Conservation Action
- Monitoring & Evaluation

We work collaboratively with government management agencies, local communities, and other interested groups who are our partners in the long-term protection of the islands. We developed a web-accessible database to quantify the biodiversity of each island in California and Western Mexico and the threats from introduced species. Our independent analyses clearly demonstrate the benefits of option 2.

We are also concerned about the ethics of releasing wild eagles into an environment where they are both unable to reproduce and may receive damaging or lethal loads of DDE. Finally, we are concerned that conservation funds will be used inefficiently attempting to prop up an unsustainable population of eagles when DDE levels are still dangerously high.

We suggest using the bulk of the funds for urgently needed restoration now (option 2) and putting a small amount of Montrose funds in a long-term trust so that in the future, when DDE levels are safely low, there will be sufficient funds available to reintroduce Bald Eagles to the Channel Islands (once DDE levels are low, reintroduction will be relatively inexpensive). This way, the public can see a maximum benefit from the Montrose settlement over time.

Sincerely,

**Bernie Tershy,**  
Executive Director

## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Mark D. Readdie [readdie@lifesci.ucsb.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 19, 2005 10:15 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Montrose Settlements Draft Restoration Plan

To:  
Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program

I would like to briefly show my support for Alternative 2 of the draft restoration plan for the Southern California Islands. My opinions on the matter closely match those of the Island Conservation and Ecology Group at Long Marine Lab, UCSC.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

Mark D. Readdie, Ph.D  
Marine Science Institute  
University of California  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106  
Email: readdie@lifesci.ucsb.edu  
Phone: 805-680-6634  
Fax: 805-893-8062

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Thomas H. Young [young@lifesci.ucsb.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 19, 2005 10:27 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Montrose Settlement Restoration Project

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to voice my support for Alternative 2 of the Montrose Settlement Restoration Project (MSRP). It is clear that numerous species of wildlife in the Southern California Bight have been adversely affected by decades of releasing DDT into the environment. The MSRP provides an excellent opportunity to restore many of these species' populations to robust levels and enhance the overall community health of the Santa Barbara Channel. Of the 3 alternatives currently on the table for the MSRP, only Alternative 2 addresses the importance of whole-community restoration to maintain and facilitate the recovery of those species that have been affected. Unlike the other options, Alternative 2 provides funding to restore seabird populations and fish populations, as well as to promote the recovery of bald eagles and peregrine falcons in the Channel Islands. I believe that Alternative 2 is superior to the other alternatives for 3 reasons: 1) Alternative 2 recognizes the importance of interactions and ecological connections between these multiple components of the channel's ecosystem, 2) Alternative 2 promotes the restoration of diverse resources that appeal to a wide-base of stakeholders and user groups, and 3) Alternative 2 provides a prudent "bet hedging" strategy that will guarantee success even under the contingency that a few populations may not respond positively to restoration efforts. I encourage you to take into consideration the above-mentioned factors when making your final decision on the allocation of funds from the MSRP.

Sincerely,  
Thomas H. Young, Ph.D. Student  
Dept. of Ecology, Evolution, and Marine Biology  
University of California, Santa Barbara

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Amy L. Musante [musante@lifesci.ucsb.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 19, 2005 10:36 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** public comment on MSRP

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker,

I am writing to submit public input to the committee deciding the restoration efforts for the Montrose Settlement Restoration Project (MSRP). I support alternative #2 which divides the money among peregrine, eagle, seabird and fisheries restoration. I believe that this would be the best use of the funds.

Thank you,  
Amy Musante  
3886 Sunset Rd  
Santa Barbara, CA 93110

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Karl Campbell [karl@fcdarwin.org.ec]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 19, 2005 1:25 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Support for preferred option- #2

Dear Montrose Trustees and Support Staff;

I have researched and published extensively on the restoration and ecology of insular ecosystems including islands in the Galapagos, Hawaii, Australia, Chile, Mexico and the USA. The long-term damage caused by the careless dumping of DDT by the Montrose company is an environmental tragedy. The settlement and subsequent draft restoration plan represent a huge opportunity to redress these wrongs. I commend you for the quality of the research and analysis that went into the draft restoration plan and lend my fullest support to the preferred option- number two. I feel this is without doubt the most efficient use of the money presented and will have the biggest short-term and long-term conservation benefit for the resources impacted by the DDT spill.

Sincerely,

Karl Campbell  
Field Operations Specialist  
Isabela Project  
Charles Darwin Foundation/Galápagos National Park Service  
Santa Cruz Island, Galapagos Islands

Postal address:  
Casilla 17-01-3891  
Quito, ECUADOR

Tel: 593-5-526-146  
593-5-527-014  
Fax: 593-5-526-146 ext. 102  
593-5-527-014 ext. 102  
Email: karl@fcdarwin.org.ec  
Web: galapagos.org

The Isabela Project is a bi-institutional project, jointly managed by the Charles Darwin Research Station and the Galápagos National Park Service

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EL CONTENIDO DE ESTE MENSAJE ES DE ABSOLUTA RESPONSABILIDAD DEL AUTOR. FUNDACION CHARLES DARWIN WWW.DARWINFOUNDATION.ORG

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Croll [croll@biology.ucsc.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 19, 2005 3:29 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Montrose Restoration Plan Comment - UC Santa Cruz

Dear Dr. Baker and the Montrose Restoration Committee,

Attached please find my comments on the MSRP. Thank you for the opportunity for adding my input.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Croll  
Assistant Professor





DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY & EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY  
DIVISION OF NATURAL SCIENCES  
CENTER FOR OCEAN HEALTH, LONG MARINE LABORATORY  
100 SHAFFER RD.

SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 95060

19 May 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Dr. Baker;

It is with great pleasure that I write to comment on the Draft MSRP. This is a well written and well researched document. The logic is sound and the prioritization of options are clear. Congratulations.

I want to express my support for the preferred option (number 2). It clearly makes the most sense as it provides funding to permanently restore seabird populations that were directly impacted by DDT discharges. Since the proposed actions provide permanent restoration, there will be long term benefits to the Southern California Marine Ecosystem and thus provide enjoyment to bird watchers in perpetuity. In addition, option 2 avoids the ethical issues associated with exposing bald eagles to potentially lethal organochloride levels.

As a seabird biologist who was born and raised in Palos Verdes, I am very familiar with the conservation issues surrounding seabirds and the long-term DDT pollution in the area. As a professor at the University of California, Santa Cruz, I have worked closely with graduate students and colleagues on organochlorides and other issues in ecotoxicology. With this personal and professional background, it is clear that it is a poor use of limited public conservation dollars to continue to prop up an unsustainable bald eagle population. Unfortunately, we will have to wait a number of years until organochloride levels, especially those in pinnipeds, have reached substantially lower concentrations. Only then can bald eagles be humanely and economically brought back to the Channel Islands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald A. Croll".

Donald A. Croll  
Assistant Professor

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd. Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

May 18, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker,

As a frequent visitor to Catalina Island and Laguna Beach resident, I have been studying, photographing, and enjoying a bald eagle that was released from Catalina's Institute for Wildlife Studies program for some time now. When you see this magnificent eagle in person, you realize how important this funding is for our national bird! PLEASE! Listen to the people who are being affected by the presence of the bald eagle. The people of Laguna Beach are aware of the dilemma the bald eagle is in if the funding stopped. Human intervention is still necessary to ensure survival of the bald eagle on Catalina Island. It's too soon to discontinue funding until the eagle is able to hatch eggs on it's own. PLEASE! Listen to the biologists! Also, the children in our community of Three Arch Bay have been learning about the Institute for Wildlife Studies program and want to see more bald eagles survive.

PLEASE find more funding after 2005 so we can continue to enjoy our national bird, The American Bald Eagle.

Thank you,  
Nancee Wells



3 La Senda Pl.  
Laguna Beach, California 92651  
[Grancee@cox.net](mailto:Grancee@cox.net) (949) 499-0398

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MAY 19 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

The following 140 signatures are from residents of Laguna Beach urging the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program to continue funding to Catalina's I.W.S. program after 2005!

Name

addresses

L.B.

- Casey Parlette 3 N. Encino Rd 92651
- Joan Heneghan 2 La Senda Laguna Beach
- Martin J. Heneghan Laguna Beach
- Ronald J. Waters 9 La Senda Laguna Beach
- Rita Gollerher 11 La Senda Laguna Beach
- MARCIA HINKLE 1 Bay Dr Laguna Beach, CA 92651
- Tom Hillman 19 W. Collier Ln LAGUNA BEACH CA 92651
- Sandra Gibson 31631A SANTA ROSA DR L.B. 92651
- William B. Biddle 3 S LA SENDA DR LAGUNA BEACH CA 92651
- Karen R. Honey 26 Bay Dr. Laguna Blk. (H) 92651
- Edna C. Gray 26 Bay Dr. Laguna Beach, Ca 92651
- Paula Bray 24125 Las Naranjas Laguna Niguel 92677
- Dem Walsh 101 S. LA SENDA DR. LAGUNA BEACH 92651
- Ellen F. Lee 65 S La Senda Laguna Beach 92651
- George Ricks 109 S. LA SENDA L.B. 92651
- Joe MANANA 105 S. La Senda 92651
- Ernie Lee 116 So. La Senda 92651
- Kathleen M. Dahlquist 109 S La Senda Laguna Beach 92651
- Paul Mayhew 15 Bay Dr LAGUNA CA 92651
- ~~Polina Hryn~~ POLINA HRYN 15 BAY DR LB, CA 92651
- Gordon Dahlquist 69 S LA SENDA, LAGUNA BEACH 92651
- Bug Mauro 4 Barranca Way, Laguna Beach CA 92651
- STEVE BLUE 4 N. DORTOLA, LAGUNA BEACH, CA 92677
- John Burns 8 S. Stonington Rd Laguna Beach, CA 92651
- Marcus Sargent 26 S. Portola Laguna Beach, CA 92651

Name

address

Justin 95 S. La Senda Laguna Beach <sup>926</sup>

Robert C Brown 33 North Senda Laguna Beach

Kevin Shroy 5 La Senda Place, Laguna Beach, <sup>926</sup>

Liz Shroy 5 La Senda Place, Laguna Beach <sup>926</sup>

Jenny Hoffman 5 Bay Drive Laguna Beach 9265

David Orffley 18 So Portola, Laguna Beach, 926

Lee Haver 8 Bay View Laguna Beach

Lesbeth Davis 94 S. La Senda Drive Laguna Beach

Wes Bluth 100 S. La Senda Dr. Laguna Beach <sup>9265</sup>

Gark Sampson 32 So. Portola Lag Beach <sup>92651</sup>

Alan Sampson 32 So Portola 209 Beach <sup>92651</sup>

Sharleen Sweeney 5 So. VISTA DE CATALINA LIB. <sup>92651</sup>

Judy Daniels 2 Bay Dr. Laguna Beach <sup>92651</sup>

Carol Lynman 11 No. La Senda Dr. Laguna Beach <sup>92651</sup>

Kathleen Dr. Gilbin 726 Senda Place, Laguna Beach

Lin Labahn 47 S. La Senda, Laguna Beach

Gary & Kathleen DVM 2900 So Coast Hwy, LAGUNA BEACH

Rob Strong 733 A Estero Dr. San Clemente, Ca. 92672

Kate Quinlan 26551 Fresno Dr., Mission Viejo, CA 92651

Louisa Garrod 29 North 2nd Senda Laguna Beach CA 92677

Mary Dubois 93 S. La Senda Laguna Beach 9265

John Spure 93 S. LA SENDA LAGUNA BEACH <sup>CA</sup> 9265

Clariz Donnie 104 So. LA SENDA LAGUNA BEACH

Nancy S. Sinner 104 S. LA SENDA " "

Name address

Kristina Luzzi 2 N. Encino L. Beach 92651

Delina Hill 2 N. Encino L.B. 92651

Marian Parvite Hubbard - 3 N. Encino L.B. 92651

Delinda Rubel

7 S. Stonington Rd LB 92651

Del Dillig DAVID FIELDING 7 La Senda place. L.B. 92651

Ann Taylor 99 S. La Senda LAGUNA BEACH

Mary K. Taylor 99 S. La Senda Laguna Beach

Kelly Kelly 6 N. Vista De la Luna, Laguna Beach

Tim Runci 4 N. STONINGTON RD. LAGUNA BEACH

KIRK DAHQUIST 69 S. LA SENDA

Brett Keast PO BOX 9233 So. Laguna CA 92651

AMANDA WYRZ 10 S. VISTA DE CATALINA <sup>S. 1149</sup> 92651

Aaron Brunk 16 S. Vista De Catalina Ca 92651

BILL McDehee 103 S. LA SENDA DR., L.B. 92651

Marye McGee 103 S. La Senda Laguna Beach, CA 92651

Imrey Torant 95 S. La Senda Laguna Beach. 92651

Ken V. Brown 91 S. LA SENDA " 92651

Ray G. Brown 91 S. La Senda Laguna Beach 92651

Angelina Kirkpatrick 10 N. VISTA DE LA LUNA

BROCK KIRKPATRICK 10 N. VISTA DE LA LUNA




LEA KIRKPATRICK 10 N. VISTA DE LA LUNA

TIM VERMILYA 11 S STONINGTON

Paul Pflieger, Laguna Beach, L, 31641 3rd Ave

CHARLE VERMILYA 35 S. La Senda LB

<u>Name</u>	<u>address</u>
1 x <u>Michelle</u>	Michael HINES 61 So. LAS ENDA
<u>Michelle</u>	George COLLEAER 11 LA SENDA PLAC
<u>Marilyn M. Freni</u>	Marilyn M. Freni #1 La Senda Place
<u>Isabella Drake</u>	Isabella Drake 116 S. La Senda Pl
<u>William E. Freme</u>	7 LA SENDA PLAC
<u>Gale Waters</u>	Gale Waters 499-2524
<u>Gay Sutherland</u>	Gay Sutherland 499-3150
<u>William S. Gallaway</u>	William S. Gallaway (949) 499-1612
<u>Brenda H. Gallaway</u>	Brenda H. Gallaway 106 S. La Senda
<u>Lauj Hines</u>	Lauj HINES 61 So. LA SENDA
<u>Jean Hines</u>	JEAN HINES 61 S. LAS ENDA DR.
<u>Jill Pillsbury</u>	Jill Pillsbury 63 So. La Senda
<u>Jerry Hayden</u>	Jerry Hayden 71 S. LA SENDA Laguna Bch
<u>Lorraine Atkinson</u>	Lorraine Atkinson 2 S. Stonington Rd
<u>Jill Buech</u>	JILL BUECH 6 S. STONINGTON RD, CA 92651
<u>Michelle</u>	4 N. Encino, Laguna beach 92651
<u>Cynthia Shirley</u>	2805 Park Place Laguna Beach CA 92653
<u>Cari Lightfoot</u>	1278 Kennebec St. Laguna Bch 92653
<u>Tamara Smith</u>	2347 Turquoise Dr. Costa Mesa 92626
<u>Diana Christy</u>	25152 Via Playa Dana Point 92629
<u>Kimberly Pamy</u>	Laguna Beach, CA 92651
<u>Barbara Wright</u>	17 N. Encino L.B. 92653
<u>Alyson F. Pascall</u>	8 N. Encino LB CA 92651
<u>Heaven Schwan</u>	4 N. Altamira Rd. 92651
<u>Juni Benson</u>	43 So. La Senda DR LB 92651

Name	Address
Kristine Torrance	360 Myrtle #A LB 92651
Skip Torrance	Laguna Niguel
Jessica Brones	Laguna Niguel
B. Magruder	Laguna Beach
MARK HENGER	LAGUNA BEACH
DAN MILLER	160 So. Coast Hwy. L.B.
JANET RUBIN	2826 BLUEHILL BAY, MONARCH BCH 92621
	392 LOOKOUT DR. L.B.
Nancy Magruder	2464 Mountain View Dr. L.B. 92657
	550 W. Coast Hwy LB 92651
	671 N. Coast Hwy, LB. 92651
Howard Cook	665 Cliff Dr Laguna Beach 92651
Fred Nicholson	12 Knob Hill Laguna Niguel 92677
Chirion WALTERS	4829 55 <sup>th</sup> St SD CA 92115
Tim Hawkins	P.O. Box 44 L.B. CA 92652
Charlie Magruder	29700 Smugglers Point Canyon Lake 92588
Marian Nicholson	12 Knob Hill, Laguna Niguel 92677



~~AA~~ Jim Lower  
12 So. Vista de Catalina,  
Laguna Beach, Ca. 92651

Sonia Meyerhof  
11 S. CALLECITA  
LAGUNA BEACH, CA. 92651

Robert P. MEYERHOF  
11 S. Callecita  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

~~MW~~ Jeff Friesen  
35 N Stonington Rd  
Laguna Beach, Ca 92651

Diane Hamchuk  
17 South Stonington  
LB 92651

Robert L. Warden  
3 La Senda Pt  
Laguna Beach, Ca 92651

Janice Welke  
3 La Senda Pt  
Laguna Beach, Ca  
92651

## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Randy A Lewis [randyray@catalinas.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 19, 2005 9:13 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Save the Catalina Bald Eagle

Dear Ms. Boxer please save our eagles they need our help, we have to stop hurting our animals and be responsible for what we put in our water we love our island and our great birds please come to Catalina and visit the great bald eagles it is our national bird we are proud to have it live on our Island!  
I am 8 years old I want a Bald Eagle to be here on Catalina when im 100 years old  
Tori

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Nina Karnovsky [Nina.Karnovsky@pomona.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 19, 2005 11:20 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Comments on Montrose plan

Please see my attached comments. Let me know if you have any trouble opening the document.

Nina J. Karnovsky, PhD.  
Pomona College  
Department of Biology  
175 W. 6th St.  
Claremont, CA  
91771 USA

phone: 909-607-9794  
fax: 909-621-8878

May 19, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802.

Dear Greg,

I am a Professor at Pomona College in Claremont, CA with marine ecology as my main field of interest. I would like to briefly make some comments on the Montrose restoration plan.

The efforts to restore Bald Eagles to Catalina Island have been well thought out and it was good idea to try to get the population there re-established. However, I strongly believe that the settlement money should not be used for this project any longer. It is obvious that the contaminant levels that the eagles are exposed to are still very unhealthy.

I realize that there is a lot of support for this project from the general public who understandably have become attached to these birds. It is wonderful that the reproductive plight of these birds has received so much sympathy and attention.

I believe that the focus of the Montrose settlement should be to reintroduce eagles to Santa Cruz Island. This project will help the Island foxes and hopefully the public will see the dire necessity of bringing them back there. It is likely that the eagles will fare better there because they will be farther from the source of DDT.

The settlement funds would also be more useful in funding projects that support the seabird populations that are impacted. In particular, eradication of introduced predators such as rats and cats will bring immediate and long-term benefits to the islands. Rats need to be eradicated from San Miguel Island and cats need to be taken off of San Nicolas Island.

The influence of contamination in the Southern California Bight extends across our borders into Mexico. I am in favor of the Trustees' proposal to support projects that work to restore the impacted seabird populations in Mexico.

Sincerely,

Nina Karnovsky  
Pomona College  
Dept. of Biology  
175 W. 6<sup>th</sup> St.  
Claremont, CA 91711

## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Robert Brodberg [RBRODBER@oehha.ca.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 19, 2005 8:04 PM  
**To:** greg.baker@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** draft plan comments



cmmtsMSRPdraft5-  
05.pdf (107 KB...

Hi Greg,  
some comments on the MSRP draft restoration plan. Looks good to me.  
Watch out for the mercury in wetlands. This may not be as much of a problem on the coast  
of open bays.  
I will snail-mail a hard copy.  
Regards,  
Bob

Robert K. Brodberg, Ph.D.  
Chief, Fish and Water Quality Evaluation Unit  
Cal/EPA  
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

Street Address: 1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Mailing Address: PO Box 4010  
Sacramento, CA 95812-4010  
phone: 916-323-4763  
fax: 916-327-7320  
email: rbrodber@oehha.ca.gov  
~~ <' ) ) . > < ~~

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# Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment

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Alan C. Lloyd, Ph.D.  
Agency Secretary

Joan E. Denton, Ph.D., Director  
Headquarters • 1001 I Street • Sacramento, California 95814  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4010 • Sacramento, California 95812-4010  
Oakland Office • Mailing Address: 1515 Clay Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor • Oakland, California 94612



Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor

May 20, 2005

Dr. Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd. Suite 4470  
Long Beach, California 90802

Dear Dr. Baker:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program (MSRP) Draft Restoration Plan and Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report. The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) would like to acknowledge and encourage the continued efforts of the MSRP to restore resources lost along the Southern California Bight as a result of the Montrose contamination. Our comments are limited to those sections of the Draft Plan that are most closely related to OEHHA's programmatic activities and responsibilities. These are the sections involving restoration of fishing services, fish, and habitats on which they depend. OEHHA finds that the projects proposed in Alternative 2 are best suited to restore fishing and fish habitat and should be adopted for implementation. Specific comments on these projects are as follows:

- 1) Artificial reefs and improved fishing access  
OEHHA supports careful placement of artificial reefs and as means of attracting less contaminated fish, displacing more contaminated fish, and restoring fishing for the public. As noted in Appendix A1, monitoring and long-term oversight is critical for reef construction. In addition to the reasons given for monitoring in this Appendix, long term monitoring is also necessary to confirm that less contaminated fish attracted to reefs remain low in contamination in these modified habitats. OEHHA also supports the MSRP developing other fishing access improvements.
- 2) Public information to restore fishing services  
OEHHA supports new and continued efforts by the MSRP to provide information to the public concerning fishing options and resource contamination. As noted in Appendix A2 this effort should continue close coordination with the Fish Contamination and Education Collaborative and member agencies (e.g., OEHHA) when developing educational materials, including those concerning fish consumption and the state's fish advisories.

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California Environmental Protection Agency

*The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption.*



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Dr. Greg Baker, Program Manager  
May 20, 2005  
Page 2

- 3) Restoring full tidal exchange wetlands  
OEHHA supports efforts by the MSRP to contribute to and partner with other groups to restore wetlands. It is important to support restoration of fish habitat in these nursery areas. However, wetlands and estuaries can in some instances be sites of increased mercury methylation, which can lead to greater bioaccumulation of methylmercury in these food webs. This might impact fish and human consuming them. This potentially adverse impact should be considered and investigated as specific wetlands projects are developed and considered for implementation.
- 4) Augmenting funding for Marine Protected Areas in the Northern Channel Islands  
OEHHA supports the MSRP augmenting funding for Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the Northern Channel Islands to enhance fish habitat in these areas as compensation for habitat lost on the Palos Verdes Shelf. Developing a better understanding of the effectiveness of MPAs as refuges and recolonization sites will contribute to future restoration projects.

In closing, OEHHA supports continued strong application of scientific studies in making decisions concerning the alternatives and activities to be included in the Final Restoration Plan. Should you have questions concerning these comments please contact me at (916) 323-4763. We look forward to the MSRP's continued efforts on this important restoration project.

Sincerely,



Robert K. Brodberg, Ph.D., Chief  
Fish and Water Quality Evaluation Section

cc: Val F. Siebal  
Chief Deputy Director  
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment  
P.O. Box 1010  
Sacramento, California 95812-4010

Anna M. Fan, Ph.D., Chief  
Pesticide and Environmental Toxicology Section  
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment  
1515 Clay Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, California 94612

5/19/05

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd. Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Mr. Baker and Concerned parties:

I have been following with interest the saga of the Montrose Corporation, their horrific dumping of DDT and the damages they paid to somehow make things better. I grew up fishing the waters contaminated by the dumping and though I now live 300 miles north of Los Angeles, I still feel great affection for the waters around Southern California and the Channel Islands. From San Clemente to Santa Barbara- these waters were my childhood playground.

After reading through the Draft Restoration Plan, doing some research, and discussing the issues at hand with biologists and conservation workers- I would like to give some input regarding the different alternatives that are presented.

Alternative one is immoral; we cannot sit on our hands.

Alternative three, while better than nothing is not the highest and best use of the restoration funds. I am concerned that if alternative three is pursued that the restoration program would be putting all its eggs in one basket (no pun intended). The introduced eagle population on Catalina is not able to reproduce. The residual DDT/DDE in the food chain is still causing thin egg shells for the birds. It does not make economic nor ethical sense for us to pursue this avenue until the residue levels subside. I feel it is cruel to take eagles from healthy populations and introduce them into the DDT riddled food chain that is presently in the coastal waters of Southern California. We all want to see the eagles succeed; they are an inspirational and stirring sight. Yet, we also have to rely on good science and recognize the reality of the situation. The Bald Eagle population cannot sustain itself without massive human manipulation and huge funding. What will happen to these birds when the funding runs out? I greatly prefer a project with permanent conservation benefits.

Alternative two seems like the most broad-reaching, flexible, sustainable, and best thought out alternative. This alternative continues to fund the eagle restoration work, assuming a self sustaining population, while also funding seabird restoration projects. Seabird projects similar to those proposed in alternative two already have an established record of success; money spent in this manner is rapidly paid back in increased populations and results in permanent conservation gains. These seabirds are an integral part of the ecosystem of our near shore waters and provide great pleasure to bird and nature watchers alike. To ignore their value and not fund their restoration would be a tragedy.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on restoration plan. I hope my letter will help you to make this important decision.

Sincerely,

Jonathan D. Steinberg  
917 Delaware Ave  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
sockmonkey@cruzio.com



## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Scheduling@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 11:09 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** funding for the bald eagles of Catalina Island

Catalina's bald eagle population is in danger, and we need your help if the eagles are to be protected. As you probably already know, the Montrose Trustees want to reallocate funds now earmarked for the restoration of the eagle population on Catalina to other areas.

There are MANY reasons to deny this proposal by the Trustees:

- Catalina was particularly hard-hit by the environmental damage of the chemical companies and is very deserving of these monies.
- it is too soon to abandon efforts to save these eagles. Evidence shows the eagles may soon be able to reproduce on their own. Don't give up now or all the money already spent on this project will be WASTED.
- the Montrose Settlement was meant to restore this natural resource to the public. And where on the Channel Islands is the public??? You got it. Catalina.
- Some of the monies allocated for this project would be diverted to projects in Mexico. Mexico did not suffer the damage that the San Pedro Basin did.
- it is possible that the abandonment of this project could endanger the Catalina Island Fox.

In short, please keep this project going. If there is a growing population on Catalina Island, this could naturally become a source for recovery of bald eagles on the Northern Channel Islands, **without needing the intervention and money from this project.**

Please, please, look into the face of a little bald eagle or Island fox and speak for them. They can't do it themselves.

Sincerely,

Susan and Bill Scheduling  
225 Clarissa  
Avalon, CA 90704

## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Cheryl Baduini [cbaduini@jsd.claremont.edu]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 12:40 PM  
**To:** MSRP@NOAA.GOV  
**Subject:** Comments on Draft Restoration Plan

Dear Greg:

Please find attached my comments for the Montrose Settlement Draft Restoration Plan

Best regards,  
Cheryl

***Cheryl Baduini, Ph.D.***  
***Assistant Professor of Biology***  
***Joint Science Department***  
***The Claremont Colleges***  
***Keck Science Center***  
***925 North Mills Avenue***  
***Claremont, CA 91711***  
***(909) 621-8816 (office)***  
***(909) 621-8588 (fax)***  
[\*cbaduini@jsd.claremont.edu\*](mailto:cbaduini@jsd.claremont.edu)

"The pessimist complains about the wind, the optimist hopes it will change, and the realist adjusts the sails"

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

19 May 2005

Dear Greg:

I am writing to comment on the Montrose Draft Restoration Plan developed by the Natural Resource Trustees Council. First, I support the Restoration Plan Preferred Alternative Number 2, which incorporates the allocation of restoration effort over a broad spectrum of resources, including, fish and fish habitat, bald eagles, peregrine falcons, and seabirds. I believe it is the best alternative because it is one which provides a long-term, ecosystem-wide benefit, over a multiple range of species.

Alternative 2 appears to be the most appropriate course for action because it is one which best mitigates the effects of the widest range of damaged resources, including many taxonomic groups that were affected by the long-term release of chemicals into the water column by the Montrose Chemical Corporation. I believe it is a better alternative compared to Alternative 1, which assumes no restoration action be taken, and better than Alternative 3, which divides up the restoration efforts and resources unequally among the bird component portion of the plan (bald eagles and seabirds).

As a biologist, I believe there is a compelling argument for allocating equal funds for seabird and eagle restoration. Many seabird species, including, Brown Pelicans, Double-Crested Cormorants, Western Gulls, Ashy Storm-Petrels, Xantus murrelets, Cassin's auklets, and the habitats they use for breeding, were affected by DDT and PCB's released into the environment in the Southern California Bight. In the draft plan, the Trustee Council used information regarding elevated DDT levels in seabird eggs and eggshell thinning as a criterion for assessing the importance and priority for restoration to these damaged resources. Compared to eggs of the same or closely related species at distant colonies along the Pacific coast, Fry (1994) reported that total DDT egg residues were significantly elevated in the colonies of seabirds in the Southern California Bight, compared to other colonies for the following species: Western gull, Double-crested cormorant, Pigeon guillemot, and Ashy storm-petrel. Xantus's murrelets also were documented as having elevated residues of DDTs in their eggs on Santa Barbara Island. Although many of these species are doing well and their populations are starting to recover, particularly for Brown Pelicans and Double-Crested Cormorants, their numbers, most likely, still have not been restored to those prior to the period of chemical release into the Bight. Because many of these species are ground nesters, in addition to possibly contending with reduced reproductive success due to eggshell thinning, they also must contend with introduced predators that prey upon and kill seabird eggs and chicks. The preferred Alternative 2 allows for restoration funds that would support predator removal and restoration efforts on seabird colonies in the Channel Islands and Mexico. I believe

these suggested studies are plausible, will greatly enhance the habitat of many species located on these islands, and will have a dramatic effect in increasing seabird populations. Predator removal and other similar studies have been successfully carried out on Anacapa Island, with the successful removal of rats, on other Pacific islands off Baja California (see Island Conservation Group Website <http://www.islandconservation.org/>).

I also support the plan because it allows for continuation of a commitment to restore Bald Eagles to the Northern Channel Islands. It has become apparent that even today, Bald Eagles occupying the Southern California Bight continue to have increased levels of DDT in their blood and eggshell thinning affects the ability of this species to recover in this area. The plan provides for a later revisitation to restoration efforts for the Bald Eagle, should the feasibility of restoration efforts in the next 5 years be unsuccessful. This is a key issue for the plan and I believe it should be carried out because it has been a long time (over the course of the last 20-30 years) that resources, such as the Bald Eagle have been damaged by the chemical release, and thus, the plan should equally have a long time of commitment to mitigating the damage. This should be true for ALL damaged resources.

I commend the Trustee Council for their willingness to solicit suggestions from scientists in the research community, government agencies, and the public. They have been given a great task to decide how resources be restored from a long-term damaging event that occurred in the Bight over many years. My hope is that they will take the best course of action that will have the broadest range of consequences, with an ecosystem-wide range of results that includes restoration of species, the prey they feed upon, and their habitat. Thank you for taking the time to hear my comments.

Best regards,

Cheryl Baduini, PhD  
Assistant Professor of Biology  
Joint Science Department  
The Claremont Colleges  
Keck Science Center  
925 North Mills Avenue  
Claremont, CA 91711

These comments are my personal opinions and do not represent the opinions of any other persons or organizations of the The Claremont Colleges.

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Leslie Baer [lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 3:56 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles! (BHCCV)

**From:** BHCCV@aol.com  
**Date:** Thu May 19, 2005 7:15:14 AM America/Los\_Angeles  
**To:** Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program<msrp@noaa.org>  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

As a interior resident and youth camp manager on Catalina Island I can not stress enough how important it is to continue to do whatever is necessary to insure the success of the eagle population. Please continue to support this program.

William W. Hartley  
Site Manager  
Camp Cherry Valley  
San Gabriel Valley Council  
Boy Scouts of America

Leslie C. Baer, MAOM  
Chief Communications Officer  
Catalina Island Conservancy  
(951) 733-2588  
lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org  
www.catalinaconservancy.org

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**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Leslie Baer [lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 3:57 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles! (Caldwell)

**From:** "Todd Caldwell" <tcaldwel@dri.edu>  
**Date:** Thu May 19, 2005 9:42:02 AM America/Los\_Angeles  
**To:** "Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program" <msrp@noaa.org>  
**Cc:** <webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org>  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

For years now, the Catalina Island Conservancy has worked diligently to manage and restore this unique island ecosystem. More amazingly, they've done the majority of this work with private monies. The Montrose Settlements Program could not be used at a better location. Please continue their much needed support.

Sincerely,

Todd Caldwell

\*\*\*\*\*  
Todd G. Caldwell                                      Soil Scientist  
Desert Research Institute                      2215 Raggio Parkway, Reno NV 89512  
Office: (775) 673-7368                      FAX: (775) 673-7485  
  
<http://www.dri.edu/People/tcaldwel/>  
\*\*\*\*\*

Leslie C. Baer, MAOM  
Chief Communications Officer  
Catalina Island Conservancy  
(951) 733-2588  
lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org  
www.catalinaconservancy.org

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**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Leslie Baer [lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 3:57 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles! (Sutton)

**From:** "Roy Sutton" <roysutton@jeffnet.org>  
**Date:** Thu May 19, 2005 2:28:09 PM America/Los\_Angeles  
**To:** "Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program" <msrp@noaa.org>  
**Cc:** <webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org>  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

May 19, 2005

Please do not abandon efforts to help restore the bald eagle population on Catalina Island and the San Pedro Basin in California (decimated by msny decades of dumping of DDT's and PCB's by Montrose Chemical Company) . It is far to soon to abandon efforts at environmental restoration ordered by the court settlement in the year 2000.  
 Here are some reasons why:

- 1) While DDT levels may be drecreasing in the eggs of one or two nesting pairs of eagles on Catalina Island, this is only the beginning--much more help is needed to restore health to these nesting birds now and in the future.
- 2) If these bald eagle recovery efforts succeed, then birds may be available to help recovery efforts on the mainland and Northern Channel Islands.
- 3) If efforts to help bald eagles and peregrine falcons on Catalina Island are abandoned, then the endangered Catalina Island fox population may be damaged by increasing golden eagle predation.
- 4) The Settlement Monies should continue to be used as they were meant to in helping restore impacted bald eagle and peregrine falcon populations on Catalina Island. This is not the time to siphon off needed monies for work on Northern Channel Islands and Mexico to the south.
- 5) Catalina Island Conservancy's educational programs can help assure continued public knowledge about bald eagles in their natural habitat and can increase public understanding and support for this restoration program, which in turn can help make this investment more cost effective.

Please do not lose this iimportant focus on restoring severely damaged, and still struggling golden eagle, peregrine falcon and Catalina Island fox populations.

Roy and Marge Sutton  
 989 Golden Aspen Place  
 Ashland, ORegon 97520

Leslie C. Baer, MAOM

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Leslie Baer [lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 3:59 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles! (Dnick07)

**From:** Dnick07@aol.com  
**Date:** Thu May 19, 2005 9:06:20 PM America/Los\_Angeles  
**To:** Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program<msrp@noaa.org>  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

catalina is the only place in southern califonia where i have seen bald eagles. Please contiunue founding the hatchery program for others to see and enjoy the indangered species. I hope you take this in to consideration of saving our bald eagle. This is the only place to see one in southern California.

Dominick Faraone, age 15

Please save our blad eagle,  
Thank You

Leslie C. Baer, MAOM  
Chief Communications Officer  
Catalina Island Conservancy  
(951) 733-2588  
lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org  
www.catalinaconservancy.org

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**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Leslie Baer [lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 3:58 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles! (Martin)

**From:** "Chuck Martin" <chashub@catalinaisp.com>  
**Date:** Thu May 19, 2005 3:40:04 PM America/Los\_Angeles  
**To:** "Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program" <msrp@noaa.org>  
**Cc:** <webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org>  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

I have lived on Catalina Island for 8 years and the sighting alone of Bald Eagles on our island is a thrill and joy for those lucky enough to have experienced that right. The fact that we here on the island are insuring the continued existance of these wonderous birds is a tribute to the world. As an islander and lover of nature please help us in whatever way possible to insure the necessary funding for their survival.

Charles H. Martin

Leslie C. Baer, MAOM  
Chief Communications Officer  
Catalina Island Conservancy  
(951) 733-2588  
lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org  
www.catalinaconservancy.org

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**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Leslie Baer [lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 3:59 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles! (The Smiths)

**From:** "The Smiths" <smith@catalinaisp.com>  
**Date:** Fri May 20, 2005 7:41:26 AM America/Los\_Angeles  
**To:** "Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program" <msrp@noaa.org>  
**Cc:** <webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org>  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

After the great success of this program another criminal act would be committed by ending it now. Years of painstaking work and care have brought these magnificent birds back from near extinction. But there is still along way to go.

Please let this program continue.

Thank you

Leslie C. Baer, MAOM  
Chief Communications Officer  
Catalina Island Conservancy  
(951) 733-2588  
lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org  
www.catalinaconservancy.org

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**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Leslie Baer [lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 3:58 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles! (Ginkgoone)

**From:** Ginkgoone@aol.com  
**Date:** Thu May 19, 2005 8:08:48 PM America/Los\_Angeles  
**To:** Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program<msrp@noaa.org>  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

Please help protect the Bald Eagles on Catalina Island. I spent many summers on this island as a boy and preservation of our natural habitat is what will keep our planet going. We as humans owe it to the animals and plants that were here before we modernized the Earth. Eagles are important in controlling rodent populations and keeping the food chain in check.

Thanks for your commitment to this needed project.

Carl Mellinger  
President Western Chapter International Society of Arboriculture  
Certified & Consulting Arborist

Leslie C. Baer, MAOM  
Chief Communications Officer  
Catalina Island Conservancy  
(951) 733-2588  
lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org  
www.catalinaconservancy.org

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**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Leslie Baer [lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 4:00 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles! (C. Falsetta)

**From:** "Falsetta, Christopher J." <christopher.falsetta@wamu.net>  
**Date:** Fri May 20, 2005 8:20:05 AM America/Los\_Angeles  
**To:** "Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program" <msrp@noaa.org>  
**Cc:** <webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org>  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

To Whom it May Concern,

It is extremely important to continue the funding for Catalina. The Bald Eagle restoration project is one the most important and publically successful environmental projects I've seen during my life. But it is not done, These funds which were designed to help restore nature from damage cause by DDT are best spent in a place where it did the most damage. The Bald eagles will soon be able to reproduce on their own, which is great! But their not their yet, a stop in funding would be like cutting their wings off just as their about to learn how to fly.

The Bald eagles are also a factor in the survival of the Catalina island fox. I have been a part time resident of Catalina for 15 years and would be devastated if something which has helped the island so much is discontinued. The beauty of Catalina is the most public place where these funds can do the most good. Why spend money on places less impacted by the DDT and less in the public eye, not a smart public relations move. Please please please, reconsider any attempts to remove funding from the gem of the islands off Catalina.

Thank you,

Christopher Falsetta

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Leslie Baer [lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 4:01 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles! (Mullin)

> From: "Mullin, Shadi \ (Exchange\)" <SMullin@bear.com>  
> Date: Fri May 20, 2005 8:23:19 AM America/Los\_Angeles  
> To: "Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program"  
> <msrp@noaa.org>  
> Cc: <webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org>  
> Subject: Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!  
>  
>  
> Please save the bald eagles. I grew up w/ bald eagles in the midwest.  
> Everyone should have a chance to watch these intelligent birds.  
>  
>  
> \*\*\*\*\*  
> \*\*\*  
>  
> Notice Regarding Entry of Orders, Instructions and Confirmation of  
> trades:  
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> is being provided to you solely for evaluation and general information.  
>  
> \*\*\*\*\*  
> \*\*\*  
>  
>  
>  
>

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Leslie Baer [lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 4:01 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles! (Ross Turner)

Begin forwarded message:

> From: "Webmaster" <Webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org>  
> Date: Fri May 20, 2005 12:33:58 PM America/Los\_Angeles  
> To: "Leslie Baer" <Lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org>  
> Subject: Fwd: Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles! (From the  
> Webmaster)  
>  
>  
> From: Ross Turner <rturner@GuidedDiscoveries.org>  
> Date: Fri May 20, 2005 12:22:35 PM America/Los\_Angeles  
> To: Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program  
> <msrp@noaa.org>  
> Cc: <webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org>  
> Subject: Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!  
>  
>  
> As the Executive Director for the Catalina Island Marine Institute for  
> the  
> past 27 years, I am very concerned with the natural history of  
> Catalina.  
> The island is a unique educational environment and each year CIMI  
> serves  
> over 30,000 children and teachers in our educational programs.  
>  
> Over the years, I have experienced many changes on the island and  
> perhaps  
> one of the most significant was the reintroduction of the Bald Eagles.  
> These magnificent birds have been admired and studied by  
> hundreds-of-thousands of our students over the years. Imagine a group  
> of  
> 6th grade students suiting up for a snorkel or boarding a research  
> boat and  
> all activity stops as 3 Bald Eagles fly overhead. What a great  
> teaching  
> opportunity. Our enthusiastic staff are always on the look out for the  
> eagles and this becomes an immediate focus when they appear. We tell  
> the  
> story of the Eagles of Catalina and how they were brought back to the  
> island. Of course this would not have been possible without the  
> generous  
> funding that has been provided in the past.  
>  
> Now, this is in jeopardy. It is possible that future students will  
> not see  
> the Eagle, but only hear stories and look at pictures. Now I know the  
> reintroduction was not done for educational reasons. This however, is  
> a huge  
> side benefit. It affects so many children and adults.  
>  
> There are many valid reasons to keep the program and continue the  
> funding  
> and I support the Catalina Conservancy in this effort. Catalina  
> Island is

> such a unique environment and the Conservancy is dedicated to  
> preserving the  
> island. It is truly a place that inspires people and touches lives.  
> The  
> Bald Eagle is a big part of Catalina's magic.  
>  
> Please reconsider the decision to stop funding this wonderful project.  
> The  
> Bald Eagles of Catalina should be an example of what we can do to  
> protect  
> and restore our precious natural environments.  
>  
> Sincerely yours,  
>  
> Ross Turner, Executive Director  
> Catalina Island Marine Institute  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Leslie Baer [lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 4:02 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles! (C. Heffernan)

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

**From:** [charles heffernan](mailto:charles.heffernan)  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 3:27 PM  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program <[msrp@noaa.org](mailto:msrp@noaa.org)>

Dear Mr. Baker,

Shame on you and the Trustees of the Montrose Settlement Restoration Program! I, along with The Catalina Island Conservancy respectfully disagree with the proposals favored by the Trustees, which would discontinue funding of eagle restoration efforts on Catalina Island. I am a parent volunteer (with a degree in Biology from U.S.C.) and for the last 5 years I have led groups of 6th grade students to Catalina Island to attend CIMI Camp. I take my family to Catalina Island on vacation. We look for the bald eagles everytime we return to the island. I use Los Angeles Times articles featuring the "dope on a rope" for discussion sessions with the students before we attend CIMI at Fox Landing. We need to protect the Catalina Bald Eagles for future generations to enjoy!

Wendy Heffernan  
Santa Clarita, California



## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Christine Abraham [cabraham@prbo.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 4:25 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Cc:** Bill Sydeman  
**Subject:** RE: Comments on MSRP



MSRP Comments  
May 20 2005.doc ...

Dear Greg,

We (PRBO Conservation Science, Marine Ecology Division) have reviewed the restoration actions listed in the draft MSRP (please see attached comments). Please contact us with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,  
Christine

Christine Abraham  
Marine Ecology Division  
PRBO Conservation Science  
4990 Shoreline Highway  
Stinson Beach, California  
94970  
phone: (415) 868-1221 (ext. 334)  
cell: (415) 717-6348

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

From: Annie\_Little@r1.fws.gov [mailto:Annie\_Little@r1.fws.gov]  
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2005 1:29 PM  
To: cabraham@prbo.org; wsydeman@prbo.org  
Subject: Release of Montrose Draft Restoration Plan

Hi Christine and Bill,

I wanted to let you know that the Montrose Draft Restoration Plan will be released for public review on April 8. The comment period will run through May 23. There are multiple seabird projects included in our Preferred Alternative. The plan will be available on our web page at: [www.montroserestoration.gov](http://www.montroserestoration.gov). Hard copies are also available upon request. Thanks for your interest in this restoration program.

Thanks,

Annie

PRBO Conservation Science  
4990 Shoreline Highway  
Stinson Beach, CA 94970  
415-868-1221  
www.prbo.org



prbo

Greg Baker  
Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

May 20, 2005

Dear Greg,

We have reviewed the restoration actions outlined in the draft MSRP. Considering the overall restoration goals and objectives of the MSRP and the priorities listed in the action plans for the restoration, management and protection of marine birds, it is our position to support management action "Alternative 2".

Thank you for your consideration of our comments. Please contact us with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,  
Christine

Christine Abraham  
Marine Ecology Division  
PRBO Conservation Science  
4990 Shoreline Highway  
Stinson Beach, California  
94970  
phone: (415) 868-1221 (ext. 334)

CC: William J. Sydeman, Marine Ecology Division (Director)

## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Vandever, Ina [ivandever@redding.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 4:25 PM  
**To:** 'msrp@noaa.gov'  
**Subject:** eagle cam

This work is so important to our future world. If a project was ever worthy of funding, it is this one.

Ina Vandever  
Redding Record Searchlight  
ivandever@redding.com  
(530)225-8206

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Marilyn Frost [frost1027@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 5:42 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina Island Bald Eagle program

For seventeen years, I have been bringing students to Catalina Island. In the early years, I would see the island fox scamper about the environs and the bald eagle nesting on the cliffs..... Then both disappeared. It has only been in recent years that once again the bald eagle has been spotted, and it always brings excitement since it is a rare occurrence. It is now my understanding that funding to support the reintroduction of the bald eagle is in jeopardy of ending. I feel it is too soon to do so since the island's habitat has not have regenerated enough time to secure the future of this wild species. Please reconsider the funding for this project so that the good work that has begun can be sustained.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Frost  
Teacher

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** WILLOUGHBYLasV@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 5:41 PM  
**To:** Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in an effort keep Catalina Island's bald eagle program going. It is too soon to abandon this project. Much effort has been put into studying the DDT levels and progress is being made. Catalina Island is a tourist destination that provides many people a year the opportunity to view these truly unique birds. Don't risk losing that opportunity! Due to the fact that most damage occurred off the coast of Palos Verdes and San Pedro, doesn't it stand to reason that Catalina Island would be included in compensation efforts? That is common sense to me. I have witnessed, first hand, the bald eagles on Catalina Island and have seen the dedicated staff taking care and pride in their conservancy efforts. Please take these points into consideration before making your decision.

Amy Willoughby  
Las Vegas, NV

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** dawn breese [dawn.breese@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 6:28 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Draft MSRP, Montrose Trustees

Dear Montrose Trustees,

I want to express my complete support for Option #2 in the Draft MSRP. I am a seabird biologist and have worked extensively in the California Current System. Option #2 is the best option because it protects all the resources damaged by the long-term spill. Option #1 is absurd. Option #3 wastes money on Eagles that simply cannot maintain a viable population without constant input of large amounts of money.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Dawn Breese

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** CB [cathetwo@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 7:56 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Montrose Settlements Restoration Program

To whom it may concern;

I am going to begin with pleading. Please do not take away the funds for the Eagles over fishing. This is so totally wrong.

The Eagle and other endanger wild life needs our assistance and funds. It is because of us, humans, that they almost became a thing of the past, it is not only fair but our responsibility to help them make a large come back with our funds. Be it funds given by us or our tax dollars. Especially on the west coast and mainly in the Catalina area where the eagles eggs are still very thin due to our thoughtlessness in the past. We must turn things around and make this right again. For you to divert funds for sport fishing is selfish and self centered.

Have you view and watch our beautiful National symbol???? Have you not seen the love they share for one another and the young? Have you not seen how protective they are with the young and their own 'home'?

Please do the honorable and correct things and keep the funding coming for these remarkable birds. If I lived in your area I would be attending your meetings and stating the same things but this is the best I can do since I do live on the east coast.

Please do not let these beautiful creatures have to try and reproduce when it is plain to see they still need our assistance.

Thank you.

Regards,

Cathy Brockman  
P.O. Box 9302  
Norfolk, VA 23505

=====  
I Live in my own little world,  
But it's OK,  
Everyone knows me here.

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Thomas Oberbauer [toberbauer@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 20, 2005 10:25 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Montrose Settlements

Dear Sirs:

I have been performing research on the islands of Southern California and the Baja California islands for the past 30 years. These are tremendously important islands and ecosystems, both terrestrial and marine. This region supports a broad diversity of marine animals and sea birds including at least seasonally a large pod of Blue Whales with up to 30 to 50 animals at a time. The islands are also critical breeding locations for a number of the seabirds that inhabit the region, several of which are not found elsewhere including a variety of storm petrels and the Xantus Murrelet, to name a few.. I am familiar with the history of the California Brown Pelican as well and how it was affected by eggshell thinning. It is extremely disturbing to find that the levels of DDT in the marine environment in this region are still so high that the Bald Eagles are still unable to produce fully viable eggs that have not been weakened by thinning of the shells as a result of pesticide residue. Under these settlements, I believe that the main efforts for improving wildlife that was affected by the industrial toxins should be on the general seabird and fish populations rather than the Bald Eagles because it is important to ensure that their populations can be raised up and maintained at sustainable levels. For this reason, I support the Second or preferred alternative. While I feel that the conservation of the Bald Eagle in this region is important, I also appreciate that this alternative will provide for a reasonable level of conservation of the eagles.

I am sending this message of support for the Second alternative by E mail as well as by written mail.

Sincerely,

Thomas Oberbauer  
Chief of the Multiple Species Planning Division  
Department of Planning and Land Use  
County of San Diego



## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Aaron Joseph Hebshi [hebshi@hawaii.edu]  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 21, 2005 9:16 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Montrose settlement - in support of Alternative #2

Dear Mr. Greg Baker,  
As a biologist who formerly worked on the Channel Islands for Point Reyes Bird Observatory and Channel Islands National Park, I am elated about the restoration monies available from the Montrose settlement.

I would like to give my support to Alternative #2, which attempts a more ecosystem-based restoration effort than Alternative #3, which skews money towards a single species, the Bald Eagle. While it is imperative that the Bald Eagle populations on the channel islands ultimately be restored, this can be done more inexpensively in the future when DDT levels are below levels at which the eagles can reproduce with minimal assistance. Alternative #2 distributes the money to crucial island restoration programs, such as feral cat eradication on Guadalupe and San Nicholas Island, and black rat eradication on San Miguel Island. These projects will benefit many species, and the island systems as a whole, and should receive top priority for funding.

Thank you for your attention,  
Sincerely,  
Aaron Hebshi

-----  
Aaron Hebshi  
NSF GK12 Teaching Fellow  
Department of Zoology  
Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology Program  
University of Hawaii, Manoa  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822  
(808) 956-4717  
hebshi@hawaii.edu

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Steve and Liza [steveandliza@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 21, 2005 9:38 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Bald Eagles

Dear Mr. Baker,

Please don't think that because a few Bald Eagles have been sited in this area that the recovery program needs to be eliminated. We need to expand it and expand all recovery programs, this is our national bird. As a child I grew up learning that we had managed to kill off a lot of species and in my life time I've watch us try to bring back some of those species only to find out we've manage to destroy others. Our environment is all we have to give to our children, we need more recovery programs everywhere to teach our children how important it is to save our planet.

Please don't eliminated this important program, I'd like my son to enjoy watching this magnificent bird fly through the air.

Thank you,

Liza Interlandi Stewart  
976 Santa Ana  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Cole Miller [musicalcole@pacbell.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 21, 2005 12:16 PM  
**To:** Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

Dear Mr. Baker,

I am deeply concerned that the proposed reallocation of funds that would end funding of the Catalina Island eagle restoration program will have profound consequences for the eagles that now inhabit the island. The work of Conservancy scientists and the Institute of Wildlife Studies has shown remarkable results and, as you know, the Montrose settlement was intended to remediate environmental damage caused by the systematic corporate dumping of DDTs and PCBs, which wiped out the Catalina Island bald eagle population. If the proposed reallocation is adopted, the bald eagles now restored to the island may well disappear, eliminating the opportunity for generations of Americans to experience viewing the bald eagle -- our national symbol -- in one of its native habitats. This reallocation, if approved, would also disregard the clear intent of the settlement, which was to address damage caused to natural resources such as the Catalina bald eagles.

I urge you to respect the intent of the settlement by continuing to fund the eagle restoration program on Catalina Island. Much has been done to protect this vital public resource, and abandoning the eagles now may cause irreparable harm to island's ecosystem.

Sincerely,

Cole Miller

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Lillian Heintz [lheintz@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 21, 2005 3:35 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina Island's Bald Eagles

Catalina Island holds a special place for our family through continuous years of attending scout camp there through several generations. This special location has given us up close interaction with nature. It would be a catastrophe to lose any of the natural inhabitants of the island. Catalina was hard hit by the systematic dumping of DDTs and PCBs over decades. Please consider the adverse ramifications of redirecting the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program funds.

- ❖ Catalina, the island hardest hit by the chemical devastation and most visited, should be considered for continued funding for its fisheries and ecosystems.
- ❖ Create an alternative that continues to provide funds for bald eagle restoration work on Catalina, ensuring that these magnificent birds will fly free for millions of Catalina visitors to enjoy today and throughout future generations.
- ❖ An investment in Catalina's recovery efforts is an investment in a comprehensive eagle recovery effort which includes the human intervention still necessary to ensure reproduction.
- ❖ Catalina's bald eagles fuel recovery elsewhere and have the potential to rehab the North Channel Islands as well.
- ❖ In order to meet stated goals of the Montrose Settlement, these funds should be applied in the areas of greatest impact, making Catalina Island and its surrounding waters the most appropriate site for use of Montrose Settlement funds.
- ❖ Public access to eagles should be a Priority. Catalina Island is the one place in Southern California that a significant number of people can visit to enjoy bald eagles in a natural setting.
- ❖ According to IWS's current data, DDT levels are decreasing in the eggs of at least one pair of nesting eagles. This suggests that Catalina's bald eagles may soon be able to reproduce on their own, and it is simply too soon to abandon restoration efforts on Catalina.

Respectfully submitted,

Lillian Heintz  
lheintz@comcast.net

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** KEVIN STREGE II [kstrege@catalinaisp.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 21, 2005 5:50 PM  
**To:** Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

Dear Mr. Baker,

As a member of the business community on Catalina Island, I respectfully ask that you help ensure continued funding of the Catalina Bald Eagle Project. Avalon exists almost entirely as a tourist destination. Much of the fascination in a Catalina visit centers on our ability to take a visitor back in time, visiting a pristine wilderness not unlike that which was present at the turn of the last century. Projects such as restoration of our island fox and reintroduction of the bald eagle strike at the heart of what the Wrigley's intended the island should provide; A place of natural beauty, accessible by a caring public. What better place to exemplify a successful Montrose Settlement Restoration Project. Having a resident and visiting population that fully supports the efforts of this project is certainly one factor in measuring the success of such a program.

Scientifically there are probably a number of reasons to continue the bald eagle restoration project. I know you have heard them all, many times. Having experienced some of these efforts first hand, I want you to know that participants, both professional and volunteer, are all working diligently towards the success of the program. This kind of dedication cannot be found simply by funding. It requires people willing to do what is necessary, backed by the needed funding. Taking your funding elsewhere certainly appears to be a bigger gamble than further investment in a project such as ours that already has such strong community support. Please stay the course and let the scientific results catch up to the community success.

I realize the ultimate goal of the Montrose Program is to restore species affected by years of pollution. What better way to exemplify the programs' success than by reintroduction of our national bird, the bald eagle, on historic Catalina Island.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kevin Strege  
President / CEO  
Catalina Island Vacation Rentals, Inc  
Catalina Island Real Estate, Inc.  
Future Chairman - Catalina Island Chamber of Commerce

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Dot Karlsen [dkarlsen@nyc.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 7:13 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Santa Catalina Eagles

Dear Mr. Baker -

I am writing to express my support for the continued funding of the Santa Catalina Eagles. I hope a decision is made in their favor.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Karlsen  
Flushing, New York

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** NYNAROSE@aol.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 7:43 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Cc:** Diane@mail.house.gov  
**Subject:** Bald Eagle Retoration Program

I heartily oppose any reduction in the Bald Eagle Restoration Program. I have spent many summers on my boat at Catalina Island, observing the eagles, and believe that this is a very worthwhile program, and should be retained.

Ralph G. Chadwick ([NYNAROSE@aol.com](mailto:NYNAROSE@aol.com))  
PO Box 914  
Wilmington  
CA 90748

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Chef Debbi [debbi@debskitchen.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 8:43 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina Bald Eagles

While it is understandable that it is frustrating to spend so much money and see little improvement it is still our obligation to the ecosystem to continue our efforts in helping these wondrous birds. By allowing them to become extinct on Catalina aren't we changing the existing ecosystem? We must continue to fight and improve their lives as ultimately it is us who are responsible for their plight. Don't give up.

Best New Year Dishes

The Seasonal Chef, Debbi Dubbs  
www.debskitchen.com  
562.243.3926



## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** todd marsh [toddrmarsh@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 10:07 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** comments to trustees

Per request made available to the Public in this Sunday's Los Angeles Times "California" "B" written by Marla Cone:

To: Greg Baker  
From: Todd Marsh  
Should you choose to respond to this email please do so visa vi my alternate email address:  
toddmars@dtienergy.com  
Thanking you in advance for your consideration

Greg,

First and foremost I commend the "trustees" for being considerate to allow comments and / or suggestions to be made.

On one hand I hope you are inundated with much to read (indicating the concerns and creative alternative ideas of many) on the other hand you're seated with a major task that appears quite heavy between now and tomorrow.

Time is of the essence so I don't believe you need lengthy comments to read right now.

I believe Ms. Cone in her article did a brilliant job in detailing both the background and current concerns of all parties. "Sitting outside the tent", so to speak, in her article she allowed me to see an opportunity that the campers inside the tent maybe overlooking. "1 million", visitors come to Catalina each and every year. I and my family account for five of those 1 million at least every other year. I believe the excitement of stepping off of the boat and the sadness of stepping back on the boat and having to say goodbye to an idyllic moment in time for all in their journey to Catalina is universal. No matter what the theoretical intent is for visiting Catalina, sun bathing, swimming, boating, jet skiing, scuba diving, snorkeling, even those who go there to over indulge in partying and getting drunk (though maybe not as conscious as the others) all 1 million are excited stepping off the boat onto the island and all have share some sadness getting back on the boat leaving the island. A brief sensational video should be done and presented on the boat ride going to the island. All 1 million visitors if properly and cleverly approached stepping back on or off the boat would gladly give 1-2 dollars each for the maintenance and restoration of eagles and ecology of Santa Catalina Island if what has been conveyed in this article was portrayed in a video thus generating minimally \$1-2million dollars per year.

The "croaker" fish may or may not be effective in being a "Guinea pig absorber of pollution" (kind of like putting a band aide over and infection/cancer).

However, the ability to use technology and with money properly spent with worldwide experts to find fish species that can be continuously commercially farmed immediately off the islands (Catalina , and its adjacent islands), not create an ecological imbalance and that will consequently make the overabundance and accessibility first most to the eagles and secondarily to the sport fisherman (with limited catches for the fisherman defined).

This will minimize significantly the eagles flight to Palos Verdes Peninsula and/ or other adjacent polluted waters while simultaneously address the "over fishing" concerns. Thus promoting and maintaining a healthy business climate and addressing the balance and maintenance of one of the most precious natural resources we have.

Santa Catalina can and should be the first of California's "Golden "Opportunities to incorporate the financial benefit of tourism and its excitement with the most pristine and beautiful exhibits of natural wildlife and the surrounding environments.

With Great Hope!

Todd Marsh  
toddmars@dtienergy.com  
ph:323.930-0111

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Joanne Lara [jolara@adelphia.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 10:33 AM  
**To:** letters@latimes.com  
**Cc:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Re: DDT May Outlast Eagles

RE: "DDT May Outlast Eagles," Marla Cone, May 22: While I strongly support the efforts of Greg Baker to help save the bald eagle population on Catalina Island from man-made toxic pollutants - DDT and PCB's dumped into our California Coast from the 40's-70's - I suggest that the eggs (as well as the eagles themselves) be tested for methyl mercury, the toxic fall-out resulting from coal-burning power plant emissions (there are over 1,300 of these power plants in 45 states emitting 48 tons of poison mercury into our environment annually). Alarming figures. Methyl mercury is known to cause neurological and biological damage to human as well as animal embryos (Miller, A. C., & Hamburger, T. (2005, March 15). Critics swift to jump on rule to reduce mercury emissions. *The Los Angeles Times*, pp. A20.

That state and federal regulators now want to abandon the Catalina project is in line with the current Bush administration and his ludicrous "Clear Skies Act" - which is in theory- "put a band-aid over a bullet hole" strategy. Covering up the toxic mess on the ocean floor with silt will last for only a short period of time. We must direct our efforts to reduce mercury emissions in this country as well as globally in order to ensure a safe environment for the entire planet. Not only are we destroying our animals - we risk the chance of neurologically mutating our unborn future generations on the planet if we continue to delay the regulation of toxic mercury from coal burning power plants across the globe. Environmental awareness is all our concern.

Joanne Lara  
Cal State University Northridge, Master's Candidate  
Thesis: *Environmental Toxins as an Etiological Factor in Autism*  
LAUSD Educator

7439 Orion Ave  
Van Nuys, Ca. 91406  
323 240-0361

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** sobaydiver-nospam@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 11:28 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Bald eagles on Catalina

Mr. Baker,

I grew up and still live in Los Angeles. The first place I ever saw a bald eagle in the wild was in Alaska in 1999. Until a few years ago, upon seeing these majestic animals while enjoying a weekend at Catalina, I had no idea that they had ever been part of the natural environment here. I now work weekends on Catalina and am thrilled to explain to customers that bald eagles are native to the island. For most people this is an education. All are thrilled to enjoy these sightings.

Catalina is the most accessible of the channel islands. The birds are native to the island. People have the greatest opportunity to enjoy the eagles in their natural habitat on Catalina.

My request to you is to continue funding the support for these birds in the area where they were most hurt by the chemical contamination. The money secured from the companies responsible should be spent where the damage was done. There is a future for the birds. Please don't cut them off too soon.

Respectfully,

Jim Adams.

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Gordon Priatko [gordon.priatko@nextsierra.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 11:29 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Please continue funding for the Catalina bald eagle program

Hello,

Please continue funding for the Catalina bald eagle program

I've reviewed the proposals at:

<http://www.iws.org/eaglecam/Executive%20Summary.pdf>

and

<http://www.montroserestoration.gov/pdf/msrpdraftplan.pdf>

I appreciate that the Catalina bald eagle program will require human intervention for the foreseeable future. However I strongly believe that this program merits funding. This project has created a great deal of positive public awareness. Loss of funding for this project would be a great loss for all of us.

Thank you,  
Gordon Priatko  
San Francisco, CA

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Gardner, Phyllis [PGardner@visa.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 12:02 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Restoration Plan Comment

To: Montrose Settlements Restoration Program, Attn: Greg Baker,

Dear Sir,

I'm writing to urge you to continue funding for the Catalina bald eagle program. I've been following the work of the IWS with bald eagles through their web site and it's helped me gain an appreciation of the issues affecting the bald eagles and the importance of the work being done to restore the eagle population and help make it self-sustaining. I feel that the project is very important and I appreciate the funding to date, and hope that the program will continue.

Sincerely,  
Phyllis

Phyllis Gardner | Sr. Systems Support Engineer, Corporate Internet | Visa International  
office: 650.432.1917 | fax: 650.554.3712 | pgardner@visa.com

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**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Sfipp@aol.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 12:11 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina Eagles

Dear Mr. Greg Baker:

Catalina Island represents what southern California would be like if it were not paved over or plowed under. Catalina turns back the hands of time. It allows locals and visitors including countless impressionable school age children (that participate in the Island's numerous programs such as the Catalina Island Marine Institute, YMCA, Girl and Boy Scouts, and Conservancy educational programs) to see living images of America. One does not have to travel to Montana, the Dakotas, or Alaska to witness buffalo, the bald eagles or even the endangered Catalina Island fox.

As an infant I took my first walking steps in the Island, and am proud to be a third generation summer Islander. I have witnessed the "come back" the Island has made under the stewardship of the Catalina Island Conservancy, the Institute of Wildlife Studies, Dave Garcelon and Peter Sharpe. I urge you to please continue funding the Catalina Island eagle breeding program so others can be touched by the majestic "magic" of nature on Santa Catalina Island. May our heritage never be plowed under, paved over or our precious wildlife be unprotected.

Most sincerely,  
Sheryle Brent Fipp

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Patrick Hopkins [baldnezz@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 12:14 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Bald Eagles at Catalina Island

Dear Mr. Baker,

I strongly support keeping funding for the Catalina bald eagle project intact. This is more than a dollar and cents issue. Their continued presence symbolizes what we once had and the potential of what we can attain. Their mere presence, so close to an urban population center, raises ecological awareness through out the southern California coastal areas. Until more definitive answers to the question, "can they produce naturally?" is known, we should keep funding this important program.

Thank you for your time,

Pat Hopkins

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<http://mail.yahoo.com>



**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Scott Dennis [stdennis@prodigy.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 1:10 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina Eagles restoration...PLEASE CONTINUE!!1

Greg,

As a very vocal and plugged in member of the LA business community, and a lover of nature and Catalina island...(possibly a future homeowner there), I STRONGLY wish that the bald eagle restoration continue to be funded by the superfund cleanup monies. The caviat of the public settlement put in trust was to use it in higher profile areas that impact the public.....where else is better than Catalina?

If people can't see eagles and learn about them and appreciate them when they travel, who the heck is going to care? You can't get this from the nature channel guys...wake up and use the money where it can do the most good for the greatest number....Catalina is the PERFECT spot to use for education of the public in these matters for many future generations.

Please act in our best interest...not some private government agenda.....

**KEEP THE FUNDING GOING FOR THIS EAGLE PROGRAM ON CATALINA ISLAND!!!!!!**

Thanks for listening...now go do the right thing.

Sincerely,  
Scott Dennis  
Manager of Education  
George C. Page Museum  
Los Angeles, CA 90036

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** CASEY ALLEN [acaseyallen@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 2:04 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Cc:** frank.clifford@latimes.com; Dana@Mail.house.gov; Karnette@assembly.ca.gov; Senator.Lowenthal@sen.ca.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina Eagles

May 22, 2005

To: Greg Baker  
 Program Manager  
 Montrose Settlements Restoration Program

My school, Haskell Middle School for the 4th year in a row has taken two all day trips a year with the Boone Foundation and the Catalina Island Conservancy. Over the years we have seen the progress of an environment trying to right the wrongs done by man and make sense of environmental issues that our students would never understand unless acquainted to it in the "real" method of field trip.

Catalina is a work in progress that cannot be seen anywhere else. ..Where man and the environment are working together to improve what man has done wrong and show we can live in an environment where man can be a part without too much harm.

If the Eagle project loses it's funding the eagles will leave, the environment will change and man will never learn how to "undo" some of the wrongs done by it. Public access--student access is so critical in educating our generation and future generations. You are not just funding an eagle project on Catalina, you are also making it possible to educate the next generation at the same time.

You say it's too expensive with not quick enough results? We Americans need to change our culture and not look always for the quickest, most money saving way of doing things...isn't that what happened when Montrose needed to get rid of their DDT??? Isn't that why it is in our ocean off the coast of San Pedro is harmful to all wildlife..because the DDT was not contained??

Can you as a committee take more time and study what really can be done without removing it from Catalina?? Unless you want to quickly get it out of the public eye again?? Please don't.

Our students need to learn about the eagles, the foxes, the biomes that are mostly unaffected by man and how man needs to take more responsibility for the earth....

I know that you know the end of your funding would end the eagles on Catalina. They will not stay in one location once they have had a season of not being able to reproduce. I know your plans are to take it to the other channel islands where there is very little chance, we of the populated world would ever see, hear or study about them again!!

I respectfully submit this for your consideration,  
 Alma C. Allen  
 235 La Verne Ave.

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Marda Todd [MarDat@richardtoddmusic.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 2:45 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Plight of the Bald Eagle

Dear Greg,

My 5 year old daughter Haley just saw the photo of the bald eagle on the front page of today's LA Times newspaper. She asked what the article was about and a brief discuss ensued. Her response was, "We must save the Eagles because they carry our heart on their back when they fly." The thought was so beautiful I wanted to share it with you.

Best Regards,

Marda Todd

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Robin Roe [birdegg.rrr@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 2:55 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Public Comment

May 22, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

I am writing in support of continued Montrose Settlement funding for the bald eagle restoration program on Catalina Island. While the bald eagles currently are unable to successfully hatch eggs without human intervention, I believe it is critical to maintain pair bonds on the island so that eagle pairs will be present when contamination levels are low enough that they can reproduce without human assistance. The continued presence of bald eagles on Catalina provides a native ecological niche filler, as well as an important cultural and aesthetic element. While contamination levels are unlikely to reach low enough levels in the near future, maintaining a successful fostering program allows wild-raised bald eagles to be introduced into the population. In addition, continuing this program provides vital experience in techniques that can be used in restoring bald eagles to other locations. The likelihood of successful breeding on Santa Cruz Island is also low. It would be irresponsible to completely eliminate bald eagles from Catalina (which will happen once pairs stop reproducing) and find reproduction unsuccessful on Santa Cruz Island. I recommend funding both programs until the feasibility of successful reproduction is determined on Santa Cruz.

Such amazing success has been achieved on Catalina Island with these birds. The fact that they still need human intervention to reproduce successfully speaks to the urgent need for clean-up measures for the spill. As long as we need to hatch the bald eagle eggs on Catalina, they are the canaries in the coalmine. They are the ruler by which we measure the ecological health of the waters of that region. We owe it to the eagles and their future generations to continue the program on Catalina and move quickly to decontaminate the ocean for all wildlife.

As an educator, I have recently taught my students about this issue and the bald eagles. Parents were stunned to learn that DDT is still affecting the birds and the ecosystem as a whole. Students and parents alike have followed the most recent chick fostering avidly on the website, thrilled that there are new chicks on the island. On a field trip to the island, many of my students had a chance to see one of the famous Catalina bald eagles. My son is one of these students, a fortunate child who has grown up visiting Santa Cruz Island on a regular basis through my years as a staff member of The Nature Conservancy. It is our dream that we will see bald eagles flying there some day as well and know they are helping to maintain a delicate balance. We hope to continue to see bald eagles on our visits to Catalina as well, knowing this is the place where it all began. The place where bald eagles were first

successfully and continuous reintroduced to the islands, to their ancestral home. Please continue funding for this invaluable program.

Thank you for your consideration.

Robin Rene Roe  
1122 1/2 N. Patterson Ave.  
Santa Barbara, CA 93111  
birdegg.rrr@verizon.net

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** f1racingfan@sbcglobal.net  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 4:24 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Santa Catalina Bald Eagle Program

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am writing to express my support for the Santa Catalina Bald Eagle recovery program. Although I realize the decision to best allocate funds is a difficult one, I am hopeful that the Montrose Settlement Restoration Program will continue to support the Bald Eagle program.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Grace Lalimar  
Newhall, California

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** John Martin [johnmartin654@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 7:38 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov; johnmartin654@cox.net  
**Subject:** ATTN GREG BAKER FOR TRUSTEES OF THE BALD EAGLE PROJECT

DEAR TRUSTEES AND GREG BAKER,

THE SOLUTION TO THIS QUANDARY IS ONLY CAUSED BY WEAK KNEED PEOPLE WHO LISTEN TO THE PUBLIC RESPONSES. IN PARTICULAR President Ann Muscat of the Catalina Island Conservancy. Who cares if her one million visitors are denied the infrequent sight of a Bald Eagle flying over Catalina, but she says it should be considered a PRIORITY !

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

17 SQUARE MILES OF VERY CONTAMINATED SHELF AREA WITH PROPOSALS TO POUR SILT OVER IT TO COVER IT UP IS COSTLY, UNLIKELY TO SUCCEED JUST BECAUSE THE PACIFIC OCEAN MOVES EVERYTHING AROUND ANYWAY (EXCEPT THE THICK LAYER OF POISONS).

SILT IS NOT STABLE AND WILL DRIFT ANYWHERE. From my early career in Commercial Fishing, most of the Islands off the Coast are separated from the mainland by deep trenches; more than a half mile deep between the contamination and Catalina Island for example.

NOT SO THE CONTAMINATION, IT SEEMS TO BE HEAVIER THAN SILT OR IT WOULD HAVE BEEN SPREAD OUT A LOT MORE. CONTRARY TO THE PREVAILING WINDS AND FLOW AT THE SURFACE, THE CONTAMINATION SEEMS TO HAVE DRIFTED 6 TO 8 MILES NORTH WEST FROM THE OUT FALLS.

ALL FISHERMEN ARE WARY OF THE OUT FALL BECAUSE IT PROVIDES A SURFACE APPEARANCE THAT RESEMBLES A LARGE SCHOOL OF FISH. REPORTEDLY, YEARS AGO, SOME FISHING BOAT DROPPED THEIR NETS ON THE CIRCLE AND DID NOT CATCH FISH, JUST A MESS TO BE TAKEN BACK TO THE DOCKS AND STEAM CLEANED.

QUESTION ?????? IS IT BEYOND THE COST LEVEL THAT MAKES IT NOT FEASIBLE TO DREDGE OFF THE BOTTOM AT LESS THAN 200 FEET ?

QUESTION ?????? IF SIMPLY PUSHED OFF THE SHALLOW SHELF INTO DEEP WATER (OR DREDGED OR MOVED BY DISTURBANCE OF AIR AND WATER STARTING FROM THE DEEP AREA IN A GRID PATTERN )..... WOULD THE DEPTH OF THE POISONS BE MITIGATED IN DEEP CANYONS WHERE BOTTOM FEEDERS DO NOT TYPICALLY GO ?

IF THE EFFLUENT DISCHARGE WAS NOT HEAVIER THAN SILT, IT WOULD NOT BE STICKING TO THE SHALLOW SHELF AND WOULD HAVE BEEN SPREAD FAR MORE WIDELY BY NORMAL CURRENTS, AND MOSTLY INTO DEEP WATER.

SUMMARY: WHO CARES IF 80 PEOPLE AND 200 MORE IN PETITIONS HAVE URGED THE TRUSTEES ..... TO KEEP SPENDING..... BECAUSE.... OF THEIR INDELIBLE IMPRESSION THE EAGLES MADE ON THESE UNTHINKING PEOPLE.

THE ONLY SAFE THING TO DO IS TO UNDO THE EXISTING PLAN WHICH IS OBVIOUSLY FLAWED, EXPENSIVE, AND DOOMED TO FAILURE.

1. LEAVE THE ALREADY POISONED BALD EAGLE POPULATION AT CATALINA, KEEP HARVESTING THE EGGS, AND INTRODUCE THE NEW BALD EAGLES AT FEEDING GROUNDS FAR FROM THE PALOS VERDES SHELF !

2. THESE GREAT THINKERS LIKE THE "ADJUNCT" PROFESSOR AT HUMBOLT

STATE WILDLIFE, SAY THAT IN A GENERAL STATEMENT, THAT GOLDEN EAGLES WOULD REPLACE THE BALD EAGLES AND CONTINUE TO WIPE OUT A DIMINUTIVE SPECIES OF FOX !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

3. WHAT A LOUSY ARTICLE BY THE LA TIMES ANECDOTAL STORIES FROM NON-ENTITIES WHO MAKE THEIR LIVING FROM THIS VERY SAME TYPE OF CONTROVERSY BY GETTING THEIR NAMES PUBLISHED.

THE WORD IDIOTS COMES TO MIND.

MAKE A BIG MISTAKE, SPEND MILLIONS OF WHAT THEY REGARD AS "FREE" MONEY, AND ADVISE THE EVENTUAL EXTINCTION OF THE BALD EAGLE IN THIS AREA !

SICK SICK SICK SICK SICK SICK PEOPLE.

CHEAP SIMPLISTIC ADVICE IS WORTH NOTHING, BUT

MOVE THE NEWLY HATCHED GROUP NORTH TO SAN MIGUEL/SANTA ROSA/SANTA CRUZ/ANACAPA ROCKS TO PUT THEM A MINIMUM 60 MILES FROM SAN NICHOLAS AND SANTA BARBARA ISLANDS. SANTA BARBARA IS. IS ONLY ABOUT 30 MILES FROM THE WEST END OF CATALINA AND THAT IS LIKE A NEIGHBORHOOD THAT THEY LIKELY FLY EASILY. SAN CLEMENTE IS LESS THAN THAT FROM CATALINA.

Islas de los Coronados only buys trouble with Mexico, which we found out when our government gave them new radar so they could catch and impound our fishing boats. They would want to run the program and spend the money.

Don't know the range for foraging, but Eagles in general can fly long distances.

I mention the Anacapas only because they can easily be seen from land and can be visited by the tourist fleet from Oxnard's Channel Islands Harbor. The birds could be established at one of the bigger Islands, and later introduced close to shore if practical for the tourist trade who might contribute to the Program.



## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** RichiesSister@aol.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 8:46 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** (no subject)

Please continue with the help on Catalina Island for the Eagles. It would be a blow to environment if they were not there. We need to preserve our natural habitats instead of ruining more. Please help....

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Donlloyd1@aol.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 8:46 PM  
**To:** MSRP@noaa.gov  
**Cc:** Donlloyd1@aol.com  
**Subject:** EAGLES ON CATALINA--GREG BAKER

DON'T WASTE TIME ON THE CAT THING YOU'LL SPEND ALL OF YOUR RESOURCES FIGHTING THOSE DUMB\*\*S CAT PEOPLE AND OTHERS LOOK AT THE PROBLEMS WITH THE GOATS AND PIGS AND PETA.....

JUST STAY WITH THE EAGLES 'TIL THEY'RE ABLE TO MAKE IT ON THEIR OWN....THEN IF THERE ARE ANY FUNDS LEFT OVE TRY OTHER VENTURES

THANKS AND GOOD LUCK  
DON LLOYD DONLLOYD1@AOL.COM

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Sharon Hardy [msbrhardy@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 8:58 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** save the bald eagles on Catalina Island

Hi Greg:

Please reconsider the funding redistribution. The eagles on Catalina Island really deserve a better chance to thrive and continue to reproduce. Future generations are counting on you and the Restoration Program to do the right thing. Thank you for your time and attention.

Sharon Hardy  
1437 Cerritos Dr.  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Mathew Christianson [mchristi13@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 9:17 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** bald eagle restoration on catalina

Greg,

I have just become aware of the preferred proposal which would include abandoning recovery efforts for the bald eagle on Santa Catalina Island. I urge you to reconsider this stance. I was not aware the recovery of egg densities was under a timeline. These eagles would not be in jeopardy and would certainly not be facing the reproductive difficulties associated with egg density they are now experiencing if it were not for the chemicals dumped off the Palos Verdes Penninsula. I think it is unreasonable to now determine arbitrarily they have been given their chance and now it's time to give up on them. Their decline was due to a specific cause which resulted in a monetary settlement which should continue to be used for their recovery until they problems the settled issue caused are no longer a factor which the species no matter how long it takes. I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mathew Christianson

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** cphell@netscape.net  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 9:38 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Cc:** Dana@mail.house.gov; Karnette@assembly.ca.gov; frank.clifford@latimes.com  
**Subject:** Catalina Bald Eagle Restoration Project

Mr. Baker,

I would like you to continue funding the bald eagle's habitat restoration on Catalina Island. My first hand experience with these birds has been one of the great experiences of my life and an experience that I've been able to share with tens of thousands of island visitors. I'm a long time resident of this California island beginning with my first trip into the island's interior in 1960. It was a different landscape then, and since that first time, I've had the privilege of watching the island literally regrow through the Wrigley family and the Catalina Island Conservancy's restoration efforts.

The restoration of the bald eagles is a significant element in restoring the island's ecosystems. I will not see the completion of this effort nor will my son, nor my grandchildren. But, my responsibility is to help with the efforts today, in order to insure its future success and their ability to experience one of the last natural California coastlines.

For the last eleven years I've conducted kayaking nature tours for Descanso Beach Ocean Sports. During that time eagle sightings have increased with each passing year. This year, the local pair, #80 and #91, has been fishing daily along the coast line west of Avalon. Nearly all of our customers remark that this is the first time they've seen bald eagles in the wild. For the children on our tour, it is a first experience in a life filled with first experiences.

"Wild" is an important distinction to make. Our technology seems to cushion and is that we have become a passive society engaged in virtual experiences. Reading and watching moving images communicates only information. Viewing a captive bird, even in the grandest cage, is still a limited experience. The sound of the wind in the feathers, the splash of talons, the bird's cries create an entirely different kind of knowledge.

This is not just another talking point on my tour or my political soap box. The smiles and the wonder I see daily on people who've ventured out into the ocean, most for the first time, is an equally rewarding experience. In all my touring experience, I've never heard anyone suggest that the effort and money could be better spent elsewhere.

Never.

Most people are glad to see that the deliberate degradation our coastal habitat is being restored. They can see it for themselves. They believe in corporate responsibility as well as individual responsibility. They tell me this every day that I work. The Institute for Wildlife Studies reports a reduction of DDT in the birds eggs. This is encouraging and should be enough evidence to justify the continuation of the project.

We are only beginning to understand the complex marine ecosystems along our coastline. The encroachment of development into the wild lands, the incidental pollution inherent with our development, and the deliberate polluting of our state's environment has altered all species and their habitat, our habitat. I do what I can to ease my impact on the environment. As a business owner, I took every step I could find to reduce the pollutants generated by my screen printing trade.

Today, I teach college students to write. Their studies involve more than just dotting the i's and crossing the t's. Like my kayak guiding, I'm introducing them into new and dynamic ways of thinking, to critical thinking and serious discussion of our concepts of responsibility. Our responsibility to our future generations is to improve the world they inherit and give them the means and education to continue to improve our world. Please, continue funding the eagle restoration project and provide another source of knowledge and

experience for our future.

Sincerely,

Chris Fell

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**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Doug Bevington [dougbev@ucsc.edu]

**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 10:25 PM

**To:** msrp@noaa.gov

**Subject:** Comments on Montrose Settlements Restoration Program Draft Restoration Plan

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker,

I am writing in support of Alternative 2 for the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program Draft Restoration Plan. Alternative 2 provides a more appropriate level of funding to restore seabird populations to regions impacted by the Montrose DDT releases. The proven effectiveness of the techniques used in this alternative to increase seabird populations ensures that the resources of this program will be best used to achieve the greatest benefit. I will be particularly grateful for the benefits of this program in terms of increased seabird viewing opportunities for myself and for other seabird enthusiasts when visiting that region. I also want to emphasize the importance of support for projects in Mexico to benefit seabirds impacted by the Montrose DDT discharges. These seabirds populations are fully deserving of your funding for restoration projects, and the potential for particularly significant benefits for low costs from projects in this area makes this an excellent opportunity to maximize the benefits of your program. So again I urge you to adopt the preferred alternative, alternative 2, as the best use of this funding. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Douglas Bevington  
Department of Sociology  
University of California  
1156 High St.  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Allison Pitaccio [bambina7@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 10:51 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina Bald Eagles

Dear Greg Baker and the Montrose Settlement Program,

I am writing you this email as a plea to continue funding to the Bald Eagle program. I've lived on the island, volunteered for the conservancy doing bird counts, and worked for the Santa Catalina Island Company in Avalon. Each time I saw one of the enormous birds flying over head I was in complete and total awe. It would be an absolute crime to give up so soon on such a majestic animal. Please allow these animals to reproduce and give them another chance to survive in the ecosystem the Superfund site almost destroyed. Santa Catalina Island is a beautiful and rustic place enjoyed by humans and animals alike. Please don't take this away from us!  
Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Allison Pitaccio

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**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Steven Birenbaum [stevenbirenbaum@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 10:51 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** To Greg Baker, Re: Montrose Settlements Restoration Program

Dear Greg Baker,

My name is Steven Birenbaum, I am 24 years old and a resident of Hermosa Beach California. I have recently come to understand the situation on Santa Catalina Island concerning the restoration of bald eagles. I am writing to let you know that I do not think that the restoration program should continue at this site. Due to the close proximity of the DDT deposits off the Palos Verdes Peninsula, I feel that continuing the allocation of funds from the Montrose settlements to restore bald eagles on Catalina would be a waste of money. I feel that a better way to use the money would be to begin a bald eagle restoration program further north, perhaps among the Channel Islands. Please take into consideration my feelings and discontinue the bald eagle restoration program at Catalina and use the funds elsewhere.

Thank you very much for your time,

Steven Birenbaum

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## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** david weisman [davidelweisman3@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 11:44 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Comments on the 445 page Montrose Restoration Draft Plan

Att. Mr Greg Baker

As the son of a man who served on a surveying ship in Alaska (real bald eagle country) for a predecessor of NOAA ( the Coast and Geodetic Survey)

and as a former student of Stanford Prof. George Polya author of `How to solve it`who recommended shifting one's attention to a larger problem if the immediate problem seemed intractable.

and as an engineer who has watched the benthic surface concentration of DDT around the Palos Verdes outfalls drop orders of magnitude since the 70's

i agree that focusing on those bald eagles who have chosen to nest within 50 kilometers of the DDT deposits and the larges,busiest port in area in the West Coast of the Americas seems a recipe for frustration.

As your plan report statesL: Bald eagles can and do fly from Catalina to the northern Channel islands and from the noirthern islands to the mainland.

Let our perspective zoom out and see the entire archipelago of Channel Islands as one ecological niche. and the the species of bald eagle as one important top predator species

Maybe the program should move eagles from both Alaska and Catalina to the northern Channel islands -to maintain a top predator for the channel islands ecosystem,un til a reasonable rate of erburial of hte DDT occurs -- following the susbstantial loss of cover when the outfalls ceased toi carry much `clean sediment deposits from primary sewage effluent.

David L. Weisman  
4643 Maytime Lane  
Culver City CA 90230  
PH (310) 559-1926  
(310 -619-6289

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Leslie Nyquist [leslienyquist@cox.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 11:53 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** MSRP Draft Restoration Plan

May 22, 2005

TO:  
Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

FROM:  
Leslie Nyquist  
27132 Camino Barcelos  
Laguna Niguel, CA 92677

COMMENT ON MSRP DRAFT RESTORATION PLAN:

Thank you for considering my comments on these issues. It is a shame there is not enough money to fund all of the options and get rid of the DDT/PCBs as well.

I am in favor of Alternative 3, in which the Catalina Island eagle restoration program continues to be funded. However, I think the \$12 million for Fishing/Fish Habitat Restoration should be distributed according to Alternative 2.

Kind regards,  
Leslie Nyquist

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Bill Hurst [hurstb@worldminerals.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 2:35 AM  
**To:** MSRP@NOAA.Gov  
**Subject:** DDT/ Potential Remedy

Greg,

I read the LA times piece. I know of at least one recent example where highly toxic organics (e.g., sarin gas) can be rendered harmless by an industrial enzyme.

The enzymes are cheap and there is plenty of capacity to make them at companies like Genencor International. The difficulty is engineering the enzyme that could take 12-24 months. They are made with recombinant yeast.

If the DDT is still in localized deposits one could release these enzymes under water (over the deposit) over a period of years to get a reduction in DDT.

Best Regards,  
Bill Hurst  
Senior Director of Regulatory Affairs & Process Development, Worldwide

Celite Corporation  
Advanced Minerals Corporation  
[http://www.advancedminerals.com/am\\_intro.htm](http://www.advancedminerals.com/am_intro.htm)

130 Castilian Drive  
Santa Barbara, CA 93117

Voice: 805-562-0267  
Fax: 805-690-7305  
e-mail: hurstb@worldminerals.com

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## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Flo Loring [floring@saugus.k12.ca.us]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 7:44 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Bald Eagles

Dear Mr. Baker,

I visit Catalina Island each year with around 100 students. One of the most inspiring sights we have seen are the bald eagles. Seeing those magnificent birds so close is an indescribable thrill. And hearing the story about their comeback helps students understand the responsibility we all have toward our environment and the creatures who share it with us.

It would be a shame if these birds were no longer part of our world. I urge you to find a way to keep funding for this program.

Florence Loring  
Plum Canyon Elementary School

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** hobraigh kozlow [hobie90@juno.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 28, 2005 7:58 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** CATALINA BALD EAGLES

PLEASE, PLEASE SAVE THE BALD EAGLES. WILDLIFE IS TO PRECIOUS AND SO IN DANGER THANK YOU,  
HOBIE KOZLOW

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Candice Broussard [croussard@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 8:27 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Comments on the Catalina Bald Eagle Breeding Program

As a diver and kayaker, I visit the Channel Islands often, Catalina Island with the most frequency - at least monthly. I've observed the bald eagles nesting and hunting for prey in the oceans offshore. I with this in mind I would like to provide input to the plans under consideration.

- I do not agree with the trustee's "preferred alternative" of diverting funds away from Catalina to bring eagles to more remote islands. The bald eagles are needed to restore the correct balance of nature on Catalina. If we let this plan go, we may find ourselves spending even more (taxpayer) money later on trying to restore the balance through other means.

- I do not agree with the point in the plan to spend \$1,000,000 on educating fisherman on where to fish to avoid the contaminated fish. Much has already been spent in this area and so many people go out on commercial sport fishing boats who are well versed in this area. Instead, the \$1,000,000 should be combined with the \$500,000 set aside for enforcing the no-fishing reserves which are in place and planned for the future.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Candice Broussard  
26359 Regent Ave.  
Lomita, Ca. 90717

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Deborah Edwards Lerner [LernerDE@adelphia.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 5:48 PM  
**To:** greg.baker@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Eagle Project

Good morning Mr. Baker,

I understand from Sunday's LA Times article that you are the person receiving comments regarding continuation of the eagle project.

As a retired chemist, I find it very difficult to believe that DDT & PCBs from fish are responsible for the failure of this project. If this were the case, I reckon we would find the following:

1. The CA-EPA would have issued warning about human consumption of fish caught in the Catalina Channel and for some area around Catalina.
2. The brown pelican, previously endangered by soft shells due to DDT, would still be experiencing the problem; it is not.
3. Seagulls, the most prolific scavenger of the ocean, would be found to be suffering from soft shells.
4. Given the time between dumping and today, considering the normal deposition rate of sediments, it is very likely the toxins are capped. (Refer to the current fight over dredging the Hudson River for PCBs after science has determined they are capped by sediments and disruption of the bottom will renew the toxic problems.)

If these birds are unable to survive, it is a pity. But we must move funding to places that benefit the environment better. One more bird of prey will make little, if any difference, to the ecology of the Channel Islands.

Kind regards,  
Geoff Lerner  
Yorba Linda, CA



## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Stephen Walton [sww@propertyline.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 9:09 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Eagle Project

To whom it may concern,

Please continue funding the important work of the Bald Eagle Restoration Project. The DDT problems have been a disaster, and work such as this is critical for such species' recovery from the damage we, as humans, have caused. It would be a shame to stop now, with the progress that has already been made and the potential progress that could be made with your continued funding.

Thank you,  
Stephen Walton  
swalton@propertyline.com

## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** mike ezell [mikeezell@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 21, 2005 4:46 PM  
**To:** greg.baker@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Funding for the restoration of Catalina Bald Eagles

We feel that the funding for the restoration of the bald eagles on Catalina Island should continue. This island is visited by more people than any of the other channel islands, a successful program is already in place, and if this funding is withdrawn the success of the birds on this island and others is at risk.

Mike and Connie Ezell

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Myra Finkelstein [myraf@cats.ucsc.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 10:23 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** comment - Montrose Settlements Restoration Program

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802.

Dear Mr. Baker,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Restoration Plan of the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program. I commend the council for their efforts in developing a well-researched and comprehensive plan. As a lifelong California resident, avid bird watcher, and toxicologist, I want to take this opportunity to provide comments on several of the proposed restoration actions.

I agree with the council's efforts to pursue restoration projects that have the goal of permanent restoration. Because of the extremely high DDE concentrations present in egg tissue, I believe the council has made the right decision to not continue the Catalina Island Bald Eagle restoration program at this time. I also agree the Santa Cruz Island eagle restoration program should be postponed until the birds are able to reproduce on their own. DDE and PCBs impact wildlife beyond just reduced reproductive success and I feel it is the council's duty to also consider these other effects when weighing the decision of whether to proceed with eagle restoration. DDE concentrations high enough to cause impaired egg shell production are most likely also causing immune and/or endocrine disruption in the resident eagle population. If the council were to enact alternative three and continue Catalina Island Eagle restoration and / or proceed with the Santa Cruz Island eagle restoration, these additional impacts to eagle health should be considered.

Sincerely,

Myra Finkelstein, PhD  
Department of Environmental Toxicology  
University of California  
Santa Cruz, CA 95064  
Phone (831) 459-4571  
Fax (831) 459-3524  
[myraf@ucsc.edu](mailto:myraf@ucsc.edu)

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** shlomiller@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 10:39 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina bald eagle project

Dear Mr. Baker,

The Montrose Settlement Restoration Program should continue funding the Catalina Island bald eagle project, at least temporarily while its effectiveness and long-term prospects are further evaluated. To discontinue funding now would be a premature admission of defeat.

I may be considered biased since my family has owned a home in Avalon since 1968, but on the other hand I have been boating locally since 1970 from the Coronados to San Miguel Island, as well as from San Francisco to Cabo San Lucas and out to Hawaii. I have come to appreciate the unique histories, beauties and ecologies of each of these areas and therefore realize it is difficult to choose among worthy goals. On balance, though I believe Montrose money should go to the "Montrose problem" in the area bounded by Pt. Vincente, Angel's Gate and Catalina. The area should not be written off when issues still hang in the balance.

The Catalina project is worthy in and of itself but also has dramatic symbolic value in raising public awareness of issues related to the islands and waters beyond. Its success, however fragile, provides hope and stimulates fundraising for other environmental efforts. Allowing the project to founder might cause that hope to give way to a sense of resignation and inevitability that would be counterproductive in the long term, not just for restoration efforts in the Montrose-blighted area but elsewhere.

Although success on other issues elsewhere would be welcome, I urge you to give considerable weight to the symbolic value of the Catalina bald eagle project in deciding how best to allocate funds among various competing goals in Southern California and beyond.

Sincerely,

Jim Miller  
Torrance, CA.

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Dennis, Meg (IBD) [Meg.Dennis@morganstanley.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 10:48 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina Bald Eagles

To Whom This Concerns:

I read the article in Sunday's Los Angeles Times regarding the possible cessation of efforts that work to diminish the effects of chemical deposits and promote the preservation of the bald eagles on Catalina Island. I feel very, very strongly that just because a great deal of money has already been spent, this does not mean it has been in vain. As the article stated, experts predict that if the chemical deposit were sealed, poison concentrations in Catalina's eagles and Southern California's other wildlife would decline rapidly. Regardless of there being no guarantee that all the females will be able to reproduce, we must continue to recognize that these animals are our heritage. We should honor that and continue the restoration efforts.

Sincerely,

Margaret C. Dennis  
Los Angeles, CA

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## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Peter\_Knudson@comerica.com  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 11:13 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov; dana@mail.house.gov; karnette@assembly.ca.gov;  
senator.lowenthal@sen.ca.gov; frank.clifford@latimes.com; jkay@sfchronicle.com  
**Cc:** WebMaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** CATALINA ISLAND BALD EAGLE POPULATION

I urge you to support the continuation of funding to support the restoration effort of the Institute for Wildlife Studies to enable a continuing growth of the Bald Eagle population on Catalina Island. I offer the following points in support of this request:

>- Too Soon to Abandon Efforts - According to IWS's current data, DDT levels  
>are decreasing in the eggs of at least one pair of nesting eagles.  
>This suggests that Catalina's bald eagles may soon be able to reproduce  
>on  
>their  
>own, and it is simply too soon to abandon restoration efforts on  
>Catalina.

>  
>- Eagles Now Present May Leave - It cannot be assumed that Catalina's  
>current population of eagles would stay on the Island if they couldn't  
>reproduce over the next few years; and, in fact, the reallocation of  
>funds could mean the disappearance once again of bald eagles from  
>Catalina. This could impact all of the Channel Islands.

>  
>- Public Access to Eagles Should Be a Priority! - With more than a  
>million visitors each year, and as the only Channel Island with  
>significant visitation, Catalina Island is the one place in Southern  
>California that a significant number of people can visit to enjoy bald  
>eagles in a natural setting. Since the Montrose Settlement was meant to  
>restore this natural resource to the public, Catalina should be a  
>priority where funding restoration efforts is concerned.

>  
>- Settlement Monies Are Most Appropriately Used On and Near Catalina -  
>Montrose Settlement monies were meant to address damage to natural  
>resources such as bald eagles that were impacted by DDT and PCBs  
directly.

>They were not meant for addressing the impacts of introduced predators  
>and invasive plant species that are now negatively impacting sea bird  
>populations. The Trustees are proposing that as an alternative to  
>funding the important bald eagle or peregrine falcon restoration work  
>on Catalina, or fisheries restoration around Catalina, the monies be  
>reallocated to

fund  
>bald eagle and marine restoration on the Northern Channel Islands and  
>for the eradication of cats and rats, some of which would be done in  
>Mexico. These locations are far from Catalina and the San Pedro Basin,  
>the site of the greatest impacts. In order to meet stated goals of the  
>Montrose Settlement, these funds should be applied in the areas of  
>greatest impact, making Catalina Island and its surrounding waters the  
>most appropriate  
site  
>for use of Montrose Settlement funds.

>  
>- Catalina's Endangered Fox is at Risk - Abandoning bald eagle  
restoration  
>on Catalina may put the Catalina Island fox population at risk. While  
>much is unknown, it is possible that the presence of bald eagles on  
>Catalina deters the formation of a golden eagle population. Golden  
>eagles have decimated Island fox populations in the Northern Channel

>Islands. Discontinuing bald eagle restoration efforts on Catalina is  
>simply too risky to the continued recovery of the Catalina Island fox,  
>which is federally listed as an endangered species and is found on  
>Catalina and nowhere else in the world.

>  
>- Catalina's Bald Eagles Fuel Recovery Elsewhere - The bald eagles  
>that are being produced on Catalina Island are a potential source  
>population  
for  
>recovery of bald eagles on the Northern Channel Islands, and for the  
>adjacent mainland.

>  
>- Catalina is the Most Cost-Effective Investment - An investment in  
>Catalina's recovery efforts is an investment in a comprehensive eagle  
>recovery effort which includes the human intervention still necessary  
>to ensure reproduction, the protection and restoration of eagle habitat  
>that is critical to the birds' survival on the Island, and, important  
>educational outreach efforts that engender an appreciation of these  
>magnificent birds and inspire the public to support their  
>reestablishment and protection.

>  
>- Support the Catalina Bald Eagle Alternative - In their own plan, the  
>Committee identifies an alternative that would use part of the  
>settlement funds to support eagle restoration on Catalina in the long  
>term. They  
would  
>prefer, however, to spend the money on species in far-away places.  
>Please ask that they create an alternative that continues to provide  
>funds for bald eagle restoration work on Catalina, ensuring that these  
>magnificent birds will fly free for millions of Catalina visitors to  
>enjoy today and throughout future generations.

>  
>- Support Habitat Restoration on Catalina Island - Bald eagles,  
>peregrine falcons, and sea birds need a healthy ocean and island. The  
>Committee also proposes to spend significant funds supporting research  
>on fisheries in  
the  
>recently designated Marine Protected Areas on the Northern Channel  
Islands.  
>Catalina, the island hardest hit and most visited, should be considered  
for  
>funding for its fisheries and ecosystems.

Thank you for your consideration.

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Aspray, Robert W [robert.w.aspray@boeing.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 10:42 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Continue Funding the Catalina Bald Eagle Project

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program

The continued funding of the Catalina Island Bald Eagle Project is of great importance due the fact that hundreds of thousands of visitors to the island each year will have the opportunity to see the Eagles. Last year, my wife and I, our two daughters, and two grand-daughters saw a Bald Eagle for the first time ever during our visit to Catalina Island. This would not have been possible if the eagles where on the Channel Islands.

Thank You



## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Mike Raugh [raugh@interconnect.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 11:30 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

Come on, you guys, get serious! If Catalina is where Montrose Chemical did the most damage, then that's where most of the remediation funds should be directed. If other projects need your support, then raise funds for those other projects, don't divert! -Mike Raugh

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Leslie Baer [lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 11:58 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** MSRP/Mr. Baker, reply to ZRHockey@aol.com

**From:** ZRHockey@aol.com  
**Date:** Sun May 22, 2005 12:28:37 PM America/Los\_Angeles  
**To:** Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program<msrp@noaa.org>  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

Mr. Baker and Others,

I am an environmental educator on Santa Catalina Island. I work with students who are Island residents, as well as those visiting from elsewhere.

Occasionally, during our programs, we have had the unique experience of having a bald eagle soar proudly over our heads. No matter the academic level of the students, the reaction is always the same. Students stop whatever they are doing and simply watch. They can't help it. They are captivated. The impact of a bald eagle sighting out in the wilder parts of Catalina cannot be matched. It is difficult for me to imagine that these experiences may be in jeopardy.

It seems to me that the Montrose Settlement monies would be best spent with recovery efforts in the area that was most affected by the actions that led to the lawsuit. The Bald Eagle Restoration project on Catalina Island has shown great successes. It is working. We just need more time to finish what was started.

Also, please allow me to write about the potential environmental impact of losing this magnificent bird. Some scientists suggest that the golden eagle may populate Catalina Island if the bald eagle moves away. We have just recently had success repopulating the Island with our endemic subspecies of island fox. As you know, golden eagles are natural predators for foxes, especially the pups. The potential presence of golden eagles on Catalina should be sufficient reason to make sure that bald eagles maintain a presence here.

Please do not move funding away from the bald eagle efforts on Catalina Island. The long-lasting effects could be irreparably damaging to the experiences had by residents and visitors alike.

Thank you for your attention.

Naturally,

Rich Zanelli

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Leslie Baer [lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 12:03 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** MSRP/Mr. Baker, reply to RichiesSister@aol.com

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Webmaster" <Webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org>  
**Date:** Sun May 22, 2005 8:18:29 PM America/Los\_Angeles  
**To:** "Leslie Baer" <Lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles! (From the Webmaster)

**From:** RichiesSister@aol.com  
**Date:** Sun May 22, 2005 8:11:12 PM America/Los\_Angeles  
**To:** Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program<msrp@noaa.org>  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

I think this is a worth wild cause and should be continued. We are losing too much of our environment now. Please help....

Leslie C. Baer, MAOM  
Chief Communications Officer  
Catalina Island Conservancy  
(951) 733-2588  
lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org  
www.catalinaconservancy.org

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**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Leslie Baer [lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 12:04 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** MSRP, please reply to Akatehakis@hotmail.com

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Webmaster" <Webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org>  
**Date:** Sun May 22, 2005 10:46:55 PM America/Los\_Angeles  
**To:** "Leslie Baer" <Lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles! (From the Webmaster)

**From:** "Alexandra Katehakis" <Akatehakis@hotmail.com>  
**Date:** Sun May 22, 2005 10:39:46 PM America/Los\_Angeles  
**To:** "Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program" <msrp@noaa.org>  
**Cc:** <webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org>  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

I urge you to continue the eagle restoration project. Thank you. Alexandra Katehakis  
Los Angeles, CA

Leslie C. Baer, MAOM  
Chief Communications Officer  
Catalina Island Conservancy  
(951) 733-2588  
lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org  
www.catalinaconservancy.org

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## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Leslie Baer [lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 12:07 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** MSRP, please reply to ASOLURSH@bear.com

Begin forwarded message:

```
> From: "Webmaster" <Webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org>
> Date: Mon May 23, 2005 8:59:10 AM America/Los_Angeles
> To: "Leslie Baer" <Lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org>
> Subject: Fwd: Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles! (From the
> Webmaster)
>
>
> From: "Solursh, Alan \ (Exchange\)" <ASOLURSH@bear.com>
> Date: Mon May 23, 2005 8:49:40 AM America/Los_Angeles
> To: "Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program"
> <msrp@noaa.org>
> Cc: <webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org>
> Subject: Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!
>
>
> I am writing to you to ask that you continue funding the Bald Eagle
> Restoration on Catalina Island. I am the Chairman of the Development
> Committee of Camp Emerald Bay on Catalina Island. In 2004 we have
> revised our mission statement to include "preserving the natural
> environment of Santa Catalina". We have over 10,000 campers a year
> that we teach about the amazing environment of this island. It is and
> will be important to the youth and adults who attend our camp to show
> how we have saved our national bird on the island. Please let me know
> what I can do to help.
> Alan Solursh
>
>
> *****
> ***
>
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>  
>  
>

Leslie C. Baer, MAOM  
Chief Communications Officer  
Catalina Island Conservancy  
(951) 733-2588  
lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org  
www.catalinaconservancy.org

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**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Leslie Baer [lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 12:08 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** MSRP, please reply to carl@lambertinc.com

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Webmaster" <Webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org>  
**Date:** Mon May 23, 2005 9:51:48 AM America/Los\_Angeles  
**To:** "Leslie Baer" <Lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles! (From the Webmaster)

**From:** "Carl Lambert" <carl@lambertinc.com>  
**Date:** Mon May 23, 2005 9:44:37 AM America/Los\_Angeles  
**To:** "Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program" <msrp@noaa.org>  
**Cc:** <webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org>  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

This is a letter regarding the plans to reallocate funds currently to the Institute for Wildlife Studies. It is so important that the work that the institute engages in is funded as best as possible. The Bald Eagle's existence on the island relies on it. Catalina Island is the only place in California where Bald Eagles can be seen. It would be a dishonor to the citizens of our country if the Bald Eagle and it's preservation are ignored in this way.

Thank you for your heavy consideration,

Carl Lambert

Leslie C. Baer, MAOM  
Chief Communications Officer  
Catalina Island Conservancy  
(951) 733-2588  
lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org  
www.catalinaconservancy.org

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**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Leslie Baer [lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 12:09 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** MSRP, please reply to francyne@lambertinc.com

**From:** "Francyne Lambert" <francyne@lambertinc.com>  
**Date:** Mon May 23, 2005 9:54:13 AM America/Los\_Angeles  
**To:** "Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program" <msrp@noaa.org>  
**Cc:** <webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org>  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

This is a letter regarding the plans to reallocate funds currently given to the Institute for Wildlife Studies. It is so important that the work that the institute engages in is funded as best as possible. The bald eagle's existence on the island relies on it. Catalina Island is the only place in California where Bald Eagles can be seen. It would be a dishonor to the citizens of our country if the bald eagle and it's preservation are ignored in this way.

Thank you for your heavy consideration,

Francyne Shapiro-Lambert

Leslie C. Baer, MAOM  
Chief Communications Officer  
Catalina Island Conservancy  
(951) 733-2588  
lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org  
www.catalinaconservancy.org

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**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Leslie Baer [lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 12:44 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** MSRP, please reply to robert@lambertinc.com

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Webmaster" <Webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org>  
**Date:** Mon May 23, 2005 10:11:30 AM America/Los\_Angeles  
**To:** "Leslie Baer" <Lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles! (From the Webmaster)

**From:** "Robert Browning" <robert@lambertinc.com>  
**Date:** Mon May 23, 2005 10:03:49 AM America/Los\_Angeles  
**To:** "Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program" <msrp@noaa.org>  
**Cc:** <webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org>  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

This is a letter regarding the plans to reallocate funds currently given to the Institute for Wildlife Studies. It is so important that the work that the institute engages in is funded as best as possible. The bald eagle's existence on the island relies on it. Catalina Island is the only place in California where bald eagles can be seen. It would be a dishonor to the citizens of our country if the bald eagle and its preservation are ignored in this way.

Thank you for your heavy consideration,

***Robert Browning***  
***Office Manager***  
 2001 Wilshire Boulevard  
 Suite 505  
 Santa Monica, CA 90403  
 Phone (310) 453-9656  
 Fax (310) 829-6288

Leslie C. Baer, MAOM  
 Chief Communications Officer  
 Catalina Island Conservancy  
 (951) 733-2588  
 lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org  
 www.catalinaconservancy.org

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**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Leslie Baer [lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 12:46 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** MSRP, please reply to Fordsijt@aol.com

**From:** Fordsijt@aol.com  
**Date:** Mon May 23, 2005 10:07:39 AM America/Los\_Angeles  
**To:** Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program<msrp@noaa.org>  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

Please Don't abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles.

We are part time residents in Avalon and unlike most visitors to the island our favorite past time is hiking in the interior. This place is truly a magical ecological environment. Please allow the continuation of the Bald Eagles project to continue. There are so few unique locations like the island of Catalina. Please preserve this as a habitat for future Bald Eagle generations.

Most sincerely,

Julie Ford, D.D.S.  
16941 Edgewater Lane  
Huntington Beach, CA 92649  
714-846-2359

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Leslie Baer [lbaer@catalinaconservancy.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 12:46 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** MSRP, please reply to che@tax-online.com

**From:** "Che Elliott" <che@tax-online.com>  
**Date:** Mon May 23, 2005 11:21:57 AM America/Los\_Angeles  
**To:** "Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program" <msrp@noaa.org>  
**Cc:** <webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org>  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

This is a letter regarding the plans to reallocate the funds currently given to the Institute for Wildlife Studies. It is very important that the work the institute engages in is funded as best as possible, as the Bald Eagles very existence heavily relies upon it. Catalina Island is the only place in California where Bald Eagles can be seen. It would be a great dishonor to the citizens of our country if the Bald Eagle and its preservation are ignored in this way.

Thank you for your heavy consideration.

Sincerely,

Chélis Elliott

Office Administrator

Law Offices of Robert M.L. Baker III

2001 Wilshire Blvd. Ste 505

Santa Monica, CA 90403

Phone: (310) 828-4849

Fax: (310) 828-3069

Alt. Fax: (310) 829-6288

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** chris swenson [cswenson2003@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 1:50 PM  
**To:** Montrose Draft EIS  
**Subject:** comment in support of Alternative 2

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in support of the Preferred Alternative (Alternative 2) in the Draft Programmatic EIS for the Montrose Settlement Restoration Program. I support this alternative because it would put a greater percentage of the funds toward restoration of seabirds, specifically island restoration projects.

Sincerely,

Chris Swenson

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## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Mary T Stein [dbos@catalinaisp.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 2:05 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Funding for Catalina Island's Bald Eagles

to: Greg Baker - Program Manager  
from: Mary Stein & Randy Brannock - owners  
Descanso Beach Ocean Sports, Avalon

Dear Greg,

Please do not abandon the funding for the Catalina Island Bald Eagle project. We have witnessed first-hand, the importance of this funding. A large part of our kayak and snorkel business, operating out of Avalon, is guided natural history "eco" tours by kayak along our coastline. In 2004 alone, we introduced over 9,000 visitors to the wonders of our island via these tours, another 18,000 visitors experienced the island on their own by renting kayaks from us and exploring the coastline.

We inform our patrons of the eagle's plight and educate them on the need to protect and conserve our natural resources. Eighty percent of the time our customers get to see the bald eagles at rest on the shore, in flight and often fishing - making their experience more fulfilling. The vision of our national bird inspires more than just the beauty of nature. They take images of these natural encounters back to the mainland, to Southern California, other states and other countries.

The fact that the re-introduction of bald eagles has had limited success, proves even more the necessity to continue the funding. There is no greater cost than the inability of our scientists to reverse the damages done to the ecosystem and our eagles. We must continue the program to keep the travesties of chemical dumping in the minds of our citizens, to keep them aware of the delicateness of Nature and the role that business plays in Nature's manipulation. Little by little headway IS being made, and given the success of the Brown Pelican, the Bald Eagle will also be restored to its former range.

Sincerely,

Randy Brannock  
Mary Stein  
Aurora Vickers  
Michael Clark  
Jake Brannock  
Janel Works  
Chris Fell  
Chris Todd  
Micah Phillips  
Jessica & Tim Mitchel  
Humberto Hernandez  
Paul Sanchez  
Ben Eroen  
Deanna Stone  
LeAnn Human  
Alex Lane  
Colby Cushing  
Keani Hooikaika  
Sayre Yazzie  
Joseph Vickers

Rory Olsen  
Hugh Radde  
Kevin Poole  
Kristina Elakovic  
Kathleen Zeller

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Sue Dewey [sdewey@nhm.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 11:34 AM  
**To:** greg.baker@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Bald Eagle Recovery

Dear Mr. Baker,

It is vital that the \$250,000 in appropriated funds continue to support the recovery efforts of the Catalina bald eagle. Redirecting these funds will devastate an already fragile ecological balance, and have a negative effect on tourism to the island.

Please continue funding efforts to restore our nation's greatest symbol.

Sincerely,

Sue Dewey  
Pasadena, CA

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** padianteam@aol.com

**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 2:27 PM

**To:** msrp@noaa.gov

Dear NOAA

I read the story about the DDT contamination in the Sunday LA times, and have three comments.

1) The DDT has been in the water a long time, and apparently will remain so for a long time longer. Majestic as they are, we shouldn't be spending the few precious dollars available on a program (eagle reintroduction on Catalina) that is doomed to failure until the DDT is cleaned up. We should concentrate these resources where we know we will get some sort of result that respects the birds (such as the other islands) as opposed to sentencing them to a premature and continued decline and death. In essence, the existing program is just a scientific experiment to see how bad things are, with no regard to the test subjects. I am sure there are more cost effective and less impacting ways to monitor the spread of the DDT.

2) I am not a fish or oceanographic expert, but it seems pretty non-sensical that the DDT contamination would just stay where it was dumped. I was on Catalina this weekend, and saw many fishermen catching a variety of things, including many bottom feeders such as haibut and crustacians. And of course, a lot of animals higher up in the food chain and higher in elevation (i.e humans, birds, and other fish) are eating species that eat the bottom feeders. I am amazed that the entire area from Point Dume to San Clemente out to the Channel Islands is not posted with serious fishing warnings for all sea life, and that commercial and private fishing be banned along the Palos Verde coast. Placing a reef there would only expand the dispersal of the DDT to new animal and plant species, and more fisherman and fish eaters.

3. The DDT contamination is obviously an almost unfathomable (no pun intended) problem, and burying it under mounds of material seems to be a very crude and ineffective brute force way of dealing with the problem. Like nuclear waste (which no one really knows how to handle safely or wants in their backyard) and the past and continued deposition of un- and partially treated sewage and storm drain flows into Santa Monica Bay, the LA and Long Beach harbors, the Huntington Beach outfall, Newport Harbor, and Dana Point, we are creating awful legacies for the future generations of all of earth's inhabitants. We have to do better than accept the marginally acceptable solutions.

In summary, the dollars would be better spent fixing the problem and educating the public about the direct danger to anyone who consumes sealife along the greater LA and Orange County coast.

Thanks

Mike Padian

Rancho Santa Margarita, CA



**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Jon Mueller ext. 2162 [jmueller@savethebay.cbf.org]

**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 2:54 PM

**To:** msrp@noaa.gov

**Subject:** Montrose Restoration Plan - Catalina Island Bald Eagle Restoration Program

Dear Mr. Baker:

Attached is a letter I would like you and the trustees to consider before reaching a decision on whether to continue funding the Catalina Island Bald Eagle Restoration Program.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jon Mueller

May 23, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
(562-980-3236)  
Email: [msrp@noaa.gov](mailto:msrp@noaa.gov)

RE: Montrose Restoration Plan - Proposal to terminate funding of Catalina Bald Eagle Restoration Project

Dear Mr. Baker:

I write to ask that you and the Trustees not terminate funding the Catalina Island Bald Eagle Restoration Project. While I know that this is a difficult decision for you and the other trustees and that you have considered the issue carefully, I have some personal knowledge of the issue which you may not have considered.

In the mid-1990's, I was an attorney with the United States Department of Justice and one of the attorneys working on the *U.S. v. Montrose Chemical Co.*, natural resource damages case. I was the lead attorney assigned to manage and work with all of the government's expert and fact witnesses examining DDT impacts to birds within the Southern California Bight. This work required that I understand such issues in great detail and determine what evidence would be of particular importance to the Court in reaching a decision upon the government's claims. As part of this work, I became intimately familiar with the DDT problem in the Bight and its impacts on bald eagles. I worked closely with David Garcelon who leads the bald eagle restoration project on Catalina Island and his staff at the Institute for Wildlife Studies ("IWS"). I made several trips to the area and visited Catalina Island twice with trips to the field station and some of the nest sites.

While I am certainly no expert in this field, I do know that Mr. Garcelon and his staff are highly qualified and highly dedicated individuals. These folks have continually risked their lives to ensure that our national symbol lives and breeds in one of its historic nesting territories. I also know, having put on the evidence at trial, what impact the evidence concerning the efforts of IWS and harm to bald eagles had with the Court, the audience in attendance at the time of trial, public opinion, and the defendants who ultimately settled the case and provided the funds which you and the trustees are administering today. In my opinion, the direct testimony of Mr. Garcelon and the historic evidence amassed by Lloyd Kiff, Ron Jurek and Stan Wiemeyer – individuals with years of experience in this field – provided the impetus for the defendants, who had fought the government for over 10 years, to settle the case. In fact, some of the same people who fought so hard to defeat the government in court personally wished to see bald eagles restored to Catalina Island.

You might ask how do I know that and why is this important? First, I saw the judge's reaction to the photographic images of bald eagles over Catalina, the nesting chicks, the impaired egg shells, and of Mr. Garcelon hanging from a rope hundreds of feet over the sea attempting to remove recently laid eagle eggs from their nest. Second, I also heard the reaction of those in the court room, including the defense attorneys and their clients who decided to settle the case the next day, when this evidence presented. Third, its is apparent that the restoration of bald eagles to their historic habitat is an issue which resonates with people from every walk of life, an issue you should strongly consider in making your decision.

Now, you might wonder why these facts are important to the trustees in reaching a decision on whether to end the eagle restoration program? These facts directly relate to the message you send to the public and the decades of work you effectively destroy if you make that decision. The message you send is that the bald eagles of Catalina Island are a lost cause and were not meant to nest there, in effect, that the citizens of the United States should not hope that bald eagles will repopulate their historic nesting grounds in one of the most spectacular areas of this country. You also send the message that the individuals who decided to pump tons of DDT into our environment have won.

The work you destroy is the work not of just Mr. Garcelon, IWS, and the Nature Conservancy but, the years of work undertaken by countless employees of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the US Forest Service, US EPA, the State of California, the San Francisco Zoo, and the US Department of Justice. All of these individuals fought for years against unbelievable odds and the best law firms in the country to restore the Bight with the bald eagle restoration program as the pinnacle of restoration efforts. If you end the Catalina program, eventually bald eagles will leave that island and all of this effort will be for naught and one of the shining examples of human natural restoration efforts will end.

I ask that you and the trustees continue the Catalina Island Bald Eagle restoration project so, that people around the world can continue to believe that the damage we do to the environment can be salvaged with hard work and sacrifice, and that those who pollute our world cannot forever destroy a great and endangered species.

Sincerely,

Jon A. Mueller  
446 Epping Way  
Annapolis, MD 21401

## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Catalina Transportation Services [CatalinaTransportation@CatalinaISP.Com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 3:27 PM  
**To:** Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

To Whom it May Concern:

I live and work here on Avalon. The Institute for Wildlife Studies as well as the Catalina Island Conservancy are doing a great job at raising baby eagles for their re-population. They are a rare bird and we have had success here on the island raising them. Please do not discontinue your funding for these magnificent birds.

Thank you very much,  
Karin L. Hague  
310-510-0342

Josh Adams, Ecologist  
PO Box 1103  
Aptos, CA 95001

23 May 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
562.980.3236  
msrp@noaa.gov

Dear Trustees, authors, advisors, and members of the public concerned with the implementation of the *Montrose Settlement Restoration Plan* (MSRP),

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment on the Draft MSRP which I understand in its current form to be “conceptual” and in need of further development. As a citizen of the US and the State of California, I am obliged to share with you my thoughts regarding the implementation of certain restoration plans that seek to recover or restore natural resources that were (and continue to be) damaged by unprecedented negligence on behalf of Montrose Chemical Corporation and other chemical polluters. The ideas and thoughts put forth by me in this statement are mine, and do not necessarily represent ideas shared or endorsed by persons or entities with which I am affiliated in a professional capacity or otherwise.

The discharge of DDT and PCBs through the White Point wastewater outfall near Los Angeles spanned approximately one half of my parent’s generation. This represents the single greatest point-source of such contamination to the World’s Oceans and has caused well documented, devastating effects especially to seabirds, and other upper-trophic-level predators including Bald Eagle and Peregrine Falcon, that depend on the complex marine food web of the Southern California Bight (SCB) and greater California Current System. I have worked, studied, and visited the SCB for more than the past decade; I share with many others a strong appreciation and value for the ocean, islands, people, and ecosystem that are encompassed by the Southern California Bight.

I participated in the MSRP Bird Technical Workshop held at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Sacramento Office Sacramento, CA on January 9, 2003. Although many of the points raised in those discussions are addressed in the Draft MSRP, I hope that the Trustee’s will address certain additional concerns, considerations, and suggestions herein and that you will continue to maintain an open dialogue with the public prior to implementing additional restoration activities.

My two main objectives are primarily related specifically to the restoration of seabirds damaged by DDT and PCBs in the SCB:

1. to provide comment on the process undertaken by the *Trustees* to formulate a restoration plan that seeks to restore damages to seabirds, and

2. to provide comment on specific “seabird restoration actions” advanced to Tier 2 by the *Trustees*

### **Formulating a geopolitically biased restoration plan**

*“The Trustees will use the damages for restoration of injured natural resources, including bald eagles, peregrine falcons and other marine birds, fish and the habitats upon which they depend, as well as providing for implementation of restoration projects intended to compensate the public for lost use of natural resources”* (from Consent Decree; page 5, lines 18–22).

*“After consideration of the foraging ecology of seabirds in the SCB, the Trustee Council concluded that **it was likely that most, if not all, species of seabirds using the SCB had been exposed to DDTs or PCBs.**”*

*“DDTs and PCBs have come to be distributed over a wide region (through movement of sediments, water, and uptake by mobile biological organisms) beyond the immediate area of the Palos Verdes Shelf..... the ecological injuries and human use losses caused by the DDTs and PCBs discharged by the defendants have occurred over a broader area of the SCB. For this reason, the SCB rather than just the Palos Verdes Shelf forms the primary geographic area of focus for the Trustees’ natural resource restoration actions.”*

The Consent Decree was sufficiently accurate to account for **all** species potentially affected – yet the Draft MSRP fails to recognize the ecosystem of the SCB as it relates to the seabird communities that exist there (i.e., the ecosystem includes BOTH breeding and migratory species), ignores science, and insufficiently addressed the advice of the public and experts when defining restoration goals. The Plan is based on insufficient data gap studies (fish only). Furthermore, among the other resources damaged, the Plan targets only a handful of species (eagles, falcons, cormorants, ash storm-petrel, and xantus’s murrelet, Cassin’s auklet), and only those few that were examined for egg-shell thinning (almost exclusively within the Channel Islands).

The vast majority of marine birds (>60% of species) that rely on the SCB breed elsewhere. These migratory birds spend considerable amounts of their lives foraging in the SCB, and because they are numerically dominant—by orders of magnitude greater than local breeding species—the bulk of the DDT, DDE, and PCBs were and continue to be accumulated by these species. As recognized by the Trustee’s and the Consent Decree, the Montrose contamination catastrophe is an ecosystem-level impact. Although the MSRP states that Trustees considered foraging ecology, it is clear that the Plan fails to venture beyond a pre-determined geopolitical boundary—given the magnitude of the contamination, the relatively large restoration settlement, and the complexity of the ecosystem-level impacts—this plan targets only a few species and, in some cases, falls short of actual restoration.

It has been estimated that between 1975 and 1978, >400,000 Pink-footed Shearwaters (now listed under the ICUN Red List as Globally Threatened, and by the Colonial Waterbird Plan as “High” priority for conservation status) occurred in the SCB (Briggs et al. 1987). From 1999 to

2001 abundance of Pink-footed Shearwaters during May (the month of maximum abundance) reflects a 79% decline to approximately 62,400 individuals (Mason et al. 2004). Not only is it *likely* that Pink-footed Shearwaters were exposed to DDTs or PCBs, but published studies show that egg concentrations from colonies in Chile measured in the mid-late 1990s displayed elevated concentrations of PCBs ( $102 \pm 56 \text{ ng g}^{-1}$ ) and DDT ( $163 \pm 273 \text{ ng g}^{-1}$ ). Furthermore, the composition of the PCB constituents (degree of chlorination) in shearwater eggs is different from 3 other seabirds assessed that reside off South America throughout the year, indicating northern hemisphere contaminant sources for the Chilean Shearwaters (Cifuentes et al. 2002).

By far the most abundant seabird inhabiting the waters of the SCB is the Sooty Shearwater. Between 1975 and 1983, Briggs and Chu (1986) estimated >2 million Sooty Shearwaters off central and southern California in May. During May from 1999 to 2001 the estimated abundance off Sooty Shearwaters within the SCB declined to approximately 366,500 individuals (Mason et al. 2004). This is consistent with other surveys off California that have revealed dramatic (~75 – 90%) declines in the abundance of this species (Viet et al. 1997, Oedekoven et al. 2001, Hyrenbach and Viet 2003). Dacre (1974) recorded extremely high concentrations of residual organochlorines or in the fat of Sooty Shearwaters in New Zealand. It is important to point out that contaminated chicks of this species are consumed by humans. As with Pink-footed and Sooty Shearwaters, Short-tailed Shearwaters chicks whose parents also winter (austral) in the northern hemisphere, and forage in the SCB, also have been documented as having some of the greatest concentrations of DDE and PCB contaminants measured in seabirds (Tenaka et al. 1986).

Pink-footed and Sooty Shearwaters rely on the same key prey in the SCB (northern anchovy and pacific sardine) responsible for transferring DDT and PCBs to pelicans and cormorants. The formerly great numbers of shearwaters (order of magnitude greater than the total population of all breeding species in the Channel Islands) that occurred in the SCB, combined with their reliance on contaminated anchovy and sardine, indicate that the vast majority of DDT and PCBs accumulated by the impacted seabird community were taken up and assimilated into the tissues of Sooty and Pink-footed Shearwaters.

*“Trustees selected resources and injuries that they felt were representative, rather than inclusive, of the potential injuries caused by the release of the contaminants. The Trustees propose to undertake actions aimed at restoring key species and services to their baseline condition (i.e., the condition that would exist if the releases of DDTs and PCBs had not occurred).”*

Selected resources chosen were limited to local breeders, did not include any of the many migratory species which dominate the marine avian community of the SCB, and hardly could be classified as “representative”. There is no discussion of what constitutes “baseline condition”—this is absolutely important to define this quantitatively, if possible, to insure that restorative actions can be evaluated and restoration success can be established, measured, and documented.

Not only the affected shearwaters, but entire, globally significant island ecosystems in Chile and New Zealand would benefit by applying proven restoration efforts toward the total eradication of introduced, non-native mammalian predators from these islands. The Trustee’s should address

reasons why, when provided with appropriate Nexus, international stakeholders were not included in the MSRP. Furthermore, the Trustees should consider now and in the future, such long-lasting restoration alternatives that would benefit key impacted migratory species and entire ecosystems.

After recognizing that the damaged resources can not be contained within the economic and geopolitical boundary defined in the Plan, the Trustees of the MSRP should adopt similar approaches to established trans-boundary conservation and restoration goals that have been adopted by others in U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Department of Defense, Environmental Protection Agency (i.e., Partners in Flight, Waterbird Conservation Plan), and NOAA Fisheries (i.e., The Bellagio Blueprint for Action on Pacific Sea Turtles). These agencies are charged with managing globally shared migratory species

### **Bald Eagles**

The MSRP clearly states that bald eagles on Santa Catalina Island continue to “have high concentrations of DDTs from their diet, produce abnormal eggs, and require continued human intervention (manipulation of eggs and fostering of chicks into their nests) to sustain their presence on the island. Assessments indicate that this situation is likely to persist on Santa Catalina Island for the foreseeable future.”

**I strongly support the Trustee’s position to re-allocate any extra Phase 1 funding towards seabird projects.** Under Alternative 2, funding for continued intervention to sustain bald eagles on Santa Catalina Island should cease after 2005, regardless of the outcome of the Feasibility Study. The proposed restoration of bald eagles here is not likely to be successful, and would provide little benefit toward the ecosystem or multiple species in this area. Successful restoration of bald eagles could benefit by actions targeting areas away from Santa Catalina Island.

### **Peregrine Falcons**

The Trustees have recognized that Peregrine Falcons have, and continue to exhibit recovery throughout the Channel Islands and SCB area. I am of the opinion that restoration funds not be allocated toward restorative efforts for this species. The species should continue to increase and reach stability with no further efforts. Furthermore, additional hacking, relocation, or translocation of falcons may pose significant threats toward depleted and rare seabirds, and seabirds such as certain alcids that are targeted for restoration. I support continued monitoring of the SCB falco population and periodic assessments of contaminant concentrations, but this effort should match equivalent contributions to assess seabird recoveries.

### **Seabirds**

The SCB is oceanographically complex, and provides critical habitat to >60 species of seabirds that nest throughout the Pacific Ocean. The islands, and to a much lesser extent, the mainland shores of the study area, provide breeding habitat for at least 20 species of seabirds. Because seabirds (both resident and migratory species) spend the vast majority of their lives at sea, they are particularly vulnerable to marine pollution, certain fishing practices, vessel transport, and certain military activities—great concern exists regarding impacts to local and migratory populations. Current trends in distributions and population numbers among species can be



difficult to sort out given large natural fluctuations caused by large-scale changes in marine climate and prey resources and the difficult nature of assessing populations on islands and at sea.

More resources are urgently needed to better understand the biology and populations of the seabirds (both breeders and migratory species) that reside in the waters of the SCB. Such resources are required to better understand the ecology of species targeted for restoration in the MSRP (see specific examples according to species and proposed seabird restoration efforts following). Without such investigations—successful restoration will be compromised, non-cost-effective, potentially misguided, and could potentially negatively affect target species.

During the MSPR planning period, the Trustees initiated and supported certain studies in support of resource restoration, including an approximate 5-year Feasibility Study on the reestablishment of bald eagles on the Northern Channel Islands (\$2.3 million for 2002-05, plus an additional \$1 million “over the next several years”), a comprehensive survey of fish contamination, and a survey of angler fishing practices and preferences. **A major shortcoming of the process included a lack of foresight to include data gap studies and similar “Feasibility” studies that involved seabirds.** Furthermore, just as funds are being considered for monitoring the natural recovery of falcons, it is unclear why no funds have been proposed or made available for monitoring the natural recovery of seabirds. I strongly support the Trustees in their suggestion to consider enhancing seabird monitoring through efforts that would

- Implement a comprehensive seabird monitoring program (contaminant concentrations, population, and effectiveness of MPAs in protecting populations),
- Expand monitoring of seabird populations at Northern Channel Islands,
- Augment seabird monitoring of Anacapa Restoration Program funded by the American Trader Restoration Council

In addition to suggested monitoring that would determine current DDT/PCB concentrations in seabird eggs within and adjacent to the SCB—it also is imperative to include similar ecotoxicological assessments among the numerically dominant (sooty shearwater), globally recognized species with conservation status (black-vented and pink-footed shearwaters) that nest in other parts of the Pacific, but have always and continue to spend a great amount of their long lives foraging on contaminated prey resources of the SCB. It is important to include the migratory species because they are significant international resources that continue to be exposed to pollution in the SCB. These species have economic, aesthetic, and cultural importance to many people that exist beyond the SCB, California, and the United States.

In addition to proposed support to continue monitoring of kelp forest communities (algae, invertebrates, and fishes), the Trustees of the MSRP should make available funds (proportion of the \$7.9 million proposed) to establish new long-term monitoring efforts to assess seabird (primary damaged resource) species and their prey fishes that depend on habitats and resources included within the recently created Channel Islands Marine Protected Areas. This aspect is important because such monitoring efforts would provide necessary information that is required

for adaptive management of the very resources identified as impacted. Currently, CIMPA's lack monitoring efforts directed toward seabirds.

### **Comments on Tier 2 Seabird Restoration Actions**

**Restore seabirds to San Miguel Island.** This action enhances seabird nesting habitat on San Miguel Island in the Channel Islands National Park by eradicating the introduced black rat over a period of approximately 5 years.

I strongly support this proposed project. Such eradication efforts have proven successful throughout the world and have demonstrated broad, lasting ecosystem benefits to impacted islands. The successful eradication of black rats from San Miguel would greatly reduce the potential for rats to invade nearby Prince Island and Castle Rock, which together support approximately one third of the total breeding population of all seabirds in the Channel Islands National Park. These two islets are among the most important seabird nesting islands throughout California – if historically documented breeders are included, Prince Island hosts one of the most diverse seabird assemblages along the west coast. This project is recognized as true restoration, with multiple species benefits and recognized ecosystem-wide positive outcomes. The removal of rats likely will benefit native deer mice, reptiles, insects, song-birds, and the endemic island fox.

• **Restore alcids to Santa Barbara Island.** This action re-establishes a once-active Cassin's auklet breeding population and augments Xantus's murrelets on Santa Barbara Island in the Channel Islands National Park through social attraction and habitat enhancement.

Although I recognize the desired outcome of this proposed action's goal as beneficial, I am not fully supportive of the Plan as currently outlined in the Draft MSRP. The Santa Barbara Island ecosystem has long suffered from human occupation (i.e., grazing), introduced predators, and dramatically altered vegetation community structure (now dominated by introduced grasses). Introduced cats wiped out auklets near the turn of the Century [1908]), yet since the removal of the last cat in 1978—auklets have failed to recover on their own. Santa Barbara Island also currently supports a great abundance of native deer mice which likely have benefited by exploiting abundant grass seed during early spring-summer. It is unclear to me whether or not the native mouse population exceeds what would be normal on this island if it were restored to an intact native vegetation assemblage. Furthermore, several additional factors should be addressed by the MSRP prior to implementing this action. (1) SBI currently supports a year-round population of barn owls. Barn owls are known to be extremely efficient predators on Cassin's Auklets (Prince Island, J. Adams personal observation), and Xantus's Murrelets (SBI, CINP, unpublished data). The Trustee's should consider investigating the ecological linkages between the introduced grasslands, mouse populations, and barn owl populations before investing in the proposed action. (2) There is good evidence from surveys at sea and at colonies that Cassin's Auklets have declined throughout their range from California to British Columbia. SBI occurs at the southern-most limit for the northern subspecies' (*P. a. aleuticus*) historic range, in an oceanographic region characterized by relatively warmer waters than auklets typically occur. Recent studies in the northern Channel Islands have shown that auklets (breeding adults and birds at sea) depend on super-abundant prey located in the upper 15-m of the water column and

within about 30 km of their principal colonies off San Miguel Island. The capacity for auklets to breed successfully at SBI will depend on the distribution and availability of suitable prey resources in the area. Whereas the foraging habitat and prey resources off the San Miguel have been well documented, it is necessary first to assess prey resources within the potential auklet foraging area off SBI before implementing costly restoration actions for this species. This information also will be required for understanding and gauging restoration success (i.e., reproductive success and adult survival). (3) Social attraction of auklets (and murrelets) to artificial nest sites does not imply restoration. For auklets, the Trustees are urged to pursue and evaluate additional criteria for interpreting/demonstrating restoration success including, comparisons of reproductive parameters and chick growth with auklets nesting at Scorpion Rock and Prince Island, adult survival rates, and nest site fidelity. It is also recommended that this action include an evaluation of the potential for this action to increase (or in the event of poor reproductive success due to food limitation or predation, decrease) the overall abundance of auklets. How do anticipated restoration actions and outcomes to the populations compare with “baseline conditions” had dumping not occurred? (4) Xantus’s Murrelets, like Cassin’s Auklets are not presently limited by the availability of suitable nest sites. The recent eradication of rats from Anacapa and subsequent recovery of murrelets there continues at present. The number of active natural murrelet nest sites, however, has shown a long-term decline. Whereas murrelets may occupy artificial nest sites placed on SBI, it is unclear how this action can be interpreted as restoration. (5) Because the planned action also calls for restoration of native plants, the plan should demonstrate quantitative measures that can be used to demonstrate successful vegetation restoration. Lastly, it is not clear what the benefits to the two species will be after the estimated 5-yr action. Will the artificial sites be maintained indefinitely, or phased out once restoration is determined successful?

• **Restore seabirds to San Nicolas Island.** This action restores the western gull and Brandt’s cormorant colonies on the U.S. Navy–owned San Nicolas Island by eradicating feral cats on the island.

I support the Trustee’s in their decision to advance this project. The eradication of feral cats from other islands in the Pacific has demonstrated seabird and ecosystem-level benefits, regardless of whether or not cats significantly affect either Brant’s Cormorant or Western Gull.

• **Restore seabirds to Scorpion Rock.** This action restores seabird habitat off of Santa Cruz Island, within the Channel Islands National Park, through the removal of non-native vegetation, the installation of artificial nesting boxes, and reduction in human disturbance.

I support the Trustee’s decision to support the restoration of native vegetation, which will provide improved nesting habitat primarily for Cassin’s Auklet, but perhaps also for Xantus’s Murrelets. An important first step is to reduce human disturbance to this important seabird colony and roost site through signage and effective educational outreach (primarily targeting boaters and kayakers) who visit Scorpion Anchorage. One of the main factors contributing to degradation of habitat for seabirds and native vegetation is the rapid erosion of the soil horizon. In addition to maintaining existing artificial auklet nest sites until native vegetation is restored erosion should be stabilized. It should be realized that at present Scorpion Rock is a somewhat ephemeral nesting colony for auklets. Whereas auklets nested there during the anomalously cool

and productive years of 1999 to 2003, reproductive success is likely lower and more variable than at the principal colonies off San Miguel Island. In fact none appeared to occupy sites in 2004, and anomalous conditions in 2005 may prevent auklets from nesting again this season. Therefore, it is important to establish restoration criteria that evaluate success of this colony in the context of oceanographic conditions, and availability of suitable prey resources within the auklet foraging area off Scorpion Rock. Additionally, criteria that quantify restoration success in terms of reduced erosion and reestablishment of native vegetation over introduced species should be considered and implemented. Recent evidence indicative of bald eagle predation of western gulls (three gull carcasses, J. Adams pers. obs.) indicate Scorpion Rock also is used by eagles, at least occasionally. Adding additional artificial nest sites, and then determining that these sites are used by seabirds does not necessarily constitute restoration. The Trustee's should consider supporting longer term monitoring (> 5-yrs) of auklets at Scorpion Rock and Prince Island within the context of oceanographic assessments, to better understand and interpret restoration success.

• **Restore seabirds to Baja California Pacific Islands.**

- *Coronado and Todos Santos Islands.* This action restores seabird populations using social attraction, habitat enhancement, and reduction in human disturbance.
- *Guadalupe Island.* This action restores seabird populations through feral cat eradication. This action would be included in Alternative 2 should funding become available after the results of the NCI Bald Eagle Feasibility Study

I strongly support this restoration action, and believe that it should be advanced despite the outcome of the NCI bald eagle feasibility study. Guadalupe Island is a sight of global significance and seabirds and the island ecology would benefit by eradicating feral cats.

• **Restore ashy storm-petrels to Anacapa Island.** facilitates the breeding of ashy storm-petrels on Anacapa Island in the Channel Islands National Park through social attraction. should funding become available after the results of the NCI Bald Eagle Feasibility Study

I strongly support efforts to *evaluate the feasibility* of enhancing the population of Ashy Storm-petrels. This Species is endemic to the islands of central and southern California. Recent evidence indicate that Ashy Storm-petrels have declined, however very little is known about what factors are causing declines, what the magnitude of the declines is, and what factors currently are limiting this species' recovery. The Trustee's are urged to reconsider eradication of introduced house mice from the Farallon Islands colony to effectively restore damages to this species from chemical pollution in the SCB. Researchers in the Channel Islands and at the Farallon Islands have documented that the two colonies are linked by the occurrences of individuals marked in both systems. In addition, radio telemetry during 2004 documented northward movements of birds captured in the Channel Island as far as the Farallones. Furthermore, DDT and PCBs have been measured in high concentrations in ashies captured on the Farallon Islands. Although the Plan in its current form suggests that social attraction has been used successfully on this species, it is important to point out that this technique has only been used successfully to capture birds, but social attraction to nest sites has never been demonstrated. In fact, concerted efforts to use broadcast vocalizations to attract petrels to nest sites on the Farallons have failed. In addition, previous studies at the Farallones have showed

that among artificial nest boxes, only boxes that were installed within pre-existing sites were used by breeding individuals; boxes installed in suitable nesting habitat were not successful. Prior to initiating restoration actions, the Trustees are urged to consider continued support for ongoing petrel investigations throughout the Channel Islands that are designed to evaluate the efficacy and limitations of vocalization broadcasts, catch-per-unit-effort, inter-island exchange, adult survival, and population size. At present suitable nesting habitat for this species does not appear to be limiting. Furthermore, from a demographic perspective, increasing reproductive output for such a long-lived, late-maturing seabird with low lifetime reproductive output is not likely to enhance the population. More information is required to assess what limits sub-adult and adult survival (i.e., predation, attraction to artificial light, pollution, plastic ingestion, etc.). The Trustee's also should consider actions that would reduce disturbances to birds nesting in caves that are accessible to the public. Lastly, if conditions allow, petrels should return or initiate breeding on Anacapa now that rats have been removed.

Thank you once again for allowing me the chance to provide public comment on the Draft MSRP. I hope that these comments and suggestions help formulate a Final Plan. Should the Trustees have any further questions, please contact me.

Thank you,

Josh Adams

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** kurt mahoney [cherokeeradiopeace@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 3:59 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** concerned citizen

I'm emailing to voice my support for the bald eagle restoration program on Catalina Island, and to urge you to continue the funding.

It would demonstrate a complete lack of courage and faith to discontinue the funds, when it is proving to be a success-yes it may take some time, but aren't these incredible creatures worth it???

Thank you, sincerely Kurt Mahoney. cherokeeradiopeace@yahoo.com

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Island Conservation Northwest  
1485 Crawford Road  
Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada  
V1W 3A9

May 22, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Re: Comment on DRAFT MSRP

Dr. Baker and Montrose Trustees,

I am writing to express my support for the preferred option (number 2).

I completed my Master of Science degree in 1997 from the University of British Columbia, which included a component of evaluating risk of pesticide use on bald eagles. I have also conducted field work on various other projects evaluating impacts of pesticides and other pollutants on bald eagles. For the last five years, I have followed the conservation issues surrounding bald eagles on the Channel Islands and the long-term DDT pollution that is characteristic of this area.

Bald eagles have made a dramatic come back in other areas of North America. Numbers continue to increase and the US Fish and Wildlife Service has upgraded the status of bald eagles in the lower 48 states to threatened from endangered. However, there still remains no self sustaining bald eagles in the Channel Islands. Unfortunately, based on the data I have seen, the bald eagles are at risk of exposure to significant and potentially lethal levels of contaminants in common prey items. It will likely take several years until the pollutants will have declined to allow bald eagles to successfully reproduce on the Channel Islands without human intervention. Perhaps once the environmental DDT residues have declined significantly can reintroduction of bald eagles be done efficiently and effectively, or ideally by natural colonization.

I believe the preferred option will provide the most effective use of public conservation funds because the investment into the proposed restoration projects will have a net positive benefit to many of the resources impacted from DDT, long after the restoration efforts are complete.

Sincerely,



Gregg Howald  
Island Conservation Northwest

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Linda K. Williams [submissions@peaceloverssoul.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 4:38 PM  
**To:** Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program  
**Cc:** webmaster@catalinaconservancy.org; Leslie Baer  
**Subject:** Please Don't Abandon Catalina's Bald Eagles!

Dear Decision-Makers:

The money which was allotted to restoring the Bald Eagles on Catalina Island IS making a tremendous difference in righting a wrong of the past. I truly don't understand why there is a plan to divert the monies from Catalina Island's efforts, and send the funds elsewhere. It has already been demonstrated that the efforts on Catalina Island have been cost-effective, and successful. Please continue to support them in their showing respect for the native wildlife, and putting forth efforts to restore it and preserve it for future generations--- do not divert the funds to elsewhere!

Thank you in advance for listening, and acting to support their efforts. Sincerely yours,  
Mrs. Linda K. Williams, Teacher, author, and vacationer who has enjoyed the beauty of Catalina



**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** stacey buckelew [staceybuckelew@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 4:48 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** support for alternative 2

Dear Mr. Baker-

I am writing to urge my support that funds from the Montrose settlement be directed toward Alternative 2, thereby allocating funds to both the seabird and eagle populations impacted by DDT releases. The actions detailed by alternative 2 are preferable as funds are directed toward a greater number of species and rely on techniques which have already proven beneficial to impacted populations. By adopting alternative 2 the results will promote long term, significant benefit to seabird populations which are key members of both marine and terrestrial communities.

Thank you for your consideration of my support.

Sincerely,

Stacey Buckelew

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**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Karen Kirkpatrick [karenk@cos.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 4:55 PM  
**To:** 'msrp@noaa.gov'  
**Subject:** Catalina Island Bald eagle recovery

To whom it may concern:

As a biologist who has done field studies on Catalina Island, I am writing to encourage the re-funding of the IWS Catalina Island Bald Eagle recovery efforts. Dr. Peter Sharpe is one of the most competent biologists working, and the success that he has shown, although it may seem small and insignificant, is great. The fact that Catalina Island enjoys a Bald Eagle population of any number is significant. My concern for this population is also great, as I believe that without the proper funding and the assistance given to this population by Dr. Sharpe and his crew, the Eagles will disappear within a relatively short time period.

It is my general concern that wildlife protection, as a whole, is suffering defeats daily under our current administration. I would hate to see such a fine and successful program suffer defeat as well. Please consider giving it more time and funding. The Eagle Cam itself has been a great educational resource for our community college biology students over the last several years.

Thank you for your time,

Karen Kirkpatrick  
Biology Department  
College of the Sequoias  
Visalia, CA 93277

559-730-3811  
karenk@cos.edu

## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Tom Dean [coastal\_resources@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 5:05 PM  
**To:** Greg Baker  
**Subject:** Comments - MSRP Draft Restoration Plan

Mr.. Baker

Attached are my comments on the MSRP draft restoration plan. Thank you for the opportunity to comment and good luck with the program.

Tom Dean

Coastal Resources Associates, Inc.  
5671 Palmer Dr., Suite K  
Carlsbad, CA 92008

(760) 603-0612  
email: coastal\_resources@sbcglobal.net

Mr. Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Plan  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker:

Please accept the following comments on the MSRP Draft Restoration Plan and Programmatic EIS/EIR. In general, I found the draft well thought out and well presented, and concur with the selection of Alternative 2 as the preferred alternative. The allocation of funds with respect to fish, seabird, eagle, and falcon resources seems reasonable and in keeping with the extent of injury to these resources. I also concur with the decision to discontinue funding of the Santa Catalina Bald Eagle Restoration program and to evaluate more sustainable restoration efforts in the Northern Channel Islands. In my opinion, it would be ill advised to continue to fund costly and clearly unsustainable Bald Eagle restoration activities on Catalina.

My only major concern with the program as proposed is with the timing of funding. I concur with the phased approach that is outlined given the uncertainties regarding the feasibility of several of the restoration efforts proposed, and with their dependence on the outcome of the EPA site remediation studies. However, I would suggest that more than five years may be needed to adequately determine the feasibility and efficacy of the site remediation work, and that decisions regarding many proposed restoration activities should await the outcome of those studies. The kinds of restoration activities that might be carried out to best benefit injured resources may depend greatly on the extent to which contaminated sediments might be cleaned up or made inaccessible.

I look forward to watching the progress of this important restoration effort.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Dean, Ph.D.

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Andrea Vona [avona@pvplc.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 5:22 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Cc:** Barbara Dye  
**Subject:** Comments for EIR- ATTN Greg Baker



Response to  
EIR.doc (30 KB)

Greg,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project.

Sincerely,

Andrea Vona  
Associate Director  
White Point Project Manager  
Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy  
tell (310) 541-7613 ex. 204  
cell (310) 930-0583

May 23, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

**SUBJECT: Comments in Response to the Programmatic EIS/EIR for the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program Draft Restoration Plan**

Dear Mr. Baker:

The Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy (Land Conservancy) appreciates the opportunity to comment upon the draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) for the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program Draft Restoration Plan. The Land Conservancy offers the following comments on the EIS/EIR and the plan itself:

With respect to Restoration Alternatives 2 and 3 (Section 6.2, pp. 6-17 through 6-25), the Land Conservancy understands that the presence of DDTs and PCBs in fish has contributed to the decimation of bird populations beyond the immediate area of the contaminated sediments between the Palos Verdes Peninsula and Santa Catalina Island. However, given the close proximity of the Peninsula to these sediments and the likelihood that the capping and containment of these sediments will never be completely possible or feasible, we expect that the Palos Verdes Peninsula will continue feel the indirect effects of these contaminated sediments long into the future. Therefore, the Land Conservancy respectfully suggests that whichever restoration alternative is eventually selected, the higher priority for distribution of the settlement proceeds to the various restoration projects be given to those projects located nearer to the physical source of the problem (i.e., the contaminated sediments) than those projects located further away.

With respect to the Tier 1 and Tier 2 Evaluations of Restoration Ideas (Sections 5.2.6 and 5.3.2, pp. 5-9 and 5-13, respectively), two restoration ideas within the Palos Verdes Peninsula that were not carried forward from

the Tier 1 evaluation to the Tier 2 evaluation are briefly mentioned: restoring overgrazed seashore at Abalone Cove; and acquiring and enhancing peregrine falcon habitat on the Palos Verdes Peninsula. Based upon their brief description in the draft Plan, the nature and scope of these restoration ideas is not entirely clear. However, we would note that the Land Conservancy and the City of Rancho Palos Verdes have been involved for many years in the preparation of a Natural Communities Conservation Plan (NCCP) for the City, in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). The City and the Land Conservancy are also actively pursuing the acquisition of hundreds of acres of undeveloped land containing coastal sage scrub (CSS) habitat as permanent open space for an NCCP reserve. If the NCCP and the open space acquisition are ultimately successful, they may have the affect of indirectly implementing the two rejected restoration ideas proposed within the City.

With respect to the evaluation of Tier 1 outreach programs and research proposals, it is stated that the Trustees are not classifying proposals for public outreach and education work as a separate natural resource restoration category. We respectfully request that public outreach and education are considered as a separate resource category. In the discussion of Tier 1 and Tier 2 Evaluations of Restoration Ideas (Sections 5.4, pp. 5-16 and 5-17), an education idea within the Palos Verdes Peninsula that was not carried forward from the Tier 1 evaluation to the Tier 2 evaluation is the development of the Interpretive Center at White Point Nature Preserve. Since the wastewater outfall was located directly offshore White Point Nature Preserve, we feel this is a prime location to offer public outreach and education and to tell the Montrose Story. Through public education and outreach we can better ensure that the mistakes of the past are not repeated in the future.

As participants in the initial public hearing held at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium in San Pedro, several comments were made by the public requesting proximity to impact as a criteria for evaluation of proposed projects. Throughout analysis of the projects that have been selected to the Tier 2 evaluation level, it is not clear how proximity to impact was employed as criteria for consideration.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at (310) 541-7613 or via e-mail at [bdye@pvplc.org](mailto:bdye@pvplc.org).

Sincerely,

Barbara Dye  
Executive Director





# RUSACK

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May 23, 2005

Greg Baker  
Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker,

I am responding to the April 2005 Montrose Settlements Restoration Program Draft Restoration Plan. As a member of the Wrigley family, I have been devoted to the preservation and protection of Santa Catalina Island's precious resources for my entire life, and am deeply opposed to the proposed alternatives that would remove funding from the efforts to restore the environment of Catalina-- the area hardest hit by DDT and PCBs.

My family has been involved with Catalina since 1919, when my great grandparents, Ada Elizabeth and William Wrigley, Jr., fell in love with its natural beauty, and dedicated themselves to safeguarding it. My grandparents, Helen Atwater and Philip K. Wrigley, took that commitment one step further when they (along with Dorothy Wrigley Offield) established the Santa Catalina Island Conservancy in 1972 to ensure that Catalina would be protected in perpetuity. Since then, both my father's generation and mine have been active and enthusiastic supporters of the efforts of the Conservancy (and its associates) to restore and preserve all of Catalina and its surrounding ecosystem.

As you know, Montrose Settlement monies were meant to address damage to natural resources such as bald eagles that were impacted by DDT and PCBs directly. They were not meant for addressing the effects of introduced predators and invasive plant species that are now negatively impacting sea bird populations. The Natural Resource Trustees are proposing that, as an alternative to funding the important bald eagle or peregrine falcon restoration work on Catalina, or fisheries restoration around Catalina, the monies be reallocated to fund bald eagle and marine restoration on the Northern Channel Islands and the eradication of cats and rats, some of which would be done in Mexico. These locations are far from Catalina and the San Pedro Basin, the site of the greatest

impacts. In order to meet the stated goals of the Montrose Settlement, these funds should be applied in the areas of greatest impact, making Catalina Island and its surrounding waters the most appropriate site for use of Montrose Settlement funds.

Your committee also proposes to spend significant funds supporting research on fisheries in the recently designated Marine Protected Areas on the Northern Channel Islands. Catalina, the island most directly hit and most visited, should be considered for funding for its fisheries and ecosystems.

The Catalina Island Conservancy's efforts to restore the health of the Catalina Island bald eagle have been funded by monies from the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program for some time now. By reallocating funds to the Northern Channel Islands, you would be discontinuing the support of an established restoration program. If this happens, it cannot be assumed that Catalina's current population of eagles would stay on the Island if they couldn't reproduce over the next few years and in fact, the reallocation of funds could mean the disappearance once again of bald eagles from Catalina. This could impact all of the Channel Islands by removing an integral piece of the islands' food-chain.

Abandoning bald eagle restoration on Catalina may put the Catalina Island fox population at risk. While much is unknown, it is possible that the presence of bald eagles on Catalina deters the formation of a golden eagle population. Golden eagles have decimated Island fox populations in the Northern Channel Islands. Discontinuing bald eagle restoration efforts on Catalina is simply too risky to the continued recovery of the Catalina Island fox, which is federally listed as an endangered species, and is found on Catalina and nowhere else in the world.

Based on this information, I urge you to reconsider your proposal. Catalina deserves to have its natural environment restored—not only for the fascinating and unique residents of its ecosystem, but also for future generations of people to enjoy and marvel at its beauty.

Sincerely,



Alison Wrigley Rusack

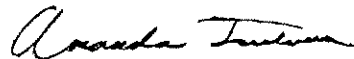
Amanda Trutwein  
1375 N. McClintock  
Chandler, AZ 85226  
May 23, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker:

I have a strong opinion about what you are doing; this is an endangered species that we're talking about! I mean come on, how would you feel if someone stopped caring about you when you were dying!?! I mean my class never even got to see a bald eagle because they're not thriving anymore. We were really looking forward to seeing some, but sadly our hopes were crushed. We had a good time but I was just horrified that these terrible things were happening as we swam and hiked. I'm hoping that you consider this letter "important", so please try and find it in your heart not to give up on this program.

Sincerely,



*Amanda Trutwein*

Mollie peters  
1375 N. McClintock  
Chandler, AZ 85226  
May 23 2005

Greg Baker, program manager  
Restoration program,  
Montrose Settlements  
501 W. ocean blvd, suite 4470  
Long beach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker,

I'm writing to complain about the thought of abandoning the chance to rescue our very own national cymbal!!! It's bad enough to not care' but to just oblivate it completely!!! I already have seven full fledge paragraphed resones against it. My main purpose for writing this letter is obviously about my opinion to your new found action. Also

my reson is the fact that abandoning a species that is on the brink of extinction is wrong but also a regretful action. It would please the fans of CIMI to continue the protection of the Bald eagles.

And remember, once the eagle is  
extinct it's gone just like the  
dodos.

Sincerely,

M. Peters

Mollie  
Peters

*Claudia Jimenez  
1375 N. McClintock  
Chandler, AZ 85226  
May 23, 200*

*Greg Baker Program Manager  
Montrose Settlement  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802*

*Dear Mr. Baker,*

*I think that you should let the funding proceed. That way, next year we could learn about how the Bald Eagles get used to the environment in the CIMI area. My opinion is that what you are doing by helping the Bald Eagle is a good deed. Also this helping kids learn more about the C IMI area and to allow students come more often. Catalina Island is such a good, fun, and exciting experience to every person that will be coming in the near future. I hope that the Bald Eagles are apart of this experience.*

*Sincerely,  
Claudia Jimenez  
Claudia Jimenez*

Lexi Katzman  
1375 N.McColintock  
Chandler, AZ 85226  
May 23, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manger  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Reach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker,

I think that stopping the funding for restoring the bald eagles is the worst idea. Don't you want it to be a world where you can look outside and see the beautiful birds? There already not a lot of bald eagles. Why would you want to get rid of the ones we do have. One reason I did want to come to Catalina Island is because of the beautiful scenery. Why would I come if it looks just like my home? You have done a great job trying to keep the eagles alive. Keep it up! Thank you for a great time at Catalina Island. I really enjoyed it.

Sincerely,

Lexi Katzman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lexi Katzman", written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

**Taylor Byrd  
1375 N. McElintock  
Chandler, AZ 85226  
May 23rd, 2005**

**Greg Baker, program manager restoration program  
Montrose settlements  
501 W. Ocean Blvd, suit 4470  
Long beach CA 90802**

**Dear Mr. Baker:**

**It is disappointing to see people cut the program for the bald eagles. Then the students will be less likely to see the bald eagles. Our whole school was so disappointed to hear about this. I feel so sorry for the bald eagle and their eggs. That they have just had to go through so much lately. I really want the program to go on, especially if they are endangered. But I just want to see the bald eagle because it means a lot to the teachers, everybody, and myself. Please let us see the bald eagle, if you do, everybody would be so happy. I just want everybody to be happy and that's what I really want. Really I do want to see the bald eagle more than other people do. It would mean so much to the class the school and myself if the program continues.**

**Please just please, find a way to make the bald eagle program better!!!!!!**

**Sincerely,**

**Taylor Byrd**



Haley Shaughnessy  
1375 N. McClintock  
Chandler AZ, 85226  
May 23, 2005

Greg Baker, program manager  
Restoration Program,  
Montrose Settlements  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470

Dear Mr. Baker,

In the year 2000, the Palos Verdes Peninsula dumped DDTs and PCBs in the rivers. The fish, that the eagles ate, were poisoned. This made the eagles bodies polluted. Now because of the fish, that they ate, caused the eagle eggs to be too soft to sit on. Today only 20 eagles call Catalina Island home. Don't stop the fund, keep it going. Once the eagles are extinct, no one will ever see them ever again.

Sincerely,



Haley Shaughnessy

Emma Galindo  
1375 N. McClintock  
Chandler, AZ 85226  
May 23, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager Restoration Program  
Montrose Settlements  
501 W. Ocean Blvd. Suite 4470  
Long Beach CA. 90802

Dear Mr. Baker,

Answer this question: **WHAT IS YOUR PROBLEM?!** Why are you trying to *stop* helping the Bald Eagles? What did they ever do to you? They are America's National bird! Did it ever occur to you that you are trying to make the Bald Eagles extinct?! I have been to Catalina Island and I saw **one** Bald Eagle. If I saw more than just one Bald Eagle, the scenery would be a **lot** more beautiful. So please, don't take away the Bald Eagles. I am going there next year, and I want to see more than **one** Bald Eagle.

Sincerely,  
*Emma Galindo*  
Emma Galindo

David Radtke  
1375 N. McClintock  
Chandler, AZ 85226  
May 23, 2005

Greg Backer, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker:

I think that the funding for the Bald Eagle should continue. The reason I think it should continue is because I never got to see a Bald Eagle at Catalina Island, and next time I go there I want to see a Bald Eagle!!!

I know that there are 20 Bald Eagles left on Catalina Island. If you stop the founding a lot of the students that go to Catalina in the future will not get to see an almost extinct animal.

Sincerely,  
*David Radtke*

Lizette Daniel  
1375 N. McClintock  
Chandler, AZ 85225  
May 23, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager Restoration Program  
Montrose Settlements  
501 W. Ocean Blvd. Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker,

I think getting rid of bald eagles is lame. I think we should have bald eagles because they help us with animals that we loath, like rattlesnakes for instance. If I go to CIMI next year I want to explore and see bald eagles flying around, eating or maybe even sleeping. I think bald eagles are cool to learn about. I also think you should keep more bald eagles in Catalina Island then anywhere else because we kids go there to explore things and have fun. It is cool seeing bald eagles flying around in the sky. I ask you to also help by telling people what the bald eagles mean to us. Will you tell people who want to get rid of bald eagles that the bald eagle is AMERICA'S #1 animal? Thank you for all your concern.

Sincerely,  
*Lizette Daniel*  
Lizette Daniel

**KHALIFA KHATTALY  
1375 N.MCCLINTOCK  
CHANDLER, AZ 85226  
MAY 23,2005**

**GREG BAKER,PROGRAM MANAGRER  
MONTROSE SETTLEMENTS  
501 W. OCEAN BLVD., SUITE 4470  
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90802**

**DEAR MR.BAKER,**

**I THINK THAT YOU SHOULD KEEP THE BALD EAGLE PROGRAM  
BECAUSE THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE WHO HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO  
LEARN ABOUT THE BALD EAGLE, INCLUDING MY SELF.BALD EAGLES  
ARE EXTRODINARY ANIMALS THAT DO NOT DESERVE TO BE EXTINCT.  
HOW WOULD YOU LIKE IT IF YOU WE'RE GOING TO NEVER LIVE AGAIN  
OR BE EXTINCT? IT WOULD ALSO BE A BUMMER FOR PEOPLE WHO  
HAVE NEVER BEEN TO CATILINA ISLAND. HAVE THE EAGLES DONE  
ANYTHING TO YOU? HAVE THEY HARMED YOU IN ANYWAY? WHY DO  
YOU WANT EAGELS TO BE EXTINCT?**

**SINCERELY,**

*KhaliFa Khattaly*

Gabrielle Aguilar  
1375 N. McClintock  
Chandler, AZ, 85246  
May 23, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager Restoration Program  
Montrose Settlements  
501 W. Ocean Blvd. Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker,

I think you should keep the bald eagle program because it is very interesting. I think that Mr. Baker should keep the program going because it's fun for the kids to learn by observing instead of doing worksheets. Sometimes kids will fall asleep and at Catalina Island, they won't because you could learn a different way, like real life. This is why they should keep the program.

Sincerely,

*Gabrielle Aguilar*

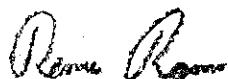
Renee Romo  
1375 N. McClintock  
Chandler, AZ 85226  
May 23, 2005

Greg Baker, program manager  
Montrose settlements of the restoration program  
501 W. ocean blvd., suite 4470  
Long beach, C.A. 90802

Dear Mr. Baker:

I would like to tell you that I don't like their idea about abolishing the bald eagle program. I think that it is not a great idea, because if the bald eagle program were to be abolishing, the bald eagle would become extinct. Even if they don't have that much (DDT) in there bodies, they could still be infected. I would personally do something to raise money for the program, because I want to see a bald eagle. What is going to happen if I go to Catalina Island and I want to see a bald eagle. I know the answer. I won't be able to because of the people that are taking you're program away. It is also not all about me, but about millions of people in the world. These people pay lots of money and take long rides, or drives, just to get to see a bald eagle. Please people think about it, don't take that great program away don't.

Sincerely,



Renee Romo



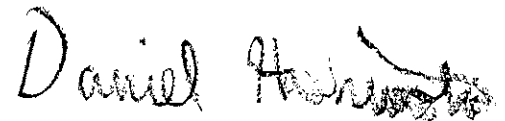
**Daniel Hashimoto  
1375 N. McClintock  
Chandler, AZ 85226  
May 23, 2005**

**Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements, Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd, Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802**

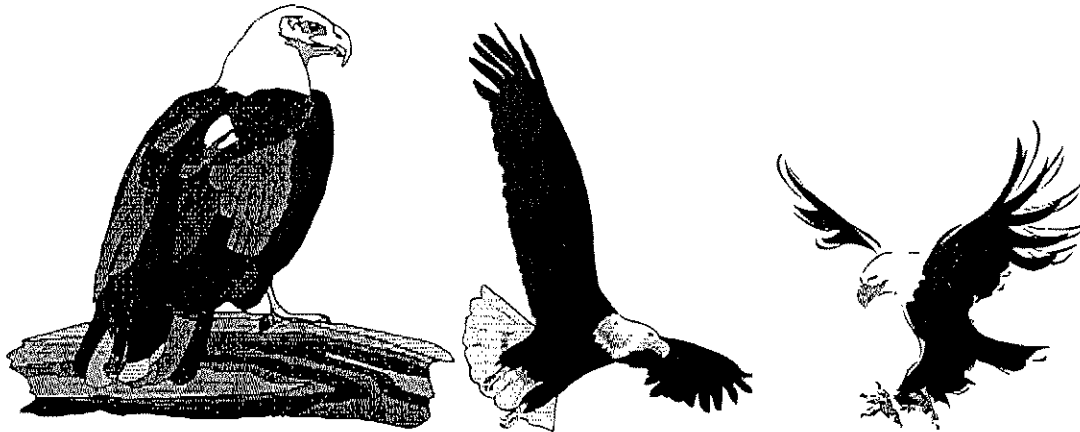
**Dear Mr. Baker,**

**I think that the bald eagles shouldn't become extinct. They are awesome and I think you should ask MNRT why they want to stop the fund. I mean, the bald eagle is on the back of the dollar bill! The re-introduction has helped the bald eagles produce more of its kind. I want the fund to continue. Mr. Baker, please help the fund and convince MNRT to keep up with the funding.**

**Sincerely,**



**Daniel Hashimoto**



Kyle La Bounty  
1375 N. McClintock  
Chandler, AZ 85226  
May 23, 2005

Greg Baker program manager  
Montrose Settlements  
501 W. Ocean Blvd Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker:

I was just recently informed of your funding being cut for your project of the re-introduction of the Bald Eagles. If this project ends, the people who come to CIMI to see the island may never get to see these beautiful animals. But if this project continues, we can keep seeing these magnificent birds. We can also keep making movies, books and new documents about these animals. So the reason I'm righting this letter is that I want to help these birds not become extinct.

Sincerely,

Kyle La Bounty

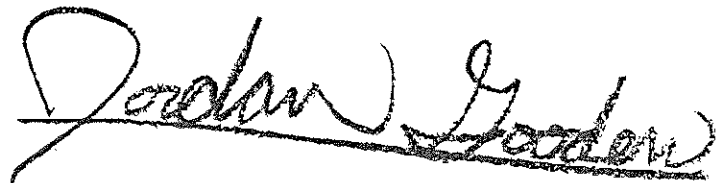
JORDAN GOODEN  
1375 N. MCCLINTOC  
CHANDLER AZ 85226  
MAY 23, 2005

GREG BAKER PROGRAM MANAGER  
RESTORATION PROGRAM  
MONTROSE SETTLEMENT  
501 W. OCEAN BLVD. SUITE 4470

DEAR, MR. BAKER

I REALLY THINK YOU SHOULD KEEP ON  
KEEPING ON WITH THE BALD EAGLE  
PROJECT. THERE ARE ONLY ROUGHLY 70,000  
BALD EAGLES LEFT ON EARTH. WOULDN'T IT  
FEEL GOOD TO POPULATE MORE? BALD  
EAGLES ARE BEAUTIFUL ANIMALS. WHY  
WOULD YOU NOT WANT TO MAKE MORE? YOU  
NEED 110% OF CATALINA ISLAND TO BE  
BEAUTIFUL, CURRENTLY IT IS ONLY 100%.  
BRING IT UP. I WAS DEEPLY MOVED DURING  
MY STAY AT FOX LANDING. I DIDN'T SEE 1  
BALD EAGLE.

SINCERELY,  
JORDAN GOODEN



Morgan Hammel  
1375 N. McClintock Dr.  
Chandler AZ, 85226  
May 23, 2005

Greg Baker Program Manager  
Montrose Settlement Restoration program  
501 W. Occan Blvd. Suite 4470  
Long beach CA. 90802

Dear Mr. Baker

Saving the Bald eagles is important to America's birds.  
Keep the funding, so we can save America's eagles.  
So they can reproduce and have a lot more eagles.  
If the fundraiser goes away, then we won't have any more eagles on Catalina Island.  
So please keep the funding then we can have more eagles.

Sincerely,

Morgan Hammel

Christopher Wicker  
1375 N. McClintock  
Chandler, AZ 85226  
May 23, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd, Suite 4470  
Long beach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker:

People should keep fundraising so all people can see bald eagles when they go to CIMI. I think fundraising is a great idea because eagles are endangered animals. So we are asking a big favor, please save bald eagles! We want to be able to see them when we return to the island.

Sincerely,

*Christopher Wicker*

Jacob Dull  
1375 N. McClintock  
Chandler, AZ 85226  
May 23, 2005

Greg Baker, Manager of the Restoration Program  
Montrose Settlement  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker,

It is important to keep the bald eagle program. I won't get to see one ever if you don't keep this program. I hope the bald eagle can stay. They are the best. I'm glad that people have fundraising. Please keeps this program going strong! THANK YOU.

Sincerely,

Jacob dull

Preston Clement  
13 N. McClintock  
Chandler, Arizona 85226  
May 23, 2005

Greg Baker; Program Manager  
Restoration Program Montrose Settlements.  
501 w. ocean blvd. suit 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker,

It is important to keep the bald eagle program because it is very interesting. When I went to Catalina Island it was very fun. When I was at Catalina Island I didn't see any bald eagles. I want Mr. Baker to keep this program because it is fun to see bald eagles when I go to CIMI. I want to continue to learn about the bald eagles. If we don't keep the program, bald eagles won't be here.

Sincerely,

Preston Clement

**From:** Shark Attack  
**To:** Greg Baker; msrp@noaa; gov  
**Date:** 5/23/2005 3:19:17 PM  
**Subject:** Montrose Settlements Restoration Program

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The Catalina bald eagle program must be continued. To stop it before the eagles are completely re-established would be to waste the monies already spent. The other programs I am sure have value, however if the eagle program should be allowed to find additional funding before money is withdrawn then more programs could be considered. Please do not stop this well conceived and worthwhile program.

Shark Attack  
sharkattack361@earthlink.net  
EarthLink Revolves Around You.



May 16, 2005

**Greg Baker, Program Manager**  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
562.980.3236  
Email: [msrp@noaa.gov](mailto:msrp@noaa.gov)

DEPT. OF COMMERCE - NOAA  
RECEIVED  
MAY 23 2005  
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

College of Letters, Arts  
and Sciences

Wrigley Institute for  
Environmental Studies

Anthony F. Michaels  
Director

Dear Mr. Baker:

I write to urge you and your committee to continue to fund the restoration of the Bald Eagles on Catalina Island and to expand, not contract, your commitment to improving the island and ocean ecosystems around Catalina Island. I direct the Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies at the University of Southern California. We operate a research laboratory on Catalina Island where we support research, education and outreach on a wide range of issues and by faculty and students from many different universities.

The overall goals of the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program as stated in settlement documents, are:

- 1) To restore, replace, rehabilitate or acquire the equivalent of the injured natural resources and the services that those resources provide; and,
- 2) To compensate for the interim lost services of the injured natural resources while those resources are recovered.

I think that these goals can best be achieved by continuing the Bald Eagle Restoration Program on Catalina Island into the foreseeable future. In addition, I ask for further consideration of the Restoration Alternative that restores peregrine falcons to the Southern Channel Islands, including Catalina Island. And finally, I feel strongly that marine fisheries enhancement work should be considered for the near shore environment of Catalina Island, an alternative that is not even discussed in the plan as it now stands, but seems more consistent with your charge than similar activities on islands much further away.

I strongly and respectfully disagree with the Natural Resource Trustee's preferred Alternative 2, which not only proposes ideas that are not as directly linked to the loss of natural resources due to the DDTs and PCBs contamination (e.g. wetland recovery and implementation of Marine Protected Areas in the Northern Channel Islands), but also directs significant portions of the settlement funds away from the sites of injury to disparate sites in the Northern Channel Islands and Mexico.

I think that it is critically important to focus the restoration efforts in the locations where the damage was and continues to be greatest, the Palos Verdes

Shelf and Catalina Island. Millions of people visit Catalina Island and enjoy its natural beauty and wildlife. This is the offshore ecosystem that is truly “public”. These visitors deserve to be able to experience wild Bald Eagles, Peregrine Falcons and healthy coastal oceans. To pull back from the existing commitments when so many people experience their benefits seems at odds with your charter, common sense and fairness.

The eagles on Catalina do still require strong management efforts, a sign of the ongoing damage caused by the DDT. There are early signs that some of the eagles are nearing levels of DDT where they can reproduce on their own. Further, they probably inhibit the introduction of Golden Eagles and may prevent the kind of devastations to the Catalina Island Fox that we have seen on the northern Channel Islands. Please don’t abandon them at this critical point.

I understand that there are worthy restoration activities on many locations around California. State taxpayers have provided large bonds and annually provide funding for many of these priorities. I know that there are budget pressures within the agencies represented by the Trustees. However, I think that you hold these Montrose Settlement funds in public trust and I urge you to look more broadly than the worthy initiatives of your own agencies. Please recognize that publicly-accessible lands are also valuable when held by private owners and that the kind of public-private partnerships found on Catalina are an excellent model for management on a much wider scale. The damage is on these lands. Please use these settlement funds to address DDT-related damage here rather than in Mexico or on non-DDT related activities elsewhere.

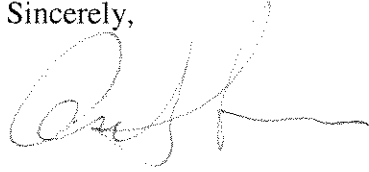
The Catalina Bald Eagle program only costs about \$270,000 per year. The amount you are spending to study eagles on other island would cover this effort for more than a decade. The amounts you envision for your other projects are much larger per unit of success than the Catalina Eagle project. Public-private partnerships are an efficient way to leverage your funds. In fact, the \$6 million you would have left after funding the NCI Feasibility Study would provide an endowment that could fund Catalina Eagles indefinitely. These are still relatively small components of the funds you have to disperse. Once the Catalina Eagles are healthy, this endowment would still be more than available to fund the conservation needs of the future.

Finally, it is interesting that the scientific work done with bald eagles on Catalina Island was the most compelling evidence that eventually lead to the negotiation of the Montrose Settlement. It would be a travesty of justice if this Island, the one place millions of people can view their national symbol in a natural island setting, was abandoned.

I strongly urge the Trustees to reconsider your current recommendations, and to create an alternative that 1) accomplishes ongoing bald eagle restoration on Catalina Island, 2) establishes funding for peregrine falcon restoration, and 3)

establishes a program to restore marine fisheries an the waters around Catalina Island – site of the greatest negative impacts from Montrose dumping. I understand that these are difficult management decisions and I hope that you can see the huge value in supporting the ecosystems of this special island.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony F. Michaels', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Anthony F. Michaels  
Director  
USC Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies

RESOLUTION NO. 05-15

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF AVALON URGING THE MONTROSE  
SETTLEMENT RESTORATION PROGRAM  
COMMITTEE TO CONTINUE FUNDING OF THE  
CATALINA ISLAND EAGLE RESTORATION  
PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, Catalina Island once had a thriving bald eagle population which was decimated by the illegal off-shore dumping of millions of gallons of pesticides for a period of decades by Montrose Chemical Company of Torrance and other polluters; and

**WHEREAS**, a program to restore bald eagles to Catalina Island has resulted in the successful release of 89 bald eagles on Catalina Island since 1982, with 20 of the bald eagles making Catalina Island their home and others relocating as far north as Canada; and

**WHEREAS**, Catalina Island is the only Channel Island where significant numbers of private citizens can see the bald eagle in a natural habitat, thereby allowing residents of Catalina Island and our more than one million annual visitors to experience first hand the beauty of the bald eagles; and

**WHEREAS**, outreach programs by the Catalina Island Conservancy continue to inform and educate the public about the plight of the bald eagle and the need to protect and conserve it and other natural resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposal to stop funding the Catalina Island bald eagle restoration program is based upon concerns that bald eagles will not become self-sustaining and yet a feasibility study is underway which may demonstrate that some of the bald eagles will soon be able to reproduce on their own; and

**WHEREAS**, discontinuation of the bald eagle restoration program on Catalina Island may have serious negative consequences, including the loss of all bald eagles currently inhabiting Catalina Island, thereby foiling decades of efforts and wasting hundreds of thousands of dollars of settlement monies, and the potential surge of golden eagles which may move in and decimate the endangered Catalina Island fox;

DEPT. OF COMMERCE - NOAA  
RECEIVED

MAY 23 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

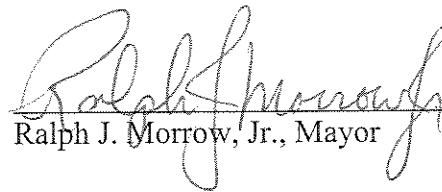
NOW, THEREFORE the City Council of the City of Avalon does determine, find and resolve as follows:

**Section 1.** The City Council of the City of Avalon hereby registers its opposition to the proposal to end funding of the Catalina Island bald eagle restoration program.

**Section 2.** The City Council of the City of Avalon hereby urges the Montrose Settlement Restoration Program Committee, at a minimum to delay action until the results of the pending feasibility study regarding self-sustenance are completed.

**Section 3.** The City Manager is directed to send a certified copy of this resolution to the Montrose Settlement Restoration Program Committee.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2005.

  
Ralph J. Morrow, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

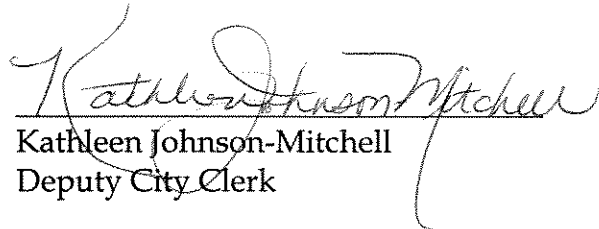
  
Shirley Davy, City Clerk

STATE OF CALIFORNIA        )  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES    )     SS.  
CITY OF AVALON             )

I, KATHLEEN JOHNSON-MITCHELL, DEPUTY CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF AVALON, CALIFORNIA, do hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct copy of Resolution No. 05-15 was duly passed, approved and adopted by the Avalon City Council at its regular meeting of Tuesday, May 17, 2005, by following vote, to wit:

AYES:           Four (Council Members O'Connor, Regalado, Kennedy, Mayor  
                  Morrow)  
NOES:           One (Mayor Pro-Tem Winslow)  
ABSTAIN:       None  
ABSENT:        None

DATED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2005.

  
Kathleen Johnson-Mitchell  
Deputy City Clerk

*Gray Baker*

JAMES A. EDDY  
1562 Royal Blvd.  
Glendale, Ca. 91207  
818 244-9027

5-17-05

Members Montrose Settlements Restoration Program

Re: Catalina Bald Eagle Restoration

I have enjoyed Catalina as a camper, visitor, sailor and supporter, starting in 1936. As a camper we watched the eagles soar and marveled at their majesty.

In later years as a camp counselor we taught youngsters about the birds of the island, the eagles being the most spectacular.

Then there were no more eagles to see and describe.

Recently with your support a few eagles are now seen soaring over the mountains of Catalina. While we have a few they are insufficient to perpetuate the species on their own. I am convinced if you cease to support the program they will soon again disappear.

I urge you to continue funding, for at least five more years, the Eagle program for Catalina Island.

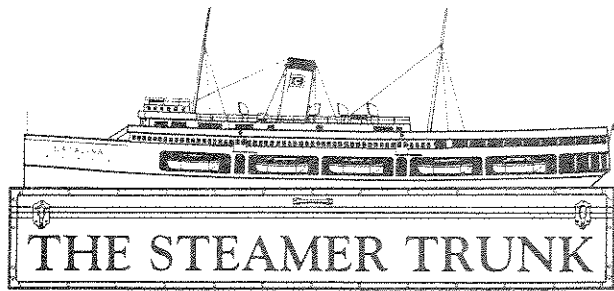
Most sincerely,

*James A. Eddy*

DEPT. OF COMMERCE - NOAA  
RECEIVED

MAY 23 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR



May 18, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker,

We have enjoyed seeing more eagles on the island every year - this year has been especially good. Please don't abandon the eagle restoration program now - we may be turning a corner.

Sincerely,

Sue Pitalo, owner

DEPT. OF COMMERCE - NOAA  
RECEIVED

MAY 19 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SUR



May 19, 2005

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program

Dear Sir;

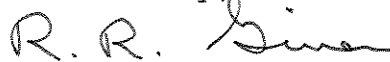
I am writing as a scientist, naturalist, and educator, and as Chair of the Board of Benefactors of the Santa Catalina Island Conservancy, to ask, no, to implore, you, to reconsider your plan to withdraw funding from the Santa Catalina Island Bald Eagle Program. I have read your proposal to do so and, although it certainly has merit and would expand your Restoration Program, I firmly believe that this is not the time to "pull the rug out from under" the highly-successful Catalina Program. We are just on the brink of determining whether or not the eagles can reproduce on their own and maintain a Catalina population; which is the main purpose of the Catalina Project and which, when successful, will certainly impact the other Channel Islands and, equally important, will establish that type of restoration plan as viable on a global scale.

As you know, we are being scrutinized world-wide, not only for the scientific accomplishments but, also, as one of the first truly successful cooperative efforts between a traditionally vilified industry and a conservation organization. The Catalina project is certainly unique in ecological restoration science, thanks to the Montrose support.

Additionally, there are obviously many more facets of your Catalina support program to consider, such as the possibility that the Bald Eagles deter the invasion of the Golden Eagles, which could, in turn, endanger the just-recovering Island Fox population.

Your continuation of support monies will be well and wisely used to continue this project to its successful conclusion and I again urge you to reconsider withdrawing your support funding at this time.

Most Sincerely;



Robert R. Given, Ph.D.  
Professor/Science Department  
Marymount College

Chair of the Benefactor Members  
Santa Catalina Island Conservancy

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RECEIVED

MAY 23 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

May 20, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd. Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

I have been working as a wildlife biologist on the Channel Islands since the year 2000. As a biologist and someone that appreciates the Channel Islands for their natural beauty, I fully support any rehabilitation of wildlife that has been damaged by human intervention. It has come to my attention that the Montrose settlement proposes to cut the Catalina Island bald eagle project funding. I strongly feel this is irresponsible on the part of Montrose settlement. I don't feel the need to express the reasons here as they have all been touched in the recent Montrose settlement plan.

Regardless of the findings of the northern Channel Islands bald eagle project, I fully support the continuation of the Catalina Island bald eagle project. It seems that with all infrastructure in place on Catalina the cost to continue the project would be a small price to pay for a bird such as the bald eagle, our national bird. Also with the record hatch this year in the incubation facility that the Institute for Wildlife Studies has developed it would appear that there may be hope in the future for this island.

Sincerely,



Thad A. Manuwal  
P.O. Box 481  
Avalon, CA 90704

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RECEIVED  
MAY 23 2005  
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Berlin  
8311 Delgany Avenue  
Playa Del Rey, CA 90203

DEPT. OF COMMERCE - NOAA  
RECEIVED

MAY 23 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

May 17, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker,

*As one of the million-plus frequent visitors to Catalina, I, along with my family, enjoy the breathtaking beauty of the bald eagles that have been returned to the island.*

*As you know, these amazing creatures are endangered and have been restored with the help of funds from the Montrose Settlement which addressed environmental damage caused by extensive DDT and PCB dumping through the 1970s. Alternatives currently proposed by the Montrose Natural Resource Trustees would cease funding of bald eagle restoration on Catalina Island, the island hardest hit by this dumping and THE ONLY natural setting in Southern California that we can go to enjoy these magnificent birds.*

*PLEASE take action to influence Montrose Settlement Restoration Committee Members and Trustees that rather than allocate funding to the Northern Channel Islands and as far south as Mexico, their moneys are best spent on eagle restoration, efforts to help restore peregrine falcons, and restoration of the marine fisheries on and near Catalina Island.*

*Public comment ends May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please act before then. The favor of your reply regarding this important issue would be greatly appreciated.*

Sincerely,

*(Mrs.) Sherie Berlin*

Program Manager Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

*RE: Catalina Island Restoration Program*

Dear Mr. Baker,

This letter is a sincere plea to continue funding Catalina's Bald Eagle restoration and allocate funding for Peregrine Falcons and Marine Fisheries restoration. There are many crucial issues at stake, some of which are as follows.

Abandoning your efforts now would hinder the abilities of the bald eagles to reproduce as their eggs still contain elevated DDT levels.

The disappearance of bald eagles from Catalina may occur if they are not able to reproduce over the next few years, which could impact all of the Channel Islands.

Over one Million visitors come to Catalina each year to enjoy the natural resources of the island including having access to bald eagles in a natural setting.

Damage from DDT and PCBs directly affected Catalina the worst. Settlement monies were not meant for addressing the impacts of introduced predators and invasive plant species.

The endangered Catalina Island Fox is federally listed as an endangered species and Catalina is the only place in the world where it is found. Abandoning the restoration program could allow Golden Eagles to decimate the Island Fox population.

The Bald Eagles that are being produced on Catalina Island are a potential source population for recovery of Bald Eagles elsewhere.

Catalina is the most cost-effective investment as the recovery effort includes the human intervention necessary to ensure the protection of the Eagle habitat and outreach efforts that inspire the public to support and protect the Eagles.

Please create an Alternative that continues to provide funds for Bald Eagle restoration work on Catalina, ensuring that these magnificent birds will fly free for millions of Catalina visitors to enjoy today and throughout future generations. Our children and grandchildren should have a right to view Bald Eagles too!

Sincerely,



Kelsey Cochran

Cc: Ann Muscat  
Mel Dinkle  
Catalina Island Conservancy

DEPT. OF COMMERCE - NOAA  
RECEIVED  
MAY 23 2005  
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION

Barbara Jo King  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade B-12  
Avalon Elementary School,  
Avalon, CA. 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach, CA. 90804

May 4, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am writing to tell the Institute for Wildlife Studies Eagle Program not to be taken off of Catalina Island. Your company made the problem, so you need to fix it. Please don't stop funding money until at least 50 eagles are on the Island.

I learned so much about the eagles and I still want to learn more but without the eagles I can't learn any more. I love seeing <sup>them</sup> out in the hills.

I appreciate that you don't want the eagles to die but I still want to see the eagles. When I am down the coast the most thing I want to see are the eagles. I wish your company never dumped the D.D.T. because now that is why the eagles can't hatch on their own. If Pimu and Lefty are taken off Catalina oh man I'm going to be mad. If you try to fix it that will be fine with me but what's not okay with me is the eagles getting taken off the Island. Oh can we at least keep the healthy pair? Maybe we can put the eagles in a big cage thing that's really big and looks like they are in the wild and put healthy fish in the water that has no D.D.T. Now do you understand how important the eagles are to me.

Please will you keep the program going?  
I'm beggin you I love the eagles  
hear.

Most Sincerely,  
Barbara Jo King

David Castro  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade B-12

Avalon Elementary School  
Avalon, CA. 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrase Settlement  
Long Beach, CA. 90804

May 4, 2005

Dear Mr Baker;

I am writing to you to  
convince you to keep helping the  
eagles. Why did you dump the  
D.D.F. in the ocean.

I want the eagles to stay.  
They're like brothers to me.  
With out them I would have  
half a heart because the animals  
are what I care the most  
about.



Dr. Sharpe risks his life to  
save the eagles on Catalina.  
A lot of what I know about  
the eagles I learned from  
him. Please let him keep his job  
on Catalina.

Sincerely  
David Castro

Gabriela Hernandez  
3rd Grade B-12  
Avalon Elementary School  
Avalon, Ca. 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach CA. 90804

May 4, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker:

I'm writing to persuade you to keep the Institute for Wildlife Studies Eagle Program. Your company made the problem so you have to fix it.

I enjoy having the Institute for Wildlife Studies on Catalina Island. I also enjoy visiting Pimu and Lefty. Eagles are really easy to learn about.

The eagle is our national bird. Please don't stop funding until there is a healthy population of eagles. Dr. Sharp risked his life

working with the eagles. We all hope that we can keep the eagles here so people can see them. Since one pair of eagles is near to hatching a healthy egg soon others might too.

Ganagan Acherman  
3rd Grade B-12  
Avalon Elementary School  
Avalon, C.A. 90704

Mr. Greg Balter  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach C.A. 90804

May 4, 2005

Dear Mr. Balter;

I am writing to you because  
I think the Institut for Wildlife  
Studies Eagle project can work.  
Your the one who dumped the  
D.D.t. so you should fix it.  
Can't you let us have fifty  
eagles? If we are tring to  
save the eagles keep the  
money coming to Catalina.

I like the eagles because there  
so nice and when I was at  
the hills, I watched a lot of  
eagles! Eagles are also very  
easy to learn about. Just please,  
please, please don't take away  
are eagles.

Dr. Sharp risks his life to save  
eagles, just help.

Sincerely, Canaan, Acherman.

Brent Ezell  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade B-12  
Avalon Elementary School  
Avalon, CA. 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach, CA. 90804

May 4, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker;

I am writing to you to try  
to get you to keep funding the Eagle  
Program on Catalina. Your company  
created this program so you should  
keep our program since your company  
is a multi 1,000,000, hotel company.  
Plus the eagle is our mascot.  
I bet if you ride her you would  
not want the eagles to die.

Pls reconsider about the program  
if you move them to the Channels  
it inds nobody will be a bill to  
in joy them. please think or gain about  
the program.

most Sincerely  
Brent Fzell

Montana Troeger  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade B-12  
Avalon Elementary School  
Avalon, CA. 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach, CA. 90804

May 4, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker;  
I am writing to persuade  
you to keep the Institute for  
wildlife Studies Eagle program  
funded on Catalina Island. I  
think you should think a second  
time about what you did to the  
eagles and what you did in the  
water to cause the problem.

I appreciate that you want to help  
the other Channel Islands, but I  
think you should help us until



we at least have 40 eagles.  
How would you like it if the  
U.S. Government took away your  
Company? I have feelings for the  
eagles and would like to keep  
them on the island unlike you.

I enjoy seeing the eagles they are  
a part of this island. The eagle is  
our national bird and nobody  
wants to lose it I am sure of  
that.

I am very unhappy about  
this.

Most Seriously Montana  
Troeger

Zack Upton  
3<sup>RD</sup> Grade B-12  
Avalon Elementary School  
Avalon, CA 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach, CA 90804

May 4, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am writing to persuade you to keep the Institute for Wildlife Studies Eagle Program funded on Catalina Island. Since you dumped the D.D.T to pay it off at least help the eagles by continuing to give money to the Eagle Program.

Everyone on Catalina loves the eagles so keep giving money so people on Catalina can enjoy the eagles longer. You know what I fee

great when I see a eagle  
soaring in the sky everyone on  
Catalina does dont you see if we  
dont see the eagles again we'd be  
nothing. So keep on funding to FWS!  
You know what I think Mr. Sharpe's  
job is a success: to keep the eagles  
healthy and alive.

All I'm saying is you should keep  
on funding money for the eagles  
Mr. Sharpe and all of us.

From,  
Zack Upton

Gabriel Saldaña  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade B-12  
Avalon Elementary School  
Avalon, C.A. 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach, C.A. 90804

May 4, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am writing to convince you to keep the I.W.S. program funded on Catalina Island. Can you please keep funding money for the eagles?

S dump it you fix it that's how it goes. I know you are a big company so I trust you to be able to. When I see all that D.D.T. in the water at San Pedro

Boy I get disgusted! It just doesn't make any possible sense! Would you like it if the United States bird was gone? Huh? I care about the eagles everyone on Catalina does. I always like to visit Pimu and Lefty. They are just two of the many eagles that are depending on us. This is a serious thing. Think about it. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Gabriel Saldaña

Vanessa Sanchez  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade B-12  
Avalon Elementary School  
Avalon, CA. 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach, CA.  
90804

May 4, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker;

I'm writing to persuade you to keep Institute for wildlife Studies Eagle Program funded on Catalina Island. I think you should think a second time.

Since one pair of eagles is near to hatching a healthy baby, soon others might too! Please don't stop funding the money until there are at least fifty eagles. Your Company made the problem so you have to fix it!

I enjoy seeing the eagles when I hike. I've learned a lot about them from Dr. Sharpe. I visit Pimu in his cage. When I'm down the coast I can see the eagles flying overhead. Eagles add excitement to my life on Catalina.

Please reconsider keeping Dr. Sharpe's eagle program on Catalina Island!

Most Sincerely,  
Vanessa Sanchez

Marisa Morones  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade B-12  
Avalon Elementary School  
Avalon, CA. 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach, CA. 90804

May 4, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker;

I am writing to you to encourage you to reconsider keeping the Institute for Wildlife Studies Program funded on Catalina Island. I think you should think a second time, because you really didn't have a right to dump the D.D.T. You made this huge problem.

Please don't stop funding money until there are at least fifty eagles on the island.



Eagles are so important to us because many places don't have eagles. I really like the eagles because when I see them I feel so happy inside. I hope that you can see all that we know about eagles is because of the Eagles Program on Catalina. We all hope they could stay here so people could see this wild, beautiful creature.

Please reconsider keeping Dr. Sharp's eagle Program on Catalina Island.

Katie McAlaavey  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade B-12  
Avalon Elementary School  
Avalon, Ca. 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach, Ca. 90804

May 4, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker;

I'm writing to persuade you to keep the Institute for Wildlife Studies Eagle program funded on Catalina Island. You dumped the D.D.T so your responsible to clean it up. You should think! Catalina is nothing without are eagles! You don't know how sad I would be if I came home and I saw

no eagles! What would you do, take away Pimu and Lefty! I'd be furious! I challenge you to find a way to cover up those D.D.T barrels!

I've got a question. How would you like it if there were no more eagles at all? Well guess what? That is how Catalina kids would feel! Don't you love it when you see an eagle soaring through the sky? How would you like it if you never saw them again?

Eagles are the national bird why would you take them away?

P.S.

Please don't take the eagles of the Island

sincerely,

Katie McAlevey

Rebekah G. Sutherland  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade B-12  
Avalon Elementary School  
Avalon, CA. 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach, CA. 90804

May 4, 2005

Dear Mr. G. Baker;

I'm writing to you because I want to persuade you to keep the Institute for Wildlife Studies Eagle Program funded on Catalina Island. You should think again how important the eagles are to locals and Islanders.

If you do not fund money the eagle population on Catalina will be zero. You will be making another mistake. I live at Middle Ranch I see eagles

every day is that going to stop? I love to see the eagles. IF you take them of the Island every body will be Sad that there are no eagles and we will blame your company. It would be a disgrace to work for your company. Please help keep the I.I.W.s. Eagle Program going.

Please think again to help save these beautiful creatures. Thank you for your time. Think.....

Resident of Catalina Island  
Rebekah Sutherland,

P.S. Think, Think, Think ext.

Think

Leia Moyses  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade B-12  
Avalon Elementary  
Avalon, CA. 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach, CA. 90804

May 4, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am writing to encourage you to keep the Institute for Wildlife Studies Eagles. It was your fault in the first place. You're the one who made the problem so fix it!

If you take before you do that think about one last time. How about if someone took you away from your home how would you feel? If you do that will be very frustrating for everybody on the Island.

I hope you know what I'm saying to you so please don't take them away.

Leia Moyses

Leia Moyses  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade B-12  
Avalon Elementary  
Avalon, CA. 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach, CA. 90804

May 4, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am writing to encourage you to keep the Institute for Wildlife Studies Eagles. It was your fault in the first place. You're the one who made the problem so fix it!

If you take before you do that think about one last time. How about if someone took you away from your home how would you feel? If you do that will be very frustrating for everybody on the Island.

I hope you know what I'm saying to you so please don't take them away.

Leia Moyses

Martina Machado  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade B-12  
Avalon Elementary School  
Avalon, CA 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach, CA, 90804

May 4, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker;

I'm writing to you to convince you to let us keep our eagles on Catalina. You think over again about our eagles.

Please don't stop funding money until there are at fifty eagles that can stay with us. You dumped the DDT then you have to fix it. It is not right for you to take our eagles away from us to Channel-



Islands. Since one pair of eagles hatch others might too. When ever I go to Middle Ranch I go see Pima. When I'm down the coast I see eagles. I also see them a the Quarry.

I learn a lot about eagles. The eagle are important,

I love enjoying them outlin the hills.  
They are very cool, please let us keep them.

Sincerely,  
Martina Machado.

Julia Hernandez-Lopez  
3rd Grade B-12  
Avalon Elementary School  
Avalon, CA. 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach, CA. 90804

May 4, 2004

Dear Mr. Brek ;

I am writing persuade you to think please, a second time about stopping money to the Institute of Wildlife Studies. Please don't stop funding money until there are at least 50 eagles. Your Company made the problem so you need to fix it !

Now I am going to tell you my feelings about the eagles. I like the eagles. I enjoy seeing them and, learning about them. I visit Pima and visit all of the eagles when I go to the mountains of Catalina I search for the eagles.

I hope the eagles stay here so people  
can see this wild, beautiful creature, forever.

Sincerely,  
Julia Hernandez

Avalon School  
205 Falts Canyon Road  
Avalon, CA 90704

Montrose S.P.P.  
501 W. Ocean Blvd. Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90803

May 3, 2005

Dear Sirs,

We want you to ask the Restoration program why aren't you paying Dr. Sharp to switch the eagle eggs. The eagles are one of the most important tourist attractions. The eagles are the main bird of Catalina. SO please keep working with Dr. Sharp.

Sincerely,  
Austin Beviold

P.O. Box 2033  
Avalon, CA 90704

Montrose S.R.P.  
501 W. Ocean Blvd. Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90803

May 3, 2005

Dear Sirs, Everybody I know wants the Restoration Program to continue. Catalina is a beautiful place with the bald eagles. Some tourist are fascinated by the eagles because they have never seen one. All of my class wants Dr. Sharp to continue doing what he does with the bald eagle eggs.

Sincerely, Natalic Vega

Avalon School  
205 Falls Canyon Road  
Avalon, Ca 90704

Montros S.R.P  
501 W. Ocean Blvd Suite 4470  
4470  
Long Beach, CA 90803

May 3, 2005

Dear sirs, please give Mr. sharp  
2,000,000 dollars to MR. sharp  
So he can help the  
eagls and eggs to live  
Sincerely,

P.O. Box 2298  
Avalon, California 90704

Montrose S.R.P.  
501 W. Ocean Blvd. Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90803

May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2005

Dear Sirs,

We want the eagles to stay on our island.  
We also want the Restoration Program to still  
go on. The bald eagles are really important  
to our island. It is our symbol. I think that  
Dr. Sharp and the rest of the crew are  
doing very good.

Sincerely,  
Alicia Chavez

P.O. Box 1832  
2055 Falls Canyon Road  
Avalon, CA 90704

Montrose S.R.P.  
501 W. Ocean Blvd, Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90803

May 3, 2005

Dear Sirs,  
We want our eagles to stay on Catalina Island! They are important for tourists to see. Some tourists have never seen a bald eagle till they come to Catalina. Dr. Sharp is taking care of them by switching the eggs for fake eggs and putting in real in a incubator. Tourists need to see these black and white birds. That of the tourists, What if you came to Catalina as a tourist. You would want to see them. They are in good hands by Dr. Sharp.

Sincerely,  
Morgan Must



Avalon School  
205 Falls Canyon rd.  
Avalon, California 90704

Montrose, N. H.  
501 W. Ocean Blvd. Suite 1112  
Long Beach, Ca, 90803

May 3, 2005

Dear Sirs,

Catalina Islands' Bald  
Eagles are disappearing  
We need Durdhaye to  
help the eagles. And we  
need him to raise the  
eagles eggs.

Sincerely  
Zoe Hernandez

Sincerely  
Zoe Hernandez

Wendy Hernandez

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade B-12

Avolon Elementary School

Avallon, CA, 90704

Mr Greg Baker

Montrose Settlement

Long Beach, CA, 90804

May 4, 2005

Dear Baker:

I'm writing to encourage you to keep the Institute for Wildlife studies eagle Program funded on Catalina. You dumped the DDT you fix it!

Don't you have any feelings for wildlife? I love the eagles. Don't you love them

They're like my best friend. I care about eagles you could to. The eagles are a part of me, I grew up with them. It's fun to see the eagles and where they nest. How would you feel if your favorite thing was going extinct? Don't you like eagles? Catalina loves eagles and their babies. I bet would feel the same way if you lived on this Island.

I hope you understand why the eagles are so important to us, and that you'll keep the eagle program on Catalina.

Sincerely,

Wendy Hernandez

Po. Box 2343  
Beacon St. 204  
Avalon, CA 90704  
Montrose, S.R.P.  
Long Beach CA 90803

Max 3, 2005

Dear sirs,

We want the eagle to stay in Catalina Island  
even to protect the little baby chicks.

Please keep taking real eggs  
and put the fake eggs on the nest  
even to keep the baby chicks protect  
to a other animal.

Keep doing this job and I  
give thanks for saving the baby  
chicks good. Even I love baby eagles  
chicks and the farm chicks.

Sincerely,  
Jasline Carrillo

Avalon School  
205 Falls Canyon Road  
Avalon, CA 90704

Montrose S.R.P.  
501 W. Ocean Blvd. Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90803

May 3, 2005

Dear Sirs,

We want you to keep paying Dr. Sharp so the eagles could stay on our island. So please pay Dr. Sharp so we could have baby chicks in Catalina Island. Also to have baby eagles and a beautiful island.

Sincerely,  
Estefania Chavolla Pedroza

Avalon School  
205 Falls Canyon Road  
Avalon, CA 90704

Montrose S. R. P.  
501 W. Ocean Blvd, Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90803

May 3, 2005

Dear Sirs

We want are eagles to live. I hope  
you know what have you did <sup>fish</sup> net to catch and eagles  
at least could you help to please  
try to because I care about our fish  
and eagles there part the United  
States

Sincerely,  
Cynthia Casillas Gomez

Avalon School  
205 Falls Canyon Road  
Avalon, CA 90704

Montrose S.R.P.  
501 W. Ocean Blvd Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90803

May 3, 2005

Dear Sirs,  
We want you to continue S.R.P.  
Our bald eagles are very precious  
to us on Catalina Island.

Sincerely,  
Ernesto Perez

Avalon School  
205 Falls Canyon Road  
Avalon, CA 90704

Mon Froese S. R. P.  
501 W. Ocean Blvd. Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90803

May 3, 2005

Dear Sirs, we want are  
eagles to stay on are Island  
So pay Dr. Sharp his plans are  
working. Some turist havent even  
Seen an eagle in real life.  
thats why all the terest are  
Coming here to see the  
bold eagle then pritty soon no  
more bold eagles and thay  
are just wasting then money to  
come here to see nothing.

Sincerely,  
Susy Ponce



Avalon School  
204 Falls Canyon Rd.  
Avalon, Ca 90704

Montrose S. R. P.  
501 W. Ocean Blvd. Suite 4470  
Long Beach, Ca 90803  
May 3, 2008

Dear Sirs,

We want you to know that the Bald  
eagles are important to us. I hope  
nothing happens to the bald eagles.

Sincerely,  
Mayra Rodriguez

Alberto Rodriguez  
3rd grade -B-11  
Avalon Elementary school  
Avalon, CA 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose settlement  
Long Beach, CA 90803

May 2, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker, I am writing to let you know that our eagle program on Catalina is extremely important to us. We are the luckiest school in Long Beach Unified School District because we have all seen eagles - babies and full grown - in classroom, captivity, fieldtrip and on hike.

x We enjoy seeing eagles fly around Catalina. We know all about the 14 pairs Dr. Sharpe introduced and we want them to stay.

We know eggs crack because of fish contaminated with DDT. Dr. Sharpe changes eggs by dangling from helicopter. He put ceramic eggs in nests. Then he incubates egg in SF. zoo. He bring baby eagles some come to school. They are gray, white and, fluffy. Some time we see Pimu on a fieldtrip.

I hope that you can see all that we know about eagles is because of the Eagles Program on Catalina. We all hope they could stay here so people could see this wild, beautiful creature.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely  
Albert Rodriguez

Johnathan Alcalá  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade - B-11  
Avalon Elementary School  
Avalon, CA 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach, CA 90803

May 2, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am writing to let you know that our eagle program on Catalina is extremely important to us. We are the luckiest school in Long Beach Unified School District because we have all seen eagles - babies and full grown in classrooms, captivity, field trips and on hikes.

We enjoy seeing eagles fly around Catalina. We know all about the 14 pairs Dr. Sharpe introduced and we want to stay. We know eggs cracked because of fish contaminated with DDT. Dr. Sharpe changes the eggs by dangling from a helicopter. He puts ceramic eggs in nests. Then he incubates eggs in S.F. Zoo. He brings baby eagles some came to school are gray, white, and fluffy. Sometimes we see pimu on field trips and on mountains.

I hope that can see all that we know about eagles is because of the Eagle program on Catalina. We all hope they could stay here so people could see this wild, beautiful creature. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,  
Theresa Alhala

Luis. A Amezcua  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade - B11  
Avalon Elementary school  
Avalon, CA 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Monrose settlement  
Long Beach, CA

May 2, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am writing to let you know that our eagle program on Catalina is extremely important to us. We are the luckiest school in Long Beach Unified school district because we have all seen eagles ~ babies and full grown ~ in classroom, captivity, field and on hikes.

We enjoy seeing eagles fly around Catalina. We know all the 14 pairs Dr. Sharpe introduced and we want them to stay. We know eggs crack because of contaminated with the DDT. Dr. Sharpe changes eggs by dangling from helicopters. He puts ceramic eggs in nests. Then he incubates eggs in S.F. Zoo. He brings baby eagles. Some are gray, white, and they are fluffy. They come to school sometimes. Sometimes we see Pimu when we go hiking or sometimes to field trips. I hope that you can see all that we know about eagles is because of the eagle program on Catalina. We all hope they could stay here. So people could see this wild, beautiful creature.

Thank you for your help.  
Sincerely,  
Luis. A

Luis Gonzalez  
3rd Grade - B-11  
Avila Elementary  
Avalon, CA 90701

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach, CA 90805

May 2 - 2005

Dear Mr. Baker;

I am writing to let you know that our eagle program on Catalina is extremely important to us. We are the luckiest school in Long Beach Unified School District because we have all seen eagles - babies and full full grown - in the class, captivity, field trips and on hikes.



We enjoy seeing eagles fly around Catalina. We know about the 14 pairs Dr. Sharpe introduced and we want them to stay. We know eggs crack because of fish contaminated with DDT. Dr. Sharpe changes eggs by darning from helicopter. He puts ceramic egg in nest. Then he incubates eggs in a zoo. He brings baby eagles to school.

I hope that you understand that we know about eagles as part of the Eagle Program on Catalina. We all hope they could stay here so people could see this very beautiful creature.

Thank you for your help

Yours sincerely

Luis FERNANDEZ

Lilliana Zendejao  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade B-11  
Avalon Elementary  
School Avalon, CA  
90704

Mr. Greg Baker Montrose

Settlement

Long Beach, CA 90803

May 2, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am writing this letter to let you know that our eagle program on Catalina is extremely important to us. We are the luckiest school in Long Beach Unified School District because we have all seen eagles ~ babies and full grown - in classroom captivity, fieldtrips, and on hikes.

We enjoy seeing eagles fly around Catalina.

We know all about the H pairs. Dr. Sharp introduced and we want them to stay. We know eggs crack because the fish are contaminated with DDT, but we want our eagles to stay.

We also know Dr. Sharp changes egg by dangling from a Helicopter. He put ceramic egg in nests. Then he incubates the egg in S.F. Zoo.

He bring baby eagles to school. Some are white Some are  
gray and fluffy

I hope that you can see all that we know about  
eagles is because of the Eagle program on Catalina.  
We all hope they could stay here so people could  
see this wild beautiful creature.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely

Lilliana  
Zendejazy

Erik Alcala Dr  
3rd grade B-11 Avalon, Elementary School,  
ca 90704

May, 2, 2005

Dear Mr. Greg Baker:

Long Beach, Ca, 90803

Dear Ms. Baker:

I am writing to let you know that our eagle program on catwings is extremely important to us. We are the luckiest school in Long Beach Unified School District because we have all seen eagles (sunbates and full grown - in class room, catwings) field trips and on hikes.

We enjoy seeing eagles fly around catwings. We know all about the 14 pairs Dr. Sharp introduced and we want them to stay.

ERIC

We know that eggs crack because of fish contaminated with DDT. Dr. Sharpe changes eggs by doglony from atlatceptor. He puts cyanide eggs in nests. Then includes eggs in R.F. ZOO. He brings baby eggs. Some are gray come to small white and flatter. I hope that you can see all that we know about eggs. If because of the eagle program on catalina, we all hope they could stay here so people could see this wild, beautiful creature.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Eric Martin Alcabala

OE +6  
X

Saul De La Rosa  
Box 321

3rd grade B-11  
Avalon Elementary  
Avalon, CA  
Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach, CA

May 25, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am writing to let you know that our eagle program on Catalina is extremely important to us. We are the luckiest school in Long Beach Unified School District because we have all seen eagles' babies.

We enjoy seeing eagles fly  
around Catalina. We know all about  
the 14 pairs Dr. Sharpe introduced  
and we want them to stay in Catalina.

I hope that you can see all  
that we know about eagles is because  
of the Eagle Program on Catalina.  
We all hope they could stay here  
so people could see his wild, beautiful  
creature.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,  
Jaul de La Rosa

Jesus carrillo  
3rd grade B-11  
Avalon Elementary School  
Avalon, CA 90704

Ms. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach CA 90803  
MAY 2, 2005

Dear Ms. Baker,

I am writing to let you know that  
our eagle program on Catalina extremely  
important to us. We are the luckiest  
school in Long Beach Unified School  
District because we have all seen eagles  
babies and full grown in class from  
captive + field trips and on hikes  
or we see them flying thru Catalina.  
We know that you are a very good teacher  
and we are very happy to have you.



we enjoy seeing eagles fly around catalina.  
we know all about the 14 pairs Dr. Sharp  
introduced . . . we want to stay.  
we know the eggs crack because  
of fish contaminated with DDT.  
Dr. Sharpe changes eggs by banging  
from helicopter He puts ceramic  
in the nest Then he incubates  
eggs in SF Zoo He brings baby  
eagles to school some are gray  
white and fluffy. I hope  
that you can see all that we  
know about eagles is because of  
the eagle program on catalina.  
we all hope they could see  
this wild beautiful creature

Sincerely  
Jesus- Carrillo

Violeta  
Rodriguez  
3rd Grade B-11  
Avalon Elementary  
School  
Avalon, CA 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach, CA 90803

May 2, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am writing to let you know that our eagle program on catalina is extremely important to us. We are the luckiest school in Long Beach unified School District because we have all seen eagles - babies and full grown in classroom, captivity, fieldtrips and on hikes.

We enjoy seeing eagles fly around Catalina. We know all about the 14 pairs Dr. Sharpe introduced and we want them to stay. We know that eggs crack because of fish contaminated with DDT. Dr. Sharpe charges eggs by dangling from helicopter. He puts ceramic eggs in nests. Then he incubates eggs in S. F. Zoo. He brings lots of baby eagles to our school. Some are ray white and fluffy and nice eagles.

I hope that you can see all that we know about eagles is because of the Eagle program on Catalina. We all hope they could stay here so people could see this really beautiful creature.

Thank you for your help.

Violet  
Sincerely,  
Red 1070

Guadalupe Hernandez  
3rd Grad B-11

Avalon Elementary School

Avalon, CA 90704

Mr. Greg Baker

Montros settlement

Long Beach, CA 90803

May 2, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker j<sup>o</sup>

I am writing to let you know that our eagle program on Catalina is extremely important to us. We are the luckiest school in Long Beach Unified School District because we have all seen eagles w babies all full grown - in classrooms, captivity, field trip and on hikes.

We enjoy seeing eagles fly around Catalina. We know all about the 14 pairs Dr. Sharpe introduced and we want them to stay.

We know egg craft because of fish contaminated with DDT. Dr. Sharpe changes eggs by dangling from helicopter. He puts ceramic eggs in nest. Then he incubates eggs in a ~~st~~ zoo. He brings baby eagles to school. I hope that you can see all that we know about eagles is because of the Eagle Program on Catalina. We all hope they could stay here so people could see this wild, beautiful creature.

Thank you for your help!

Sincerely,  
Lupita Hernandez

3rd Grade - 11  
Avalon Elementary School  
Avalon, CA 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montros Settlement  
Long Beach, CA 90803

May 2, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am writing to let you know that our eagle program on Catalina is extremely important to us. We are the luckiest school in Long Beach Unified School District because we have all seen eagles - babies and full grown - in classrooms, captivity, field trips and on hikes.

We enjoy seeing fly around Catalina. We know all about the 14 pairs. Dr. Sharp introduced and we watch them to stay. We know egg crack because of fish contaminated with DDT.

Dr. Sharpe changes by dangling from  
helicopte. He puts ceramic zoss in nests. Then he  
incubates the eggs in the zoss. He brings baby  
eggs to school. Some are gray, white and fluffy.  
I hope that you can see all that we know about  
eagles is because of the Eagle program on  
Catalina. We all hope they could stay here  
so people could see this wild beautiful creature.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Leif R. de Alvarado

Sandra Gallegos  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade B-11  
Avalon Elementary School  
Avalon, CA 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement

Long Beach, CA, 90803

May 2, 2005

Dear Ms. Baker

I am writing to let you know that our eagle program on Catalina is extremely important to us. We are the luckiest School in Long beach unitful School Derest becuase we have all seen eagles ~babies and field trips and on hikes.



We enjoy seeing eagles fly around Catalina we know all about the 14 pairs Dr. Sharp intrad and we want them to stay.

I hope that you can see all that we know about eagles is because of the eagle program on Catalina. We all hope they could stay here so pepole could see this wild, beautiful creature.

Jorge Contreras  
3<sup>rd</sup> grade - B-11  
Avalon, CA 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long beach, CA 90803

May 2, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker;

I am writing to let you know that our eagle program on Catalina is extremely important to us. We are the luckiest school in Long Beach Unified School District because we have all seen eagles babies and full grown in classrooms, captivity, field trips and on hikes.

We enjoy seeing eagles fly around Catalina. We know all about the 14 pairs Dr. Sharp introduced and we want them to stay. We know eggs crack because of fish contaminated with D.D.T.

Dr. Sharp changes eggs by dangling from  
a helicop. He puts Ceramic eggs in nest.  
Then he incubates eggs in S.F. Zoo.  
He brings baby eagles some are gray  
and white and fluffy, We see Pima  
When we go to field trips we go to see  
Pima. I hope that you can see  
all that we know about eagles is  
because of the Eagle Program on Catalina  
we all hope they could stay here so  
peplo could see this wild, beautiful  
Creature.

Thank you for help

Sincerely,

Jorge Contreras Martínez

Galicia Jimenez Perez  
3rd Grade - B111  
Avolon Elementary School  
Avolon, CA 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach, CA 90803

May 2, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am writing to let you know that our eagle program on Catalina is extremely important to us. We are the luckiest school in Long Beach Unified School District because we have all seen eagles ~ babies and full grown-in classrooms, captivity, field trip and on hikes.

We enjoy seeing eagles fly around Catalina. We know all about the 14 pairs Dr. Sharpe introduced and we want them to stay.

Galicia

We know that eggs crack because of the fish contaminated with DDT. We know that Dr. Sharp gets a fake egg and a helicopter and he puts a fake egg and gets the real egg.

I hope that you can see all that we know about eagles is because of the Eagle program on Catalina. We all hope they could stay here so people could see this wild, beautiful creature.

Thank you for your help

Sincerely, Galicia Jimenez Perez

Jose Chavoya  
3rd Grade B-11  
Avalon Elementary  
<sup>School</sup>  
Avalon, CA, 90704

Mr. Greg Baker Montros  
Settlement Long Beach, CA 90803

May 2, 2005

Dear Mr Baker,

I am writing to let you know that our eagle program on catalina is extremely important to us. we are the luckiest school in Long Beach unified school District because we have all seen eagles ~ babies and full grown - in classrooms, captivity field trip and on bikes.

we enjoy seeing eagles fly around catalina. we know all about the 14 pairs Dr. Shoppe introduced and we want them to stay.

① we know eggs crack because of fish contaminated with DDT,

②. Dr. Sharpe changes eggs by dangling from helicopter. He puts ceramic eggs in nests.

③. Then he incubates eggs in S.F. Zoo.

④. He brings baby eagles some are gray and come to school. white and fluffy

I hope that you can see all that we know about eagles is because of the Eagle program on catalina. We all hope they could stay here so people could see this wild beautiful creature.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,  
Jose Chavaca

Anthony Hernandez Perez  
3rd Grade-B-11, Avalon Elementary  
Avalon, CA 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
montrose settlement  
long Beach, CA

May 2, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker; I am writing to let you know that our eagle program on Catalina is extremely important to us. We are the luckiest school in Long Beach Unified School District because we have all seen eagles - babies and full grown - in classroom, captivity, fieldtrips and on hikes.

We enjoy seeing eagles fly around Catalina. We know all about the 4 pairs Dr. Sharpe introduced and we want them to stay. We know the eggs are crack



We know eggs crack because of fish contaminated with DDT. Dr. Sharpe changes eggs by dangling from helicopter. He puts ceramic eggs in nests. Then he incubates eggs in S.F. ZOO so the babies eagles could grow. He brings the babies eagles to school some babies eagles are gray and some are white, and some are fluffy. We enjoy seeing eagles fly around Catalina Island. I hope that you can see all that we know about eagles is because of the Eagle Program on Catalina. We all hope they could stay here so people could see this wild, beautiful creature.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely

name Anthony Hernandez Perez

Jennifer Silva  
3rd Grade - B-11  
Avalon Elementary School  
Avalon, CA 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlement  
Long Beach CA 90803

May 2, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker,

I am writing to let you know that our eagle program on Catalina is extremely important to us. We are the luckiest school in Long Beach Unified School District because we have all seen eagles - babies and full grown - in classrooms (captivity), fieldtrips and on hikes.

We enjoy seeing eagles fly around Catalina. We know all about the 14 pair Dr. Sharpe introduced and we want them to stay. Dr. Sharp changes eggs by dangling from helicopter. He puts ceramic eggs in nest. Then he incubates eggs in S.F. Zoo. He brings back eagles to school. We know eggs crack because of fish contaminated with DDT.

I hope that you can see  
all that we know about eagles is because  
of the Eagle Program on Catalina. We  
all hope they could stay here so people  
could see this wild, beautiful creature.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Lusero Silva Akala

Maria Ferranda  
3rd Grade - 811  
Avalon Elementary  
Avalon, CA 90704

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose settlement  
Long Beach, CA 90704

May 2, 2005

Dear Mrs Baker;

I am writing to let you know that our eagle program on catalina is extremely important to us we are the luckiest school in Long Beach Unified School District because we have all seen eagles ~ babies and full grown - in classrooms, captivity, fieldtrips and on hikes

We enjoy seeing eagles fly around Catalina we know all about the 14 pairs Dr. Sharpe introduced and we want them to stay.

① We know eggs crack because of fish contaminated with the DDT. Dr Sharpe changes eggs by dangling from a helicopter. He puts ceramic eggs in nest. Then He incubates eggs in sf zoo. He brings baby eagles to school some are gray, white, and fluffy. I hope that you can see all that we know about eagles is because of the Eagle program on catalina. We all hope they could stay here so people could see this wild, beautiful creature.

Thank you for your help

Sincerely  
Maria

Paulina + Trinidad + Catalina  
3rd Grade - B-11  
AVALON Elementary School  
AVALON, CA 90701

Mr. Greg Baker  
Montrose settlement  
Long Beach, CA 90803

May 2, 2005.

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am writing to let you know that our eagle program on Catalina is extremely important to us. We are the luckiest in Long Beach Unified School District because we have all seen eagles ~ babies and full grown - in classrooms, captivity, and field trips and on hikes.

We enjoy seeing eagles fly around Catalina. We know all about the 14 pairs Dr. Sharp introduced and we want them to stay.

We know that eggs crack because DDT contaminated them and they died from DDT. Dr. Sharp changed eggs by dangling from a helicopter. He put ceramic eggs in the nest. Then he incubates eggs in S.F. zoo. He brought baby eagles to school. Some are gray, white, and fluffy.

I hope that you can see all that we know about eagles is because of the Eagle Program in Catalina. We all hope they stay here so people could see this wild, beautiful creature.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Paulina Octavo

P.O. Box 1337  
Avalon, CA 90704

Montrose S.R.P.  
501 W. Ocean Blvd. Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90803

May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2005

Dear Sirs,

We want the eagles to stay  
on Catalina Island. We want  
their restoration program to  
stay on Catalina Island.

Can you please keep the  
restoration program running be-  
cause if the bald eagles  
aren't here it won't be  
the same it will be  
different and plain. We need  
the eagles to survive so  
people in 5 years can see  
them. Why are you  
taking it away? If you change  
your mind just send me a  
letter to tell me why your



doing this and if you  
change your mind.

Sincerely,  
Lana Martin

DEPT. OF COMMERCE - NOAA  
RECEIVED

MAY 28 2015

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-S...

Dylan Norfleet  
3<sup>rd</sup> Grade B-12  
Avalon Elementary School  
Avalon, CA. 90704  
Mr. Greg Baker  
Montross Settlement  
Long Beach, CA. 90804  
May 4, 2005

Dear Mr. Baker;

I am writing to persuade you to keep the Institute for Wildlife Studies Eagle Program funded on Catalina Island. I really do not want the eagles to go.

You should keep funding money because you dumped the D.D.T in the water. Why don't you just send money to the Northern Channel Islands and Catalina.

I really like the eagles  
and so do evreyone eles and  
if one pair of eagles can  
bread without peaple, maybe  
other eagles will start.

I really like the eagles  
and I really do not to see  
them go. In time mayxbe  
the eagles will be able to  
bread on there own soon.

Seriouly,  
Dylan Nor fleet.

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** INCREMENTAL SALES PROMOTIONS [incrementalsales@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 5:38 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Save the Bald Eagle

Upon learning about the Santa Catalina Island, CA American Bald Eagle situation due to the damage cause by DDT, I urge the state and federal governments to continue to fund the project which insures the existance and the eagle's survival on the island. Our national symbol should received all the support that is possible. It is a wonderful sight to actually see a Bald Eagle in the wild, especially around Santa Catalina Island.

Ed Jezowski

## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Brian Walton [walton@ucsc.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 5:59 PM  
**To:** Greg Baker Manager Montrose Settlement Restoration Program  
**Subject:** comments on MRPlan



Montrose  
Settlement Restoration Plan Comment

see attached, thanks for opportunity to comment. BJW

Brian James Walton  
Coordinator  
SCPBRG  
Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Research Group  
Long Marine Laboratory, University of California  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
[www.scpbrg.org](http://www.scpbrg.org)  
phone: (831) 459-2466  
fax: (831) 459-3115

CELEBRATING SCPBRG'S 30TH YEAR OF RAPTOR CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT

May 23, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802.  
msrp@noaa.gov

Dear Greg:

Please accept these comments regarding the Montrose Restoration Plan.

The draft restoration plan departs from the spirit of the outcome of the court case when it comes to addressing the actual damages for which Montrose is accountable. The Judge in that case calculated the damages done to the resources and came up with a figure of \$7 million for peregrine falcon restoration.

Prior to the Montrose trial, peregrine falcon restoration activities on and around the Channel Islands had already been undertaken for more than a decade. Hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants, donations, and other funding sources was spent releasing peregrine falcons at hack sites on San Miguel, Santa Catalina, and Santa Rosa Islands, as well as several proximal mainland sites including Palos Verdes, Sudden Flats, Santa Ynez Ridge, Point Loma, and Westwood. The salvage of DDT-thinned eggs and subsequent fostering of peregrine chicks had also been conducted both on the northern Channel Islands and in areas that served as a source for the re-colonization of the islands. Prior to the settlement, most of the peregrines found breeding on the Channel Islands were the direct result of SCPBRG peregrine restoration activities.

Therefore the Plan incorrectly suggests, "Although peregrine falcons are naturally re-colonizing the Southern Channel Islands, as demonstrated by the recent breeding on Santa Barbara and Santa Catalina Islands"(Sec 7-12). Calling all the increases that are a result of management activity a natural recovery is misleading. The first re-colonizing pair on the Channel Islands consisted of a male released on San Miguel Island in 1985 and a wild-hatched female. This same male also acquired a second mate and territory (bigamy) in 1992. All of the islands (including Santa Barbara and Santa Catalina) were re-colonized by peregrines that had been released or banded by SCPBRG elsewhere. Monies spent prior to the Montrose Settlement resulted in the partial recovery of peregrines on and around the Channel Islands. The vast majority of data concerning the trends in eggshell thinning, DDE contamination, and reproductive success (or lack thereof) were collected prior to the end of the court case.

The plan also fails to recognize the ongoing contributions to Channel Islands recovery that are results of the significant, continuing (since the court case ended) releases of falcons near the Islands as a result of donations and non-Montrose contributed funding. These falcons and their offspring are omitted if the recovery on the Islands is called "natural."

During the trial, to try to minimize the effect of DDT, the defense tried to suggest that the historic peregrine population was only about 15 pairs, a statement that has been misused by parties on both sides of the issue many times since the trial. The actual number of territories occupied on the Islands each year was probably much larger. Nevertheless, even if that were an accurate guess many years ago, it is clear today that the actual recovery numbers of peregrines in all regions of the state are considerably larger than what researchers guessed in the 1970s and 1980s. As a result, the number of peregrines that would be expected to occur on the Channel Islands if the Montrose dumping had not occurred and if full restoration does occur is much, much larger than the fifteen pairs that people are using as a recovery goal.

Since 1994 there has been little funding for peregrine monitoring on the Channel Islands. What monitoring that has occurred has been opportunistic by SCPBRG biologists working on other projects on the islands or funded by donations. Restoration activities have been ongoing in the form of peregrine releases at mainland hacksites in the Santa Ynez Valley and Vandenberg Air Force Base to the north and peregrine chick salvaging from bridges and buildings in the Los Angeles Basin. These activities have continued to

enhance the restoration of peregrines to the Channel Islands. But very little comprehensive monitoring or analysis of peregrine reproduction has been possible.

The peregrine falcon restoration alternatives being considered in the MSRP Draft Restoration Plan can hardly be called restoration or monitoring. They can be characterized at best as a survey to determine the extent of the recovery through SCPBRG restoration activities and subsequent natural recruitment that has already taken place and a snapshot of the current levels of DDE contamination, eggshell thinning, and reproductive success. These activities do nothing to redress the harm caused to peregrine falcons attributable to Montrose Chemical as determined in the court case.

The harm caused to peregrine falcons attributable to Montrose Chemical extends far beyond the Channel Islands. Peregrine falcons were nearly extirpated from the West Coast and individual pairs continue to be reproductively repressed from San Francisco Bay to San Diego.

The budget and time frame for peregrine falcon “restoration” activities proposed in the MSRP Draft Restoration Plan alternatives 2 and 3 is not in sync with the scope of work suggested. While \$250,000 over a two-year period may be adequate for determining the distribution and number of pairs, determining productivity, and analyzing eggshell thinning and organochlorine contamination of Channel Islands peregrines, the amount of funding and the time scale proposed are not sufficient to determine recruitment, dispersal, and foraging behavior as suggested. Determining these latter parameters of peregrine population dynamics will require a geographically broader and much more sustained and intensive level of field effort with a correspondingly greater level of funding to accomplish (see below).

A two-year survey, monitoring, and contaminant analysis program will only serve to provide two snapshots of the status of Channel Islands peregrines and may not be sufficient for determining trends in population dynamics or contamination levels and reproductive effects. The alternatives proposed in the MSRP plan focus on the Channel Islands and do nothing to address the harm to mainland and Baja California Pacific Islands that have been attributed to Montrose Chemical.

We would propose that survey, monitoring, and contaminant analysis program be expanded to include the coastal mainland and Baja California Pacific Islands affected by Montrose and the budget for the program be revised taking into account the increased scope of work as well as the proposed population dynamics and foraging studies that appear to be under-funded. We would also suggest that decisions regarding the necessity of active peregrine restoration activities be revisited contingent upon the updated population recovery data gathered during the initial survey and monitoring phase.

We also believe that the concept of deciding whether or not to initiate bald eagle restoration activities based on the NCI Feasibility Study is misguided, and misinformed about bald eagle population dynamics. Whether or not bald eagles reintroduced to the Northern Channel Islands can successfully reproduce at this time is irrelevant to the continuing recovery of the West Coast subpopulation of Bald Eagles. The Channel Islands’ bald eagles are not a separate population, but rather a subpopulation of the western North American population that extends from Alaska to Sinaloa, Mexico. Bald eagles on the mainland are continuing to re-colonize their former range and are now breeding in Santa Barbara County just across the channel from the northern islands. Non-breeding and migrating bald eagles are somewhat social and the presence of newly released birds on the northern islands has already attracted dispersing eagles from Catalina Island, identified by their orange wing tags, as well as at least two unmarked juveniles of unknown mainland origin. Restoration of bald eagles to the Channel Islands should be undertaken with the goal of re-filling the island niches left vacated by the actions of Montrose Chemical in order to complete the breeding range continuum of the western N.A. bald eagle population, and maintain the bald eagle's place as a primary predator on the islands. Chronic organochlorine contamination may cause low productivity for territories that are occupied in the region, but allows “floating” adults dispersing into the region to find viable territories to occupy. Establishing the presence of bald eagles on the islands is already attracting recruitment of dispersing eagles from the mainland, and contributing breeding individuals to the mainland population. Continued study of reestablished bald eagles will also serve to illuminate future trends in contamination and help to assess any activities undertaken to reduce the affects of the DDT dumpsite.

### **Levels of Effort per Task**

Distribution and # of pairs – will require 3 people with a boat and a large stock of homing pigeons for aquatic surveys. Should establish one or more (north and south) homing pigeon flocks on the mainland. Will also require 2-person land-based survey crews, maps, GPS, spotting scopes, binoculars, tripods, and radios. Initial surveys should take place in Jan-Feb prior to egg laying.

Productivity – will require 1 observer per island (possibly combining Anacapa and Santa Barbara). Will require weekly visits to each eyrie starting in late February through fledging. May require re-survey for pairs that fail and recycle elsewhere.

Recruitment – will require identification or banding of each individual breeding bird as well as banding of as many peregrines as possible from San Francisco to San Diego for a number of years and subsequent ID of each new breeding bird – requires trappers and mainland climber/banders.

Dispersal – will require banding of all island chicks. Will require subsequent mainland and island surveys to locate and identify dispersing birds – requires climber/banders and mainland surveys.

Foraging behavior – will require trapping, radio-telemetry, observers, and climbers.

I hope you find these comments useful. Let us know if you have questions or need more data.

Sincerely,

Brian James Walton  
Coordinator  
Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Research Group  
Long Marine Lab  
University of California  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
[Walton@ucsc.edu](mailto:Walton@ucsc.edu)  
(831) 459-2466

hard copy mailed to Greg Baker



**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** CHERI L BRADSHAW [twomaitais@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 6:06 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Continue funding on Catalina Island

Dear Mr. Baker:

Please continue funding of the Bald Eagle program at Catalina Island. My family and I visit Catalina each year and make it a point to see these eagles on the island. If you move the program to an uninhabited island, seeing these birds will be too difficult and far too expensive for us. Breeding is important, but equally important is the public's right to have convenient access to these animals. If you believe a northern channel island is a better breeding location, then please start a *second* program so we can continue to see these birds on Catalina Island. Thank you for your consideration.

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** ItsTurtle@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 6:15 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Bald Eagle project at Catalina

Greg Baker. Please continue the Catalina program for establishing a healthy Bald Eagle population on Catalina Island. We are looking forward to the time when we can see them soaring over the island in ever increasing numbers. Thank you. Gwendola and Thomas Johnson.

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Hannah Nevins [hannah@oikonos.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 6:14 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Cc:** jennifer.boyce@noaa.gov; Annie.little@fws.gov  
**Subject:** Comments on MSRP Seabird Restoration Projects

P.O. Box 1103  
Aptos, CA 95001  
May 22, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program (MSRP)  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Ste. 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
(562) 980-3236, [msrp@noaa.gov](mailto:msrp@noaa.gov)  
Re: Comments on MSRP Seabird Restoration Projects

Dear MSRP Trustees and program manager,

I am a seabird biologist and my comments pertain to the goal to restore seabirds injured by chronic releases of DDT and PCBs into the Southern California Bight (SCB) as outlined in the draft MSRP.

Please see attached letter.

Thank you for considering my comments for the MSRP.

Hannah Nevins  
831-684-9317

P.O. Box 1103  
Aptos, CA 95001

May 22, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program (MSRP)  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Ste. 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
(562) 980-3236, [msrp@noaa.gov](mailto:msrp@noaa.gov)  
Re: Comments on MSRP Seabird Restoration Projects

Dear MSRP Trustees and program manager,

I am a seabird biologist and my comments pertain to the goal to restore seabirds injured by chronic releases of DDT and PCBs into the Southern California Bight (SCB) as outlined in the draft MSRP. My two main criticisms of the MSRP are that it (1) fails adequately assess and therefore address potential significant damages to migratory species, and (2) failed to recognize the human reliance on migratory species which were likely affected. This second issue is one that should be re-considered with project 13: Enhance nesting habitat for shearwaters in New Zealand (Table 5-4).

The dumping and flushing of DDT, and PCBs off Los Angeles affected marine birds at a geographic scale that extends beyond the Southern California Bight. Toxic pollutants off Southern California affected migratory marine birds, and may have contributed to the decline of species that breed in other other countries (White-winged and Surf Scoter, Canada; Black-vented Shearwater, Mexico; Pink-footed Shearwater, Chile; and Sooty Shearwater, New Zealand; Short-tailed Shearwater, Australia).

The MSRP and in particular the trustee of USFWS, a the primary federal agency responsible for the protection and management of migratory birds should consider increasing support for projects which address restoration of migratory seabirds, including shearwaters, grebes, loons, and sea duck in the final MRSP (See Mason et al. 2000 for complete list of species and abundance in the area). The Seabird Conservation Plan (USFWS, Pacific Region, January 2005) and the American Waterbird Conservation Plan provides ample framework, and extensive review of conservation threats, population status, and potential conservation solutions for migratory species. Migratory species were excluded from adequate sampled by the fact that the “*egg shell thinning*” criteria used in the Montrose case because of the fact that to asses this would require sampling at colonies which cross national boundaries and are thousands of miles away.

Although the MSRP indicates that migratory species were affected by chemical contamination, “*the [MSRP] Trustee Council concluded that it was likely that most, if not all, species of seabirds using the SCB had been exposed to DDTs or PCBs.*”[p.5-3], the subsequent ranking based on “*a location outside of the SCB*” however excluded all potential projects related to migratory species. Projects 13 and 17 (p.5-16) were summarily dismissed as having a weak nexus. I object to this premise, which by

Nevins

definition then excludes all potential internationally migrating species and stakeholders. This evaluation should certainly be reconsidered given the fact that many of these species are numerically dominant members of the avifauna in the Southern California Bight (e.g. ca. 366,000 Sooty Shearwaters [*Puffinus griseus*] in the SCB, 62,000 Pink-footed Shearwaters [*P. creatopus*] 62,000 birds in SCB; Mason et al. 2000). Despite the migratory nature of these birds, the damages to populations many of these species include populations which are considered threatened by international standards (ICUN listed Pink-footed Shearwater), and face considerable population-level threats which can be remedied with appropriately chosen restoration measures.

First, while it is understandable that at the time of the damage assessment (1970s) few data were able to determine impacts to all species and so egg shell thickness was the main criteria for damages. Because migratory species by their very definition do not nest in the area - the extent of the damages to these species during the time of the impact remains unknown. Damages therefore were not adequately addressed, assessed, or mentioned in data gaps analyses. The trustees have failed to fill this gap in information about the extent of the damages although some data does exist. For example, Dacre (1974)<sup>1</sup> measured residual organochlorine pesticides in the fat of muttonbirds (*P. griseus*). Evidence from Tanka et al. (1986)<sup>2</sup> indicated that elevated organochlorine levels in shearwaters (150 and 89 ng/g in adults, wet weight) were attributed to pollution sources in the northern hemisphere foraging grounds. Significant evidence is available presenting the fact that NZ shearwaters inhabit California waters for considerable periods of time (5-6 month per year) and there has been elevated DDT/E in tissues of these animals—and these contaminants maybe transferred to the young which are harvested for human consumption. The issue of potential negative affects on human health as it pertains to this pathway of contaminants has not been considered in the draft MSRP. It is the responsibility of MSRP trustees to quantify potentially significant impacts and to address restoration for these species, and the humans which rely upon them for food.

I suggest that the MSRP both 1) identify the extent to which these migratory species may have been (and continue to be) affected by the Montrose contamination, and therefore 2) re-consider restoration projects for shearwaters, particularly those population which have imminent population threats (e.g. introduced mammals depredating adults, chicks and eggs), or are of considerable conservation value (e.g. internationally recognized threaten species), or have important human cultural links (e.g. muttonbird harvest).

There is scientific evidence that some of these abundant migratory species which forage annually in the Southern California Bight have declined substantially. Data suggests the abundance of Sooty Shearwaters have declined 90% in the California Current between 1987–1994 (Veit et al. 1997), and there is further evidence that contamination of foraging areas in the SCB is a potential contributing factor in this

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<sup>1</sup> Bulletin of Contaminants and Toxicology.

<sup>2</sup> Tanaka, H., Ogi, H., Tanabe, S., Tatsukawa, R. and Oka, N. 1986. Bioaccumulation and metabolism of PCBs and DDE in short-tailed shearwater *Puffinus tenuirostris* during its transequatorial migration and in the wintering and breeding grounds. *Memoirs of National Institute of Polar Research*, (40), 434-442.

Nevins

decline. The Pink-footed Shearwater is considered globally threatened (ICUN). It nests in reduced numbers only on several islands off Chile. Pink-footed Shearwaters are affected by introduced predators (cats, rats), and habitat destruction by introduced grazers at their few colony areas.

**The MSPR trustees must recognize the of humans use migratory species which were likely affected by the Montrose contamination.** Humans harvest and consume chicks of short-tailed and sooty shearwaters in the southern hemisphere (Tasmania and New Zealand, respectively). This is consistent with criteria outlined in Tier 1 evaluations – namely:

- The potential effects of the proposed action [or inaction] on human health and safety
- Consistency with relevant federal, state, and tribal policies
- Consistency with relevant federal, state, and tribal laws

In the initial evaluation of projects the elimination of a proposal to enhance populations of shearwaters by removal of non-native predators without considering the importance of this species which will benefit humans (e.g. Ngai Tahu iwi, Rakiura Maori, New Zealand) who treasure these birds economically, and culturally. While I am not the appropriate spokesperson for these people, I would like to point out there has been no consideration by the MSRP to include these international stakeholders in the restoration process, to determine to potential impacts of ongoing chemical contamination of the SCB where populations of these birds spend a considerable amount of time foraging. Appropriate groups who should be included in restoration activities include the Rakiura Titi Islands Administering Body, the Titi Islands Committee, and the Ka Mate Nga Kiore Society. It is highly important to further investigate the extent of contaminant exposure from Montrose affecting the cultural harvest and human consumption of Sooty Shearwaters in New Zealand.

Moller et al. (2003) identified Sooty Shearwater colonies in New Zealand that are impacted by introduced ship rats (*Rattus rattus*) and have drafted a complete eradication/restoration plan designed to recover the loss of adult Sooty Shearwaters killed during the 1998 *Command* oil spill. Similar eradication/restoration plans could be drafted and applied toward these same colonies and toward colonies in Mexico (Black-vented Shearwater) and Chile (Pink-footed Shearwater) to remove non-native predators, and thus recover losses incurred by or equivalent to losses from environmental contamination associated with DDT in the SCB. Furthermore, toxicological monitoring of the migratory species listed above provides the MSRP Trustees with potentially useful seabird bio-indicators that could be used to detect the effect of dump-site mitigation on the flux of DDE and PCBs to the ecosystem.

Restoration of seabirds by removal of non-native mammals is one of the most demonstrably effective tools in seabird conservation<sup>3</sup>. Non-native mammals introduced to seabird nesting islands will continue to decimate seabird populations until they are no

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<sup>3</sup> International Council for Bird Preservation (ICBP) Seabird Specialist Group 1984  
Priorities for seabird conservation and associated research (Tech. Pub. No. 2, p. 771-778).

longer viable. Without directed efforts to remove these pests completely, there will be no chance for these breeding colonies to recover from long-term damages (e.g. chemical contamination causing reduced survival and/or reproductive capabilities). Fortunately, by taking actions to remove predators, restoration of seabird populations is possible by replacing ecological equivalents of previously lost individuals. Because seabirds are long-lived with high adult survival, reducing mortality factors which target adult birds will be the most successful means to increase the long-term viability of the affected populations. I suggest that to effectively restore seabird populations affected by toxic pollutants, it is necessary to mediate other threats to the population (e.g. introduced predators). While I support seabird projects 1, 3, and 5 for this reason – projects 2 and 8 are clearly not designed to adequately restore seabirds (more on this below). Project 9: Restore Ashy Storm petrels to the Southeast Farallon Islands was also dismissed “*primarily due to its location outside of the SCB*”(p.5-19). This project should be reconsidered in place of project 8, for several reasons:

- 1) Nest box attraction (project 8) has not been shown to work for this species elsewhere, whereas elimination of predators (already complete on Anacapa Is.) has a far greater chance of success (project 9).
- 2) From a population-level assessment, it will be better to mitigate away from the contaminated area (project 9), then close to the source of continuing contamination (project 8). There is band/recapture data and individual movement data from radio telemetry showing interchange among Channel Is. and the Farallones. By increasing the numbers of ASSP at the Farallones, you would thereby increase individuals in “healthy” parts of the large (i.e. “metapopulation”) that is while ongoing chemical contamination of the marine environment by the Montrose Plume in the SCB.
- 3) It is expected that Storm-petrels on Anacapa will recover naturally with the recent removal of rats, and nest sites are not known to be limiting. Project 8 is really designed to monitor natural recovery.
- 4) Barn Owl depredation of ASSP (through secondary increases attributable to house mice abundance) appears to be important in limiting the recovery of this species at the Farallones. Project 9 would provide tangible, measurable results with lasting benefits to this species.

Of the non-seabird Tier 2 projects, I do not support the project to restore Bald Eagles on Santa Catalina. I do not support proposed restoration efforts of money to manage a small and non-sustainable population of Bald Eagles on Santa Catalina (B.2.3). It is not entirely clear how much money the trustees have already spent, although it is clear that a significant portion of funds has been allocated (\$270,000 per year) in “recent years”. While it is expected “Santa Catalina Island bald eagles are not likely to reach a state of self sustainability in the foreseeable future”[MSRP, p.b-6]. Thus, I am of the opinion that this is not a wise or prudent use of restoration funds given the ecological breadth of damages. Furthermore, the Catalina project does not demonstrate feasibility, cost-effectiveness, or consider this as an option. The data indicate continuing elevated loads of contaminants at this site and that restoration is not viable to sustain reproduction. This project is neither cost-effective, nor biologically sustainable work; money is better spent elsewhere.

Finally, in regard to the approach for all projects - I suggest that both educational and research components be included in all projects in the final restoration plan. Without good education the public will remain uninformed and uninterested in seabird conservation and restoration. Without good research, population censusing, monitoring, we cannot evaluate population trends, and determine threats and negative impacts to mediate. Nor can we measure the effectiveness of our restoration efforts.

In summary, I suggest that MSRP should re-evaluate proposed studies to the benefit of migratory seabirds, particularly those with well defined conservation threats and solutions (e.g. project shearwaters [project 13], storm-petrels [project 9]). I am of the opinion that the MSRP focused too narrowly on the resident seabirds of the SCB, and in doing so failed to recognize the importance of pelagic, migratory seabirds which were affected by (and will continue to be affected by) Montrose contamination of their marine habitat. The negative impacts of this long-term contamination on humans who rely on these migratory species as a food source also were not taken into consideration – this should be addressed in the final MRSP.

Thank you for considering my comments and opinions. Should you have any questions or comments, or require further documentation of the literature sources I have used here, please contact me (831-684-9317).

Sincerely,

Hannah Nevins  
P.O. Box 1103, Aptos, CA 95001 hannah@oikonos.org

**Cc:Anne Hoeker, USFWS**



## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Craig Shuman [cshuman@HealTheBay.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 7:15 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Cc:** Mark Gold; Tracy Egoscue  
**Subject:** RE: Heal the Bay and Santa Monica Baykeeper Comments on Draft Restoration Plan

Attached are Heal the Bay's comments on the Draft Restoration Plan submitted in conjunction with Santa Monica Baykeeper. The original hard copy has been placed in the mail.

Please disregard the previous comments submitted with the e-mail copied below.

Thank you,

Craig Shuman, D.Env.  
Staff Scientist  
Heal the Bay

3220 Nebraska Ave  
Santa Monica CA 90404  
Phone: (310) 453-0395 x144  
Fax: (310) 453-7927  
[cshuman@healthebay.org](mailto:cshuman@healthebay.org)

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**From:** Craig Shuman  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 6:02 PM  
**To:** 'msrp@noaa.gov'  
**Cc:** Mark Gold  
**Subject:** Heal the Bay Comments on Draft Restoration Plan

Attached are Heal the Bay's comments on the Draft Restoration Plan.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Craig Shuman, D.Env.  
Staff Scientist  
Heal the Bay

3220 Nebraska Ave  
Santa Monica CA 90404  
Phone: (310) 453-0395 x144  
Fax: (310) 453-7927  
[cshuman@healthebay.org](mailto:cshuman@healthebay.org)



May 23, 2005

Mr. Greg Baker  
Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

**RE: Comments on MSRP Draft Restoration Plan**

Dear Mr. Baker,

Heal the Bay is a nonprofit environmental organization with over 10,000 members dedicated to making the waters of Southern California clean and healthy for marine life and people. Santa Monica Baykeeper is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and restoration of Santa Monica Bay, San Pedro Bay, and adjacent coastal waters. The Baykeeper has approximately 2,000 members, most of whom reside in Los Angeles County. The Baykeeper's mission includes the monitoring and protection of the region's waters, including local watersheds, marine sanctuaries, rivers, coastal estuaries, wetlands and bays from illegal dumping, hazardous spills, toxic sources and other pollution, including polluted runoff.

We have reviewed the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program Draft Restoration Plan (Plan) and have numerous concerns. Although comprehensive, we find the Plan lacks restoration alternatives likely to result in mitigation for natural resources damages. In addition, we feel that some of the proposed restoration options do not have a direct nexus to the damages incurred to natural resources.

Our specific comments are summarized below:

- A. We find it extremely disconcerting that only half of the money allocated for natural resource restoration in the final settlement will actually be used to restore natural resources lost or damaged by the contamination of DDTs and PCBs. The Plan should provide a detailed allocation of how the funds were spent and to what purpose. How will the \$35 million to reimburse past damage assessment costs be used to direct the restoration programs?
- B. There is an imbalanced allocation of restoration funds between birds and fish. The Plan states that assessments of damages to both seabirds and the marine community were inconclusive (pages 2-14 and 2-12, respectively). The Plan, however, proposes numerous projects, albeit worthwhile in another context, to restore seabird populations and fails to propose significant measures to restore the marine community. Almost any project that would benefit the marine community



would also benefit fishing services so would have a direct nexus to damages awarded through the settlement. The proposed projects to restore seabirds do not have this nexus and therefore do not warrant the expenditure of \$5.5 million.

Settlement funds should only be allocated for those populations most injured by the DDT and PCB discharges. For example, allocation of funds for bird population restoration projects for islands off of Baja should not be included on the list of recommendations.

C. The preferred Fishing/Fish Habitat Restoration plan is skewed towards direct fishing enhancements as opposed to actions to restore the ecology of the marine community impacted by the contamination. The Plan fails to consider additional options that could benefit the local ecological community and we find it imprudent to propose fishing and fish habitat restoration in the absence of the results of the fish contamination study.

1. Restoration of full tidal exchange wetlands is the proposed restoration action that is likely to result in ecological improvements through natural processes and is the only true mitigation proposed in the Plan. It is thus surprising that restoration funds are proposed to not exceed 25% of the \$12 million allocated for Fishing/Fish Habitat Restoration. Given the substantial loss of coastal wetlands in the area near the Palos Verdes shelf and the known benefit of these ecosystems to several key species in the marine community, it seems illogical to cap the allocation of funds at such a low percentage of the total. This is especially pertinent due to the extremely vague nature of the proposed wetland restoration program and what may be required to substantially contribute to an existing program or acquisition of new land. In addition, we recommend that the wetland restoration action(s) be focused on an area smaller than the entire Southern California Bight, such as marine fish nursery habitat located in the area between Pt. Dume and Bolsa Chica as this would create a greater nexus between local impacts and restoration actions.
2. We strongly disagree with the fishing access improvements and public information components of the Plan. While these are both very important projects that should be further developed and implemented, these actions do not qualify as mitigation for losses to natural resources. While the pier improvements would enhance the public's fishing experience, they would not provide any restorative service to the marine environment. In addition, these services would not increase the ability of shore based fishermen to catch fish with lower body burdens of PCBs and DDTs as proposed by the artificial reefs. Public information and outreach is one of the most critical components of the settlement, however, this is most appropriately addressed through the institutional controls administered by EPA and implementation of a new or expanded program would result in



redundancy of existing efforts. The results of the fish contamination study should most definitely be fed into existing outreach programs administered by the EPA, but no new programs should be implemented. There is no nexus between public outreach and natural resource restoration so no funds should be allocated to this project.

A possible project that might qualify under the natural resources restoration, but might be more appropriate under the EPA administered institutional controls, is the certification of clean white croaker sold in local markets. A simple program to establish certification of clean fish (at least below 100 ppb for DDT and PCBs) would reestablish the local commercial white croaker fishery in areas with minimal organochlorine bioaccumulation concerns. This would restore the public's loss of clean white croaker sold commercially.

3. The lack of specificity pertaining to the number, size, material, design and location of proposed artificial reefs makes it difficult to effectively comment on this proposed action. The specifics of these components will be of utmost importance if the new artificial reefs are to achieve their intended goal. If artificial reefs are to be implemented, an intensive monitoring program will be necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of the artificial reefs to restore lost fishing services.
4. In association with the proposed artificial reefs, we are disappointed to see that the only mention of Marine Protected Areas was limited to the recently established marine reserves in the Channel Islands. While it is extremely important to monitor and enforce these existing marine reserves, the burden to do so is in no way linked to restoration activities to mitigate for contamination on the Palos Verdes Shelf. If indeed artificial reefs are to be established to compensate for lost fishing area, then why not create a marine reserve on the Palos Verdes Shelf in the zone of contamination. It makes little sense to leave the area open to fishing when; 1) there is a fish consumption advisory for the area due to cancer risks, 2) the area is closed to commercial fishing for white croaker due to DDT and PCB contamination, and 3) artificial reefs are being created to restore lost fishing services. Creation of a no-fishing zone on the Palos Verdes Shelf in the area of contamination would not only result in tremendous public health benefits, but would increase fisheries productivity, potentially benefiting ecological systems and fishing resources throughout Santa Monica Bay and the Southern California Bight through larval export and adult spill over.
5. As discussed above, with the exception of the proposed wetland restoration, there are no programs proposed to directly restore marine communities. An example of a project that would directly benefit local



and regional marine resources and in turn enhance fisheries resources would be to limit the use of once-through cooling by coastal power plants. The three power plants in Santa Monica Bay (El Segundo, Scattergood, and Redondo Beach) are permitted to withdraw close to 2 billion gallons of water each day from near-shore waters. Entrained in the cooling water flow are trillions of plankton, fish eggs and larvae that are killed as they are subjected to thermal and pressure stresses. Any mitigation program aimed at reducing the impact of cooling water intake systems would greatly benefit all marine life in Santa Monica Bay and the Southern California Bight. Examples of projects to achieve this goal would be to supplement funding for the conversion of any of these facilities to an alternative cooling technology that does not utilize once-through cooling. Another option would be to relocate an intake that currently exists in an enclosed bay or estuary. For example, power plants currently turn over the entire volume of nearby Alamitos Bay on a daily basis. Enclosed bays and estuaries are prime nursery habitat for a variety of ecologically and recreationally important species. Intakes located within these habitats have been found to have a far greater ecological impact than deep water open coast intakes<sup>1</sup>.

- D. Heal the Bay and Santa Monica Baykeeper are supportive of the proposal to focus the majority of current bald eagle restoration efforts on Santa Cruz Island to determine if breeding pairs of birds can be sustainable. Also, the trustees should provide the minimum level of funding necessary to maintain the Catalina bald eagle restoration until such time as the DDT/PCB body burden in the eagles has been reduced below levels that cause reproductive harm. We believe that funding of eagle restoration efforts is a higher and better use of restoration funds than seabird population restoration efforts. Heal the Bay and Santa Monica Baykeeper strongly recommend that significant funds currently allocated for natural resource restoration be set aside immediately for specific restoration programs on Santa Catalina at a time when egg shell thinning risks have been minimized due to the pending sediment contamination remediation efforts. Perhaps the most critical and publicly visible natural resource damage caused by DDT and PCB discharges is the collapse of Channel Island bald eagle populations. It would be tragic if all of the funds allocated for recovery were spent before the bald eagles have a fighting chance of surviving in their natural environment without perpetual human assistance for generations to come. We urge NOAA, and the other trustees to set aside a significant portion of the settlement funds for utilization to restore Bald Eagle populations at a time when the DDT concentrations have dropped below critical levels. In the mean time, the trustees

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<sup>1</sup> Tenera Environmental Services (2001). Morro Bay Power Plant Modernization Project 316(b) Resource Assessment. Duke Energy Morro Bay, LLC.



Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program Draft Restoration Plan. Please call us at 310-453-0395 (Heal the Bay) or 310-305-9645 (Santa Monica Baykeeper) if you have any questions about our comments.

Sincerely,



Mark Gold, D. Env.  
Executive Director  
Heal the Bay



Tracy Egoscue  
Executive Director  
Santa Monica Baykeeper

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Steven & Rene [trene53@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 7:45 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Concern for the Eagles

*Dear Sir's*  
*inportant that this work at Catalina Island stay up and running, Its a shame that we havent done more to protect these beautiful birds and now they are thinking of dropping the program because of funding, I feel like this is in our best interest for the public and mostly for the Eagles to keep this program up and running,*  
*much . Rene'*

*I feel it very*  
*Thank you so*

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Ruby Miller [ramdjm@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 8:34 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina Eagles

I recently read in the Daily Breeze and the Catalina Islander of the potential fate of the Catalina eagles. I am not one for getting involved in causes but I feel vehemently that the Conservancy's Program must continue. The Catalina Island Eagles are so close to producing on their own, it would be such a shame to stop this progress.

I have owned a home in Avalon since 1989 and have watched with total joy the reappearance of this majestic bird as well as my children and other family members. Please do not take this wonderful bird away from all who have had the pleasure of seeing its reappearance.

Ruby A. Miller



**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** szelman [szelman@lausd.k12.ca.us]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 10:07 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** DDT dump site v. Eagles

5-23-05

Dear Mr. Baker,

I am contacting you about the DDT dump site near Palos Verdes. I am writing on behalf of the eagles who have no voice. They are part of our ecosystem and are beautiful. Please save them and give them a chance to live and reproduce in a non-toxic environment.

**I. The EAGLES should be relocated to a natural environment which is NOT contaminated with DDT and PCBs.** The eagles need to eat fish,etc. and swim in a non-toxic environment. Move them to Washington or Alaska.

**II. Montrose, the six other companies, the LA County Sanitation Districts and the 150 municipalities should be held to returning the Palos Verdes Peninsula to its original Natural state.** These companies and agencies should be required to clean up the dump site. Exxon oil company was held accountable in 1989 and the Alaskan area is about cleaned up. This was about 15 years ago and a remedy was found to clean the oil spill.

**III. Solution.** If it is possible to drill oil from beneath the ocean floor and if it is possible to store nuclear waste in leak free containers; then it must be possible to vacuum up the DDT and PCBs that are sitting on the bottom of the Palos Verdes Shelf. Vacuum up the 110 tons of deadly pesticides and store them elsewhere in containers like the nuclear waste disposal plan. Thank you for your attention. Sincerely, Sharon Zelman (818) 774-1757 4800 Vanalden Ave., Tarzana, CA 91356

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Tanya Wood [ttwreno@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 10:11 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Bald Eagles

Dear Mr. Baker,

It was with great distress that I read of your organization's intent to pull funds away from the bald eagle restoration project on Catalina Island.

Although I am no longer a resident of California, I was born in Los Angeles and raised in Southern California. My daughter and son-in-law are homeowners in Oakland.

I have traveled to Catalina regularly since I was a small child and have introduced it not only to my own children but also to friends, who now frequent it on their own.

A few years ago I was thrilled, while hiking the Wrigley Road, to discover a tree wherein nested an eagle family. Later I learned it was through the efforts of your organization and the Conservancy on the island that young eagles were being given a chance to survive again in the wild, as nature intended.

I know you have heard all the arguments why Catalina needs to have their program continue. While I can appreciate the efforts by others to fund pet projects elsewhere, it would seem a giant step backward to disband a thriving, established, and soon to be self-sustaining project that has already proven its worth and whose disbanding at this time would probably be a disaster.

Please have your organization reconsider their current intentions and continue to support and, thereby, save Catalina's bald eagle population. It would be a crime to do otherwise.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tanya (Traughber) Wood  
975 Lescon Circle  
Reno, Nevada 89509  
(775) 786-1247  
ttwreno@msn.com

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Bradford Keitt [bkeitt@islandconservation.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 10:08 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** public comment

23 May 2005

RE: Public comment on the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program Draft Restoration Plan

To: Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802.  
[msrp@noaa.gov](mailto:msrp@noaa.gov)

Dear Mr. Baker,

I am writing to provide feedback on the draft restoration plan for the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program. I agree with the council that the goal of restoration should be to enact programs that will have measurable and long-term or permanent benefits for the targeted species. Because of this, I support the preferred alternative two outlined in the DRP. This proposed action balances the available resources and distributes them to projects that utilize techniques already demonstrated to be effective. By avoiding projects that are unlikely to be maintained naturally after the active restoration phase, the council is taking steps to maximize the restoration potential of the damage assessment funds.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment,

Sincerely,

Bradford Keitt

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** felisclay [felisclay@myway.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 10:13 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Comments to Trustees

I just wanted to express my interest in support of the bald eagle project on Catalina Island. I am interested in helping to increase the survivability of the only breeding population of bald eagles in Los Angeles County. Please consider other interests in your decision making process this coming month. Thank you for your time.

Clarisse Davis  
323-351-4555

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## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Juan-Pablo Galvan [jgalvan@islandconservation.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 10:28 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** seabird and eagle restoration fund

Dear Mr. Greg Baker,

I am writing to you to voice my support for having some of the multi million dollar seabird and eagle restoration fund for coastal Southern California (S C Bight) go to restoring seabird populations in Mexico. I support this alternative for the following reasons:

- 1) provides money to restore seabird populations to regions impacted by the Montrose DDT releases.
- 2) The seabird restoration actions proposed by the council are all techniques proven to result in increases in seabird populations.
- 3) These actions will result in permanent, long term and measurable benefits to seabirds- species that are important members of the marine and terrestrial ecosystems of the Southern California Bight.
- 4) These seabirds also are a significant part of local eco-tourism and provide wildlife viewing opportunities for large numbers of tourists and residents alike.

Thank you for your time,

Juan Pablo Galvan

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** mymak@juno.com  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 10:33 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Bald eagles

We should bring bald eagles back to Santa Catalina, but not before the DDT problem is solved. The money allocated to the EPA should be used to solve the DDT problem first.

In the mean time, we should continue looking for successful ways to restore the birds. So, it's ok to bring the bald eagles to cleaner islands and see whether they succeed.

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Patricia Murrell [foxiepm@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 10:41 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Cc:** sharpe@iws.org  
**Subject:** Catalina Island Bald Eagle Restoration

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, California 90802  
562-980-3236  
msrp@noaa.gov

To Whom It May Concern:

I find it very rewarding to help and encourage those in need. I've been there and most everyone is sometime.

Our National Emblem, the American Bald Eagle is a majestic, beautiful bird. It makes me feel proud as I watch it soar through the sky.

In Southern California, we don't get to see the bald eagle very often. It's been such a joy to watch them on Catalina Island via the cam video. To think that would end deeply saddens me. A day hasn't gone by since the beginning of March that I don't watch them. On April 5 of this year, I saw a need to help an eight-day-old eagle chick, which I asked my husband to fulfill -- to fly the chick from San Francisco to Catalina Island with Dr. David Garcelon. It was such an exciting day for my friends and me -- to think we could help and actually see an eagle up close. When you consider the number of people that visit Catalina each year and compare that number to the total number of people that visit all the other islands combined, that second number pales in comparison. People need to see the results of a program to support it. By removing the breeding program from Catalina Island, you will greatly reduce the number of people who will see the bald eagles on the Channel Islands.

It wasn't the eagle's fault that DDTs and PCBs were dumped into the ocean and caused the long-term problem. The very least we can do is help them to recover. If it means silting over the poisons and incubating their eggs, then so be it! We all must do our parts. I find it extremely encouraging that 33% of this year's eggs hatched successfully -- 3 of 9 to be exact.

We owe it to the bald eagle and the children of the future to make sure we can always see them close by. Therefore, I emphatically endorse **Alternative 3** as shown in the Executive Summary!

Sincerely and Passionately,

Patricia Murrell  
9838 E. La Rosa Dr.  
Temple City, California 91780  
626-285-4485



**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Milena Viljoen [Milena.Viljoen@noaa.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 25, 2005 2:06 PM  
**To:** milena.viljoen@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** FW: Montrose Questions/Comments

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

**From:** Martin Hochman [mailto:martin.b.hochman@usa.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 23, 2005 10:50 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Boyce  
**Subject:** Montrose Questions/Comments

I have spent some time tonight reading what is available on the NOAA and EPA websites on the Montrose project. Didn't have any success locating the information on how to provide comments now, or the comment deadline. I know that there have been multiple previous stages of public comment. After seeing reference on the NOAA Montrose webpage to the hundreds of tons of DDT-contaminated waste dumped off Catalina Island, but then no further reference to studies on this dumping, I am wondering if any work has been done to determine what impact the Catalina dump site (or sites) is having on the environment now. Looks like the only survey work done was on the site at the sewage outfall off Whites Point and the adjoining areas. Is this the case (if you know)?

I also notice fishing vessels carrying paying passengers (sport fishing) frequently fishing in the kelp beds off Whites Point. Since this location is right in the "red zone" of highest DDT contamination, is there a reason that no governmental agency has acted to prohibit fishing in this area? Is the fish in this particular area safe to eat on a regular basis, or any basis? I am not asking for your personal opinion on this, just wondering what the official positions of the various agencies are on this issue (probably just EPA's responsibility, and perhaps the State of CA's, I would guess).

Personally I would like to see any money from the settlement used to restore the damaged natural resources, and to prevent or minimize future damages to these natural resources (i.e., fish, marine mammals, and seabirds). Plus whatever can be done to protect human beings from the DDT and PCBs would seem a responsible use of the funds.

Considering how damp it gets here many nights because we are so close to the ocean (just a block inland from Whites Point), I wonder to what extent DDT and PCBs are falling on our properties through the night dampness from the ocean. Has EPA or anyone studied this possibility? If not, why not (if you know).?

Would you pass this information on to the appropriate office as a comment if that is possible.

Thank you.

Martin Hochman  
 2131 W. 37<sup>th</sup> Street  
 San Pedro, CA 90732

## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** Richard F. Ambrose [rambrose@ucla.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 24, 2005 6:17 AM  
**To:** greg.baker@noaa.gov  
**Cc:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** comments on Draft Restoration Plan



Comments on Draft ATT00038.txt (659  
Restoration ... B)

Greg,

Attached are my comments on the Draft Restoration Plan. Sorry I didn't get them in yesterday; I thought I had sent them, but when I checked my email log, it looks like I didn't. I hope they are not too late to be useful.

Hope all is well,  
- Rich



RICHARD F. AMBROSE  
PHONE: (310) 206-1984  
FAX: (310) 206-3358  
EMAIL: rambrose@ucla.edu  
<http://www.ph.ucla.edu/ese/>

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING PROGRAM  
10833 LE CONTE AVENUE  
BOX 951772  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90095-1772

May 23, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Draft Restoration Plan for the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program. As you know, I have a long history with this project, having served as an expert witness in the litigation against Montrose Chemical Corporation and on subsequent advisory panels, so I was particularly interested in the Draft Plan. It is exciting to see the number of excellent opportunities for restoring the natural resources and services impacted by DDT and PCBs in southern California.

My main reaction to the alternatives, including the preferred alternative, is that the distribution of resources among the main restoration categories (fishing/fish habitat, seabird, bald eagle and peregrine falcon restoration) does not reflect the nature and magnitude of the injuries. Most notable is the large fraction (25% in the preferred alternative) devoted to seabird restoration. Although efforts to restore and enhance seabird populations are important and valuable, the proposed restoration efforts are not clearly linked to actual injuries commensurate with the magnitude of the restoration effort. If any funding is to be allocated for seabird restoration, it should be a much smaller amount and in line with the amount of injuries actually experienced by seabirds.

The bald eagle restoration alternatives are problematic. As valuable as it would be to have a self-sustaining population of bald eagles at Catalina Island, available information suggests that this is not possible in the short term; the alternative of maintaining the bald eagle population through intensive human intervention is extremely expensive, and does not seem cost-effective for the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program. Thus, I support the Draft Restoration Plan's Alternative 2's decision to discontinue funding for the maintenance of bald eagles on Catalina Island. I would favor the restoration of bald eagles to the Northern Channel Islands **if** the NCI Feasibility Study demonstrates that a self-sustaining population can be established. If the Feasibility Study indicates that bald

eagles cannot be restored to the Northern Channel Islands at this time, then perhaps the funds allocated for bald eagle restoration could be “banked” for use at a later time, when DDT contamination of the environment is low enough that the eagle populations can be self-sustaining. In any case, it seems like the funding for bald eagle restoration associated with Alternative 2 would be the maximum appropriate amount.

Although it is only a minor component of the Restoration Plan, I question the justification for the peregrine falcon monitoring. As a scientist involved with a number of long-term monitoring programs in southern California, I certainly appreciate the importance of long-term monitoring, and I think any restoration effort undertaken by the MSRP should be monitored to ensure it is performing as planned. However, I fail to see the nexus between the peregrine falcon monitoring and the Montrose Settlement. Peregrine falcons recovery efforts have already been successful and the falcon population is increasing; since MSRP is not undertaking restoration efforts, why should it be monitoring the falcons?

For the fishing/fish habitat restoration component of the Restoration Plan, the potential restoration actions seem generally appropriate, but the amount of funding is inadequate. The injuries for this category were extensive and spread broadly across taxa; moreover, these injuries had the greatest direct impact on human use of the area’s resources. Considering the full scope of the settlement funding (including funds allocated to EPA), \$12 million for restoring all of the fishing/fish habitat injuries simply is not sufficient. The Final Restoration Plan should allocate a larger proportion of settlement funds to this category.

Although the fishing/fish habitat restoration component of the Restoration Plan deserves a greater share of the available funds, it is currently difficult to specify which actions under this category deserve the most attention. Such a decision must be informed by the results of the fish contaminant study, which are not yet available; it must balance the need to provide additional opportunities to fish for uncontaminated fish with the need to enhance the marine ecosystem. Thus, I encourage flexibility at present, with specific decisions about these potential actions being deferred until we have the needed information about the extent and nature of contaminants in fish in the region. When the fish contaminant information is available, the public should have an opportunity to comment again on the specific actions, including the specific size, design and locations of artificial reefs. However, I do want to comment now on one particular potential action listed in the Draft Restoration Plan: funding for implementing the Marine Protected Areas at the Northern Channel Islands. Although I appreciate the potential value of Marine Protected Areas as an ecological and fisheries management tool, I question the nexus between the actual injuries in this situation and the benefits to be accrued at the Northern Channel Islands. I suggest that, instead, further thought be given to how Marine Protected Areas could be implemented in the area with the greatest injuries (perhaps even by establishing marine reserves around artificial reefs built for fish habitat restoration).

I hope these comments are useful. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss any of these issues. I look forward to seeing the Final Restoration Plan, and to following the progress of this important project in the future.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard F. Ambrose". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "R".

Richard F. Ambrose, Ph.D.  
Professor

## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Chris Gill [gill\_chrisellis@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 24, 2005 7:26 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Re: Draft MSRP

Dear Dr. Baker;

I am writing to express my support for the preferred option (number 2) which designates \$6.5 million to seabird restoration, \$6.2 million to bald eagle restoration, \$12 million to fish restoration and \$0.3 million to Peregrine Falcon restoration.

I completed my Masters degree on Bald Eagle ecotoxicology in 1998 from Simon Fraser University, British Columbia. Based on my thesis and through field research on eagles in California, I have become familiar with the conservation issues surrounding bald eagles on the Channel Islands and the long-term DDT pollution that is characteristic of this area.

Unfortunately, based on the data I have reviewed, it will likely take several years until organochloride levels have reached concentrations that will allow bald eagles to successfully reproduce on the Channel islands without significant and costly human intervention. For example, between 1980 and 1986, 33 eagles were released on the island from hacking platforms (Garcelon 1988). Many of these birds matured and formed breeding pairs on the island, but all of the eggs produced broke in the nest. Mean levels of DDE in egg remains removed from nests in 1987 and 1988 were twice as high as that which has been shown to cause complete reproductive failure (Wiemeyer et al. 1984), implicating this contaminant as the causal agent of the lack of productivity (Garcelon et al. 1989). Furthermore, DDE concentrations did not decline significantly in bald eagle eggs between 1989 and 2004 in some territories, and declined slowly in others (Sharpe, 2004).

Bald eagles have made a dramatic come back in other areas of North America. Numbers continue to increase and in July of 1995, the US Fish and Wildlife Service upgraded the status of bald eagles in the lower 48 states to threatened from endangered.

I believe that the limited public conservation dollars could be used for more effective purposes than attempting to restore a bald eagle population situated in a contaminated environment that cannot survive without significant human intervention. The preferred option will provide the most effective use of conservation funding because it provides financial support for the restoration of seabird populations directly impacted from DDT. The habitat restoration projects provide for permanent, long term benefits to both the island ecosystems as well as marine ecosystems in Southern California.

Sincerely,

Chris Gill, MSc.

### References:

- Garcelon, D.K. 1988. The reintroduction of bald eagles on Santa Catalina Island, California. M.S. thesis, Humboldt State University, Arcata, California. 58pp.
- Garcelon, D.K., R.W. Risebrough, W.M. Jarman, A.B. Chartrand, and E.E. Littrell. 1989. Accumulation of DDE by bald eagles *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* reintroduced to Santa Catalina Island in Southern California. Pages 491-494 in B.-U. Meyburg & R. Chancellor, eds. Raptors in the modern world. World Working Group on Birds of Prey and Owls, Berlin, London & Paris.
- P. Sharpe. 2004. Restoration and Management of Bald Eagles on Santa Catalina Island, California. Prepared for Montrose Settlements Restoration Program, Arcata, California.
- Wiemeyer, S. N., T. G. Lamont, C. M. Bunck, C. R. Sindelar, F. J. Gramlich, J. D. Fraser, and M. A. Byrd. 1984. Organochlorine pesticide, polychlorobiphenyl, and mercury residues

in bald eagle eggs 1969-1979 and their relationships to shell thinning and reproduction.  
Arch. Environ. Contam. Toxicol. 13:529-549.

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## Milena Viljoen

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**From:** catalinarudy@juno.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 24, 2005 10:09 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Santa Catalina Island Bald Eagle



Ltr-MontroseEagleR  
estoration.d...

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
Attention Milena, Outreach Coordinator

Following up on our telephone communication of 5/23/05 please include the attached in the public testimony file.

Thank you, Rudy Piltch



RUDY PILTCH  
P.O. BOX 312, AVALON, CA 90704  
Phone: 310.510.0948; E-mail: [catalinarudy@juno.com](mailto:catalinarudy@juno.com)

Date: 5/24/05  
Greg Baker, Program Manager and Trustees  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Subject: Support the Santa Catalina Island Bald Eagle Restoration Program

Dear Mr. Baker and Trustees,

I'm informed that those responsible for administering the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program are considering terminating future funding for the Santa Catalina Island Bald Eagle restoration program and wish to strongly appeal for your continued support for this very important mission.

Records indicate a clear nexus between the demise of the Bald Eagles on Catalina Island and the dumping of DDT in the near vicinity by Montrose Chemical Corporation. You are besieged by many to share in the Trust however, the Trustees have a special moral, ethical, and social responsibility to participate in the complete restoration of the Bald Eagle to their native habitat on Santa Catalina Island.

You're not alone in your financial commitment which is, very likely, unique to the list of applicants seeking funding. In 1980 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Institute for Wildlife Studies (IWS), with the cooperation of the California Dept. of Fish and Game and the Santa Catalina Island Conservancy, (with the assistance of hundreds of private supporters), initiated and pioneered this very unique restoration program. They have admirably carried this burden and demonstrate a high degree of feasibility in the future success of this project. They now need your continued assistance.

Avalon has been my home for more than 50 years and I'm very familiar with the pre and post Santa Catalina Island Conservancy years having been previously employed by the Santa Catalina Island Co. for 32 years in the capacity of resident architect and Director of land planning, (during the time when the Santa Catalina Island Conservancy was being formed) and have a high degree of confidence in the longevity of the Catalina Conservancy and commitment to their very delicate and important mission to restore, protect and preserve Santa Catalina Island for present and future generations.

One of our esteemed restoration scientists cautioned that, "if we feel we must take responsibility for the actions of our ancestors and do something to remove a cause of damage, don't lose heart if it takes longer to repair". Your continued financial support is crucial to the success of the Santa Catalina Island Bald Eagle Restoration program and one in which **you and the trustees can share great pride** with the knowledge that it will be of lasting value to many generations of Santa Catalina Island residents and visitors.

Respectfully, Rudy Piltch

## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Peter Hodum [phodum@csulb.edu]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 24, 2005 11:02 AM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** please select Alternative 2

Dear Mr. Baker,

As a conservation biologist and seabird ecologist, I strongly support Alternative 2. This alternative takes a more ecosystem-level holistic approach to problems that are systemic rather than single-species. Alternative 2 would provide money to help restore important seabird populations impacted by DDT releases using well-established and successful restoration techniques.

Seabirds are a critically important members of the terrestrial and marine systems of the Southern California Bight and to ignore them in favor of focusing exclusively on Bald Eagles would be to focus efforts too narrowly.

Additionally, seabirds, as much as Bald Eagles, provide wonderful ecotourism opportunities for the region.

Thank you for your willingness to consider Alternative 2.

With best wishes,  
Peter Hodum, PhD.

Director, Juan Fernandez Islands Conservancy

## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** kameya82@netzero.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 24, 2005 5:26 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** "DDT May Outlast Bald Eagles"

Greg Baker  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Dear Mr. Baker:

It was "heart-wrenching" to read the article "DDT May Outlast Bald Eagles" by Marla Cone. Based on the facts provided, the answer to your question seems quite evident. The article states "... only 19% of the retrieved eggs have hatched..." Birds that begin to mate ... have collected so much DDT in their bodies" that produced eggs fail to thrive. "Today, approximately 10 tons...DDT deposits remain on the ocean floor..." and et cetera.

IMHO as a concerned citizen, the bald eagles need a safer habitat! A high price to pay for the horrific damage done by Montrose, but it's time to look to the future for generations to enjoy and not to selfish interests or political agendas.

Mr. Baker, I commend you, as well as David Garcelon and his team, for your dedication in rehabilitating the eagles. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Patricia Yoshino

## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Jim Knight [jim\_knight@juno.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 24, 2005 6:03 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina Bald eagle

Dear Greg Baker

I think the program to help the Bald Eagle survive on Catalina Island is important. There is an absolute nexus between the Montrose Settlement Restoration Program and helping save this majestic raptor from the effects of DDT dumped in these waters years ago.

There are other implications to not helping keep the biological balance that has evolved for so many years in this ecosystem. If other raptors are allowed to dominate the area there could be a threat to the small island grey fox. And there no doubt other biological imbalances that we have yet to uncover.

I just read about new discoveries with the reintroduction of the wolf into Yellowstone. Scientists have seen the replenishment of the stream side habitat to the pre-wolf eradication at the turn of the century. Why? They now realize that the fear of wolves keeps the hoved, herbivores such as deer or elk away from lingering so long around the creek beds allowing it recover.

To paraphrase Shakespeare " there are more things in heaven and earth than man ever dreamed of".

Jim Knight

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Kathleen Walker [leenrgr@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 24, 2005 10:24 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Catalina Island Eagles

After reading Sunday's article about the eagles I approached my third-graders with the information and suggested they express their opinions. I am enclosing the text of two of those letters. In addition, running the risk of seeming even more naive than the third-graders, I would like to see more resources put into neutralizing, removing, alleviating the DDT deposit off the coast. It seems more and more members of food chains will be impacted by its continuous status quo.

Here is the text of my students' opinions:

Dear Greg Baker,

How are you doing? I am doing fine. Please take the bald eagles somewhere else because other animals need help or we're just going to see few animals. But don't move the bald eagle so far that we can't see them anymore. Well, it's your choice. Sincerely, Victoria Grajeda

Dear Greg Baker,

I want the bald eagle to stay because it is the National Symbol. It is also one of my favorite birds. I also have never seen one and I want to. Sincerely, Kano Perfors Third graders--McKinley Elementary School, Burbank, CA.

Thank you for being receptive to opinions from the general public. Sincerely, Kathleen Walker



ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 95064

19

May 2005

Mr. Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker;

I am a professor of ecology in the Environmental Studies Department at UCSC. In this capacity I conduct research on the economics of conservation and teach undergraduate and graduate level classes on conservation policy and conservation biology.

From my perspective, the Draft Plan for the Montrose Settlement is a fascinating case study. The option identified by the research team and authors of the document as the preferred option- number two- will, I strongly believe, lead to the biggest biodiversity bang for the buck. I hope you will choose option two in the final plan.

Sincerely,

Erika S. Zavaleta  
Assistant Professor

DEPT. OF COMMERCE - NOAA  
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MAY 25 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

Ms. Amber Siepel  
322 Chestnut Ave  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

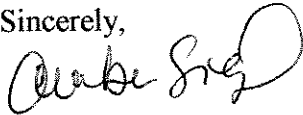
May 19, 2005

Mr. Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker;

I have had the pleasure of reading the Executive Summary of the Draft Restoration Plan for the Montrose DDT spill. This is a great plan and I lend my unqualified support to option 2. It makes sense to me to use this money efficiently to protect endangered seabirds now. Please don't squander it on options that the document and common sense show are expensive and potentially inhumane.

Sincerely,



Amber Siepel

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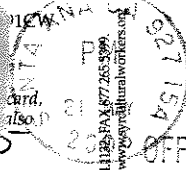
MAY 25 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

Mary Franz  
1395 Cerritos Drive  
Laguna Beach, CA 92651

available.

20 May 05



DEPT. OF COMMERCE - NOAA  
RECEIVED

MAY 25 2005



OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

Dear Mr Baker  
I am writing to express  
my support for continuation  
of the bald eagle program  
in Avalon. I'm so pleased  
that progress has been  
made, yet when egg shells  
are too thin to make it  
on the hatch, clearly we're  
not all the way we need  
to be.

Sincerely,

Mary Franz

Greg Baker, Pgm Mgr  
Montrose Settlements  
Restoration Program  
501 W Ocean Blvd,  
#4470  
Long Beach CA  
90802

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4/03



Scott Kravitz  
3827 Cesar Chavez St.  
San Francisco, CA 94131  
(415) 282-4752

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

20 May 2005

Dear Mr. Baker:

As a volunteer for the Catalina Island Conservancy, I am distressed that your organization is planning to cut funding for the island's Bald Eagle Restoration program. As you may know Catalina is still reeling from the effects of DDT, and the recovery of our national bird is still precarious. The program simply needs more time, as there are promising signs that levels of DDT present in the bird's eggs are actually in decline. If you decide to pull your support this soon, all the previous years' efforts may very well be for naught.

I urge you to continue funding this important effort to bring back Catalina Island's Bald Eagle population.

Sincerely,



Scott Kravitz

DEPT. OF COMMERCE - NOAA  
RECEIVED  
MAY 25 2005  
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

May 20, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802.

DEPT. OF COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO  
REG.  
MAY 20 2005  
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY ATTORNEY  
NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION  
COUNSEL

Dear Sirs:

I have been performing research on the islands of Southern California and the Baja California islands for the past 30 years. These are tremendously important islands and ecosystems, both terrestrial and marine. This region supports a broad diversity of marine animals and sea birds including at least seasonally a large pod of Blue Whales with up to 30 to 50 animals at a time. The islands are also critical breeding locations for a number of the seabirds that inhabit the region, several of which are not found elsewhere including a variety of storm petrels and the Xantus Murrelet, to name a few. I am familiar with the history of the California Brown Pelican as well and how it was affected by eggshell thinning. It is extremely disturbing to find that the levels of DDT in the marine environment in this region are still so high that the Bald Eagles are still unable to produce fully viable eggs that have not been weakened by thinning of the shells as a result of pesticide residue. Under these settlements, I believe that the main efforts for improving wildlife that was affected by the industrial toxins should be on the general seabird and fish populations rather than the Bald Eagles because it is important to ensure that their populations can be raised up and maintained at sustainable levels. For this reason, I support the Second or preferred alternative. While I feel that the conservation of the Bald Eagle in this region is important, I also appreciate that this alternative will provide for a reasonable level of conservation of the eagles.

I am sending this message of support for the Second alternative by E mail as well as by written mail.

Sincerely,



Thomas Oberbauer  
Chief of the Multiple Species Planning Division  
Department of Planning and Land Use  
County of San Diego

# Pacific Seabird Group



DEDICATED TO THE STUDY AND CONSERVATION OF PACIFIC SEABIRDS AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT

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May 20, 2005

Greg Baker  
Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 West Ocean Blvd. Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

## Re: Comments on Draft Restoration Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for Montrose Settlements

Dear Mr. Baker:

On behalf of the Pacific Seabird Group (PSG), we offer the following comments on the Draft Restoration Plan/Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement ("Restoration Plan") that was issued in April 2005. The Restoration Plan will spend funds from the settlement of claims for damages to seabirds and other natural resources related to the dumping of DDTs and PCBs into Southern California coastal waters. PSG is an international, non-profit organization that was founded in 1972 to promote the knowledge, study, and conservation of Pacific seabirds. It has a membership drawn from the entire Pacific basin, including Canada, Mexico, Peru, Chile, Russia, Japan, South Korea, China, Australia, New Zealand, and the USA. Among PSG's members are biologists who have research interests in Pacific seabirds, government officials who manage seabird refuges and populations, and individuals who are interested in marine conservation. PSG has been involved with issues relating to the restoration of seabirds after human-caused disasters such as oil spills for decades.

In general, PSG is very supportive of the preferred alternative in the Restoration Plan. We would like to express some disappointment in the fact that of the \$140 million settlement (and which was increased by accrued interest), only \$38 million (e.g., about 25%) is available for restoration projects of any kind. Of the amount available for restoration projects, only \$13 million is available to restore birds and half of that seems to be devoted to restoring a single avian species, the Bald Eagle. We believe that it is in the public interest for the final Environmental Impact Statement to explain in some detail the dissipation of these funds which implies a breach of the fiduciary duty of the trustees to maximize the benefit to the injured resources.

DEPT. OF COMMERCE - NOAA  
RECEIVED

MAY 25 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES SWP

As discussed below, we support all of the seabird restoration projects in the Restoration Plan. We do question whether it is appropriate to devote \$6.2 million to a single species under the preferred alternative -- Bald Eagle restoration (and \$10 million under alternative 3) -- while devoting \$6.5 million under the preferred alternative (\$10 million under alternative 3) to 11 species of seabirds. We agree with the conclusion that after 25 years of attempts to restore Bald Eagle nesting on Santa Catalina Island it is unlikely that a self-sustaining population will be reached in the foreseeable future. The high residual levels of DDTs and PCBs in the diet of Bald Eagles there undoubtedly accounts for the abnormal eggs today. Continuing human intervention at every stage of breeding would be a squandering of precious restoration dollars (e.g., \$1.2 million since 2001). We doubt that the efforts to restore Bald Eagles in the Northern Channel Islands will fare much better.

Specifically, PSG endorses the following projects in the preferred alternative:

- Restoration of Ashy Storm-Petrels, Cassin's Auklets, Xantus' Murrelets, Western Gulls, Brandt's Cormorants, Pelagic Cormorants and Pigeon Guillemots to San Miguel Island, Channel Islands, by eradicating the black rats;
- Restoration of Cassin's Auklets and Xantus' Murrelets to Santa Barbara Island, Channel Islands, by social facilitation;
- Restoration of Western Gulls and Brandt's Cormorants to San Nicholas Island by eradicating feral cats;
- Restoration of Ashy Storm-Petrels, Cassin's Auklets, Xantus' Murrelets, California Brown Pelicans, Double-Crested Cormorants and Rhinoceros Auklets to Scorpion Rock (off Santa Cruz Island) by eradicating non-native vegetation and installing nest boxes;
- Restoration of Brandt's Cormorants, Double-Crested Cormorants, Pelagic Cormorants, California Brown Pelicans, Western Gulls, Cassin's Auklets, Ashy Storm-Petrels, Black Storm-Petrels and Xantus' Murrelets to Coronado and Todos Santos Islands, Baja California by social attraction and improving nesting habitat;
- Restoration of seabirds (Cassin's Auklets, Brandt's Cormorants, Xantus' Murrelets, Western Gulls) to Guadalupe Island, Baja California by eradicating feral cats;
- Restoration of California Brown Pelicans, Double-Crested Cormorants, Brandt's Cormorants, Cassin's Auklets and Xantus' Murrelets to San Jeronimo and San Martin Islands, Baja California by social attraction and improving nesting habitat; and
- Restoration of Cassin's Auklets, Brandt's Cormorants, Double-Crested Cormorants, California Brown Pelicans and Xantus' Murrelets to San Benito, Asunción and San Roque, Baja California by social attraction and improving nesting habitat.

PSG also endorses the following "alternative" projects in the preferred alternative:

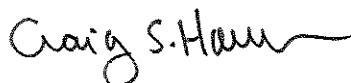
- Restoration of Ashy Storm-Petrels to Anacapa Island, Channel Islands, by social facilitation and nest boxes;
- Create/enhance Brown Pelican habitat on Southern California mainland; and
- Implementation of entanglement reduction and outreach program to protect Brown Pelicans in Southern California.

We believe that the three alternative seabird projects could easily be implemented if the trustees were to spend less on Bald Eagle restoration. We note that restoring Bald Eagles would likely undermine several of the seabird restoration projects that are designed to attract seabirds to nest on various Southern California islands because Bald Eagles will eat or harass seabirds. At a minimum, if the Bald Eagle restoration project does not show promising results within three years, the funds should be reprogrammed into the alternative seabird projects.

We applaud the trustees' decision to fund projects in Mexico that were affected by DDTs and PCBs in Southern California. There is ample precedent to spend restoration funds outside of the United States where circumstances warrant. Several years ago PSG supported the proposal and ultimate decision of the American Trader Oil Spill Trustee Council to restore a brown pelican colony in Baja, Mexico, that was affected by an oil spill in Southern California. In 2003, PSG supported the proposal and ultimate decision of the Command Oil Spill Trustee Council to restore a sooty shearwater colony in New Zealand that was affected by an oil spill near Monterey, California.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Restoration Plan. We will gladly provide additional comments or expertise at your request.

Sincerely,



Craig S. Harrison  
Vice Chair for Conservation

cc: U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein  
U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer  
Congresswoman Jane Harmon  
Congresswoman Christopher Cox  
Congressman Dana Rohrabacher  
Assembly Member Betty Karnette

# CARL J. LAMBERT

ATTORNEY AT LAW

2001 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD  
SUITE 505  
SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA 90403  
FAX: (310) 829-6288  
(310) 453-6030

May 24, 2005

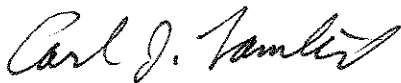
**Greg Baker, Program Manager**  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
Re: Catalina Bald Eagles in Danger

DEPT. OF COMMERCE - NOAA  
RECEIVED  
MAY 25 2005  
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

Dear Mr. Baker,

On Sunday afternoon May 22, 2005 I observed this bald eagle on a branch at the shore of Santa Catalina Island. I was about 150 yards offshore and within an hour 12 kayakers went by, 2 sportfishing boats carrying 30 passengers each and an ocean echo rafting tour which stopped to look at this marvelous bald eagle. People also came in rental boats from Avalon harbor and saw the Eagle. The Eagle stayed in close proximity of man well over an hour. It is imperative that the Montrose Settlement funds be utilized to protect the Bald Eagles at Catalina. It is one of the few places in California where man can get so close to the eagles in an area where there is easy access and most importantly visibility. If you get into the mountains it is very difficult to view the eagles sitting in a tree. However, since Eagles naturally feed on fish they are near the water offering a great view of those passing by in boats.

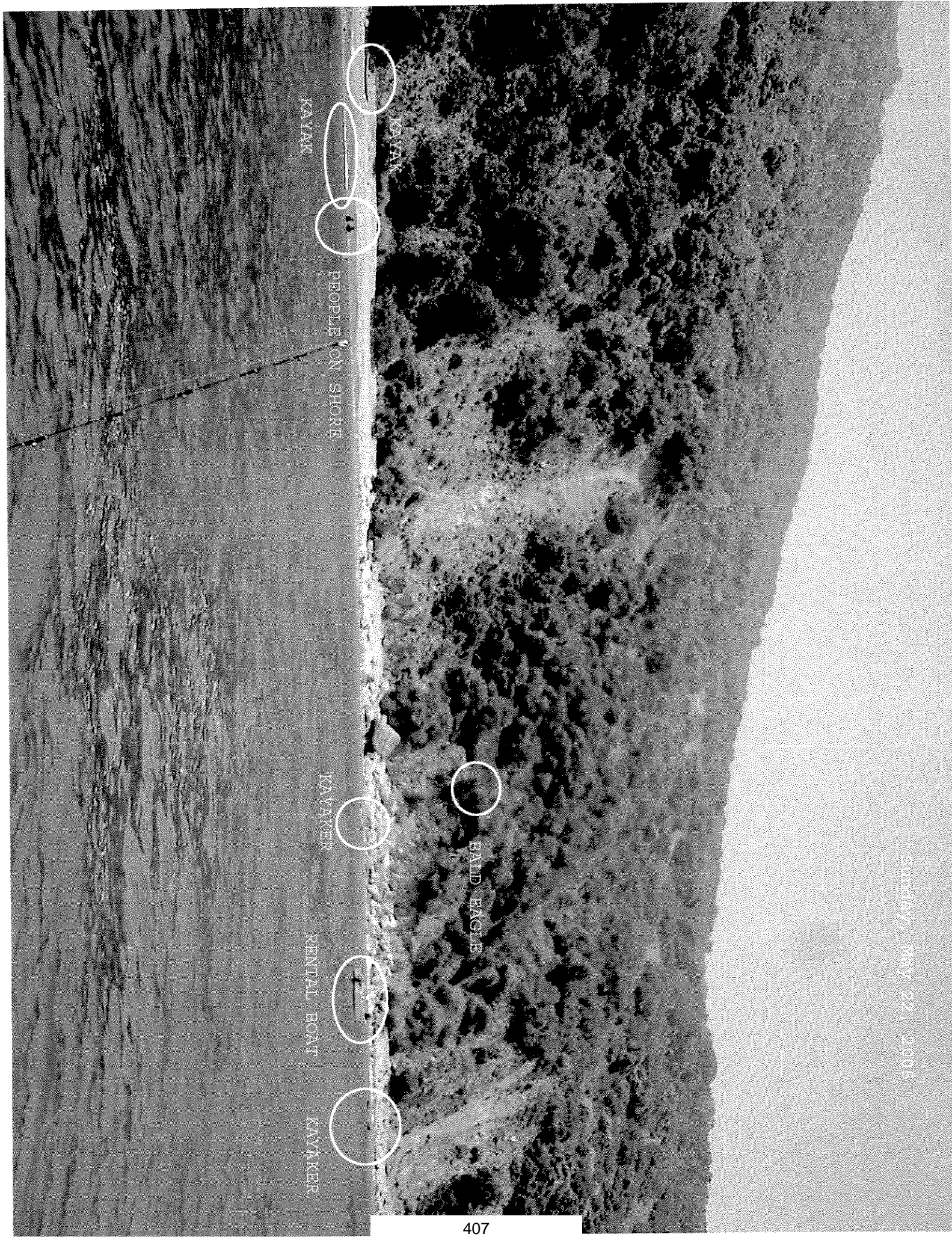
Very truly yours,



Carl J. Lambert  
Attorney at Law

*Greg,*  
Thanks for letting my  
Daughter and I speak at the Ventura Meeting.  
These pictures demonstrate my point that  
Bald Eagles are highly visible at Catalina  
Island. Please keep funding the hatchery  
program. T.A. " Carl

Sunday, May 22, 2005



KAYAK

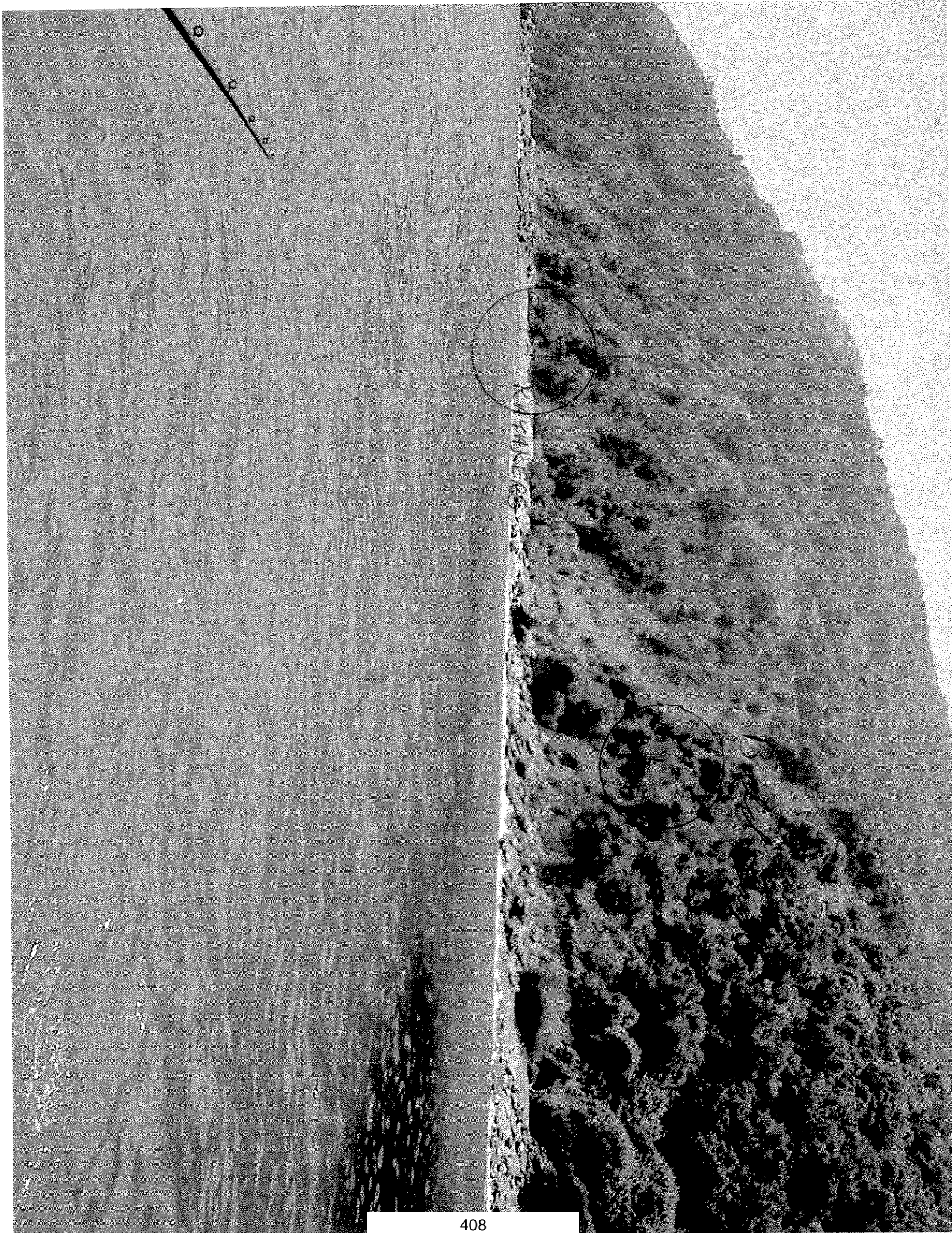
PEOPLE ON SHORE

KAYAKER

BALD EAGLE

RENTAL BOAT

KAYAKER

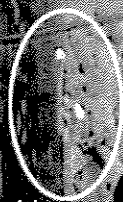




Sunday, May 22, 2005



BAIRD EAGLE



Kayaker



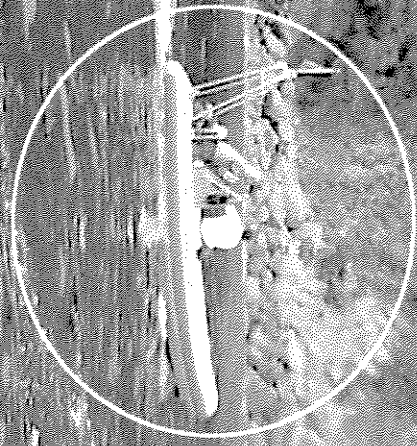
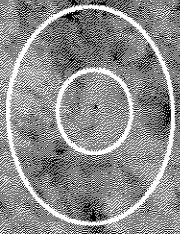
Sunday, May 22, 2005

Sportfishing Boat near  
Bald Eagle



Sunday, May 22, 2005

BALD EAGLE



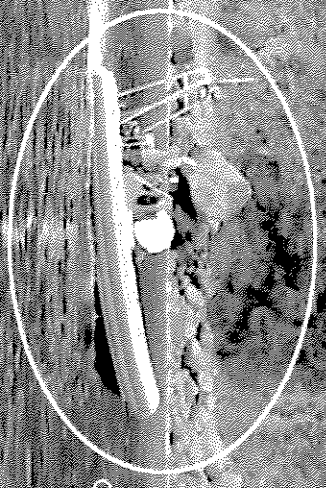
Ocean Echo Rafters

Sunday, May 22, 2005

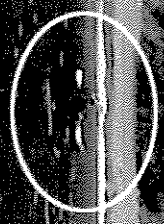
Bald Eagle



Ocean Echo Rafter



Kayaker



Sunday, May 22, 2005

KAYAKER

BALD EAGLE

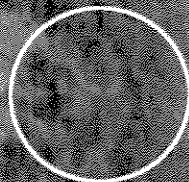
Sunday, May 22, 2005



BALD EAGLE

Rental Boat from Avalon

Sunday, May 22, 2005



BALD EAGLE



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
**REGION IX**  
**75 Hawthorne Street**  
**San Francisco, CA 94105-3901**

May 25, 2005

Mr. Greg Baker  
Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90803

Subject: EPA comments on the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program,  
Draft Restoration Plan and Programmatic Environmental Impact  
Statement/Report

Dear Mr. Baker:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the above-referenced Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act. Our detailed comments are enclosed.

Based on our review, we are rating the Preferred Alternative (#2) as Environmental Concerns - Insufficient Information (EC-2) (see enclosed "Summary of Rating Definitions"). We have concerns that the direct and indirect impacts of the alternatives have not been sufficiently analyzed, especially with respect to the loss of bald eagle services and impacts to other threatened and endangered species. EPA also has concerns regarding the feasibility of the artificial reef projects and their inclusion in the alternatives at this time. We request additional information regarding the selection of evaluation criteria, cumulative impacts to injured resources, and impacts to endangered species.

EPA appreciates the opportunity to review the draft Restoration Plan prepared by the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program (MSRP). EPA commends the MSRP's efforts in collecting, compiling and distilling restoration ideas received from the public to restore injured natural resources and the services they provide in the Montrose case.

EPA has worked closely with the MSRP on a variety of activities related to the Palos Verdes Shelf Superfund site, including the joint implementation of the angler survey in 2002 and 2003 and the ongoing ocean fish contaminant study. EPA continues to coordinate with the MSRP on activities related to EPA's Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) and Institutional Controls (ICs) program and looks forward to working with MSRP in the future, especially on the proposed fishing/fish habitat restoration projects and the public outreach and education program.

*Printed on Recycled Paper*



We appreciate the opportunity to review this DEIS. When the Final EIS/EIR is released for public review, please send three copies to the address above (mail code: CED-2). If you have any questions, please contact me or Karen Vitulano, the lead reviewer for this project. Karen can be reached at 415-947-4178 or [vitulano.karen@epa.gov](mailto:vitulano.karen@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nova Blazej', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nova Blazej, Acting Manager  
Environmental Review Office  
Communities and Ecosystems Division

Enclosures:

EPA's Detailed Comments

Summary of EPA's Rating Definitions

cc: Guang-yu Wang, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission  
Tom Cota, Cal-EPA, Department of Toxic Substances Control

# SUMMARY OF EPA RATING DEFINITIONS

This rating system was developed as a means to summarize EPA's level of concern with a proposed action. The ratings are a combination of alphabetical categories for evaluation of the environmental impacts of the proposal and numerical categories for evaluation of the adequacy of the EIS.

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE ACTION

### *"LO" (Lack of Objections)*

The EPA review has not identified any potential environmental impacts requiring substantive changes to the proposal. The review may have disclosed opportunities for application of mitigation measures that could be accomplished with no more than minor changes to the proposal.

### *"EC" (Environmental Concerns)*

The EPA review has identified environmental impacts that should be avoided in order to fully protect the environment. Corrective measures may require changes to the preferred alternative or application of mitigation measures that can reduce the environmental impact. EPA would like to work with the lead agency to reduce these impacts.

### *"EO" (Environmental Objections)*

The EPA review has identified significant environmental impacts that must be avoided in order to provide adequate protection for the environment. Corrective measures may require substantial changes to the preferred alternative or consideration of some other project alternative (including the no action alternative or a new alternative). EPA intends to work with the lead agency to reduce these impacts.

### *"EU" (Environmentally Unsatisfactory)*

The EPA review has identified adverse environmental impacts that are of sufficient magnitude that they are unsatisfactory from the standpoint of public health or welfare or environmental quality. EPA intends to work with the lead agency to reduce these impacts. If the potentially unsatisfactory impacts are not corrected at the final EIS stage, this proposal will be recommended for referral to the CEQ.

## ADEQUACY OF THE IMPACT STATEMENT

### *Category 1" (Adequate)*

EPA believes the draft EIS adequately sets forth the environmental impact(s) of the preferred alternative and those of the alternatives reasonably available to the project or action. No further analysis or data collection is necessary, but the reviewer may suggest the addition of clarifying language or information.

### *"Category 2" (Insufficient Information)*

The draft EIS does not contain sufficient information for EPA to fully assess environmental impacts that should be avoided in order to fully protect the environment, or the EPA reviewer has identified new reasonably available alternatives that are within the spectrum of alternatives analysed in the draft EIS, which could reduce the environmental impacts of the action. The identified additional information, data, analyses, or discussion should be included in the final EIS.

### *"Category 3" (Inadequate)*

EPA does not believe that the draft EIS adequately assesses potentially significant environmental impacts of the action, or the EPA reviewer has identified new, reasonably available alternatives that are outside of the spectrum of alternatives analysed in the draft EIS, which should be analysed in order to reduce the potentially significant environmental impacts. EPA believes that the identified additional information, data, analyses, or discussions are of such a magnitude that they should have full public review at a draft stage. EPA does not believe that the draft EIS is adequate for the purposes of the NEPA and/or Section 309 review, and thus should be formally revised and made available for public comment in a supplemental or revised draft EIS. On the basis of the potential significant impacts involved, this proposal could be a candidate for referral to the CEQ.

\*From EPA Manual 1640, "Policy and Procedures for the Review of Federal Actions Impacting the Environment."

### **Potential Loss of Bald Eagle Services**

The Preferred Alternative (#2) funds bald eagle restoration in the Northern Channel Islands (NCI) only if bald eagles have demonstrated successful reproduction without human intervention and eliminates funding for the Santa Catalina Island Bald Eagle Program. Should the NCI study demonstrate that natural reproduction cannot occur, bald eagle ecosystem services in the Channel Islands will be lost.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (DEIS/EIR) states that the bald eagle, as top predator and scavenger, occupies a unique ecological role filled by no other species (p. 7-10, B-2). The Pacific Bald Eagle Recovery Plan indicates that the most suitable habitat for recovery of bald eagles in Southern California is on the Channel Islands (p. 3-45). EPA is concerned that the bald eagle, a major injured resource in the Montrose case, may not receive restoration under the preferred alternative. We are also concerned that the decision to cut funding of the Santa Catalina Program will occur at the end of 2005, before the results of the NCI study are available in 2007 or later.

Table 6-1 (p. 6-2) indicates that this Programmatic EIS/EIR constitutes a complete and final NEPA review for the bald eagle restoration actions. We are concerned that the selection of Alternative #2 now, which allows for disparate outcomes for bald eagle restoration, precludes further public input via the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and confuses the understanding of this alternative.

#### **Recommendation:**

Further evaluate the possibility of continued funding of the Santa Catalina Program until the results of the NCI study are known, so bald eagle services can continue during this interim period. Consider preparing subsequent NEPA documentation, tiered to this Programmatic EIS, which will allow for more meaningful public involvement once the ramifications of decisions regarding the fate of the bald eagle are clearer. Also, if preliminary data are available now from the ongoing NCI study, include these data in the Final EIS/EIR.

The DEIS/EIR states that the presence of bald eagles on the Channel Islands likely provides benefits to the endangered island fox by competing for territory with golden eagles who prey on the fox (p. 7-10). While this benefit is mentioned as an indirect impact, the impact of the loss of bald eagles and their ecosystem services, which is a possibility under the preferred alternative, is not evaluated in the analysis.

#### **Recommendation:**

In the evaluation of direct and indirect impacts of the alternatives (section 7.2), include

the impacts of the loss of bald eagle services in relation to the endangered island fox. Include more information, to the extent known, regarding the benefits of current bald eagle services on the island fox population. For example, provide data on the golden eagle population and indicate whether it is reasonably foreseeable that the island fox will experience negative impacts from the cessation of bald eagle restoration programs on the Channel Islands.

### **Alternatives Analysis Methodology**

The U.S. Department of Interior regulations (43 CFR Part 11) establish procedures and standards for natural resource restoration planning under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)<sup>1</sup>. In particular, 43 CFR Section 11.82 (d) *Factors to consider when selecting the alternative to pursue*, states that the “authorized official” shall evaluate each alternative based on all relevant considerations including ten specified factors: (1) technical feasibility; (2) the relationship between expected costs and benefits; (3) cost-effectiveness; (4) results of any planned or actual response actions; (5) the potential for additional injury resulting from the proposed action including long-term and indirect impacts; (6) the natural recovery period; (7) the ability of the resources to recover with or without alternative actions; (8) potential human health and safety impacts; (9) consistency with relevant state; federal or tribal policies; and (10) compliance with applicable federal, state and tribal laws.

The DEIS/EIR identifies these factors (p. 5-2) but does not integrate them into the analysis framework for comparing projects and alternatives. Instead, Tier 1 project evaluation criteria were: nexus of restoration action to injury, feasibility, and potential benefits to the resource and ecosystem, and Tier 2 criteria were: nexus, feasibility, resource and ecosystem benefits, environmental acceptability, and cost.

While we recognize the discretion of the “authorized official” in evaluating alternatives for restoration, we believe the use of Section 11.82(d) factors is appropriate for the comparison of restoration alternatives and should be incorporated into the analysis. In particular, factor #5, the potential for additional injury resulting from the proposed actions, should be considered because this factor requires consideration of “long-term and indirect impacts to the injured resources or other resources” (Section 11.82 (d)(5)).

#### **Recommendation:**

Integrate Section 11.82(d) factors more fully into the analysis methodology. If MSRP decides not to directly incorporate these factors in the comparison of the restoration projects and alternatives, provide more information on how the criteria were selected, including summaries of the conclusions from planning restoration workshops, as appropriate. Identify key assumptions utilized. For example, explain the desire to use restoration funds for actions that are sustainable in nature (p. 6-7), i.e., the preference for

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<sup>1</sup> 43 CFR Section 11.93(a) addresses preparation of the restoration plan and requires that the restoration plan be prepared in accordance with the guidance in Section 11.81. 43 CFR Section 11.81(b) requires the use of Section 11.82 provisions.

natural reproduction without human intervention, and explain how these assumptions were deemed appropriate in the context of the Montrose injuries. Include an explanation as to why the potential for additional injury was not deemed significant for inclusion in the evaluation criteria.

### **Endangered Species**

The DEIS/EIR states that for each project that is selected as preferred in the final Restoration Plan, the Trustees will evaluate the potential effects on listed species and critical habitat and will perform the appropriate level of consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (p. 8-4). The DEIS/EIR also states that conservation status was considered in determining the priority of seabirds for restoration (p. 5-4), but it is not clear whether effects from those projects on threatened and endangered species were also considered in the evaluation process. For example, the project to restore seabirds to San Miguel Island could potentially impact the endangered island fox (p. D1-8). By comparison, the project to restore seabirds to San Nicolas Island could benefit the endangered island fox, as well as the threatened island night lizard and snowy plover (p. D3-4).

In general, the analysis of the restoration alternatives would benefit from a clearer presentation of cause and effect relationships among affected species, perhaps in box arrow diagrams, so that potential impacts and benefits of the alternatives can be represented more clearly.

#### **Recommendation:**

In the Final EIS/EIR, include information regarding the direct and indirect impacts of the project alternatives on key endangered species. Provide more information on how the impacts to threatened and endangered species were considered in the initial set of project evaluation criteria or the final selection of the preferred alternative. Expand the impact analysis to make more explicit cause and effect relationships within the projects and alternatives.

### **Fishing and Fish Habitat Restoration Actions**

The artificial reef projects will receive additional NEPA analysis prior to implementation, including supplemental analysis, siting, design, and public and environmental review (p. 6-3). EPA encourages the MSRP to utilize the upcoming data from our joint ocean fish contaminant study to support the concept, design, siting and monitoring of the proposed artificial reef project. These data are expected to be available in late 2005. If the data finds that fish that would be attracted to the artificial reefs contain levels of contamination similar to those utilizing soft-bottom environments, this restoration measure would not be effective in restoring fishing services. As such, this information could substantially alter the project alternatives. We also recommend that future NEPA analyses for artificial reefs include an environmental justice component identifying benefits and impacts to subsistence fishers.

Recommendation:

Incorporate the data from the joint ocean fish contaminant study into the Final EIS/EIR. When these data are available, utilize the results in the assessment of the feasibility and design of artificial reef projects. EPA encourages the MSRP to coordinate with all appropriate parties to ensure that artificial reef projects result in providing: (1) cleaner fish, (2) fish species that the local anglers prefer to catch and consume, and (3) fishing opportunities that are equally accessible to all local anglers, with an emphasis on subsistence fishers.

### **Cumulative Impacts Analysis**

The cumulative impacts analysis in the DEIS/EIR includes the assessment of impacts from the proposed project along with other natural resource restoration, creation or enhancement efforts in the region (p. 7-24). The cumulative impacts analysis should also include potential adverse impacts to resources of concern from known projects in the Southern California Bight and associated areas. For example, if the ChevronTexaco liquefied natural gas facility is permitted for South Coronado Island, this will negatively impact seabirds (p. D5-16). Analyzing known and potential adverse impacts to injured resources in a larger context could potentially influence individual project/alternative selection.

Recommendation:

Expand the cumulative impacts analysis to include any known projects or other actions within the Southern California Bight and associated area that may adversely impact injured resources.

### **Future Funding Considerations**

Section 4.3 of the DEIS/EIR inaccurately summarizes the relevant provision of the Montrose Consent Decree for Offshore Matters. Paragraph 11.C of the Consent Decree establishes how the \$10 million “swing money” will be used. The DEIS/EIR states that should EPA ultimately make a decision not to pursue a cleanup action that requires the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to operate a long-term maintenance program then the swing money would be paid to the Trustees (p. 4-14).

However, Paragraph 11.C of the Consent Decree provides that under certain conditions, swing money will be paid to the Trustees, *to DTSC or to EPA*. For example, if EPA selects an in-situ remedial action for the Palos Verdes Shelf but that action did not include an operation and maintenance (O&M) component, then the “swing money” would be paid to EPA consistent with the last sentence of Paragraph 11.C. Payment of the “swing money” to the Trustees would occur “in the event that EPA makes a response action selection determination to not select any in-situ response action (either in a Record of Decision which would not require operation and maintenance or in a Removal Action Memorandum).” (Montrose Consent Decree for Offshore Matters, Paragraph 11.C).

Recommendation:

In the Final EIS/EIR, modify statements that reference the swing money to accurately reflect the terms of the Montrose Consent Decree for Offshore Matters.

### Federal Clean Air Act

The project area, as noted on page 3-80, is classified as nonattainment for the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone and particulate matter less than 10 microns and 2.5 microns in diameter (PM10 and PM 2.5), and Los Angeles and Orange Counties are classified as nonattainment for carbon monoxide (CO). While the Draft EIS/EIR states that air quality impacts from any individual project would either be non-existent or minor (fugitive dust and construction vehicle emissions, p. 7-2), all Federal agencies are required by the Federal Clean Air Act (FCAA) to assure that actions conform to an approved air quality implementation plan. Future environmental documentation for the artificial reef or wetlands restoration projects will require discussion of general conformity requirements (Section 176(c) of the FCAA and 40 CFR Part 93) due to the construction activity that will occur and the area's non-attainment status.

Recommendation:

Include information in the Final EIS/EIR, *Section 8: Applicable Laws and Regulations*, detailing requirements of the Federal Clean Air Act and obligations for General Conformity determination.

### Miscellaneous

The Draft EIS/EIR states that the Trustees assembled three comprehensive restoration plan alternatives (p. 6-1, 7-3). We recommend changing this text to read "two comprehensive restoration plan alternatives and a no action alternative" or similar.

Both action alternatives include projects to restore birds to the Baja California Pacific Islands in Mexico. Appendix D5 includes a discussion of the jurisdictional and legal framework in Mexico, and a footnote in the Environmental Consequences Section of the Draft EIS/EIR indicates that these actions may be subject to the environmental review requirements of the Mexican government (p. 7-1). However, there is no mention of these requirements in Section 8, which lists key statutes, regulations and policies for the restoration program. We recommend including a brief discussion of applicable Mexican laws and regulations in Section 8, including applicable environmental review requirements.

**Milena Viljoen**

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**From:** Jacob Sheppard [jacob\_colin@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 19, 2005 1:29 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Support letter for MSRP Alternative 2

To the trustees of the Montrose Settlements Restoration Program:

I am writing to lend my full support to dedicating Montrose settlement funds to restore damaged natural resources according to the outline of Alternative 2. Alternative 2 is an example of a carefully planned, scientifically sound disbursement of the limited money available for the conservation and restoration of sensitive and highly threatened marine habitat. I support this Alternative, the Preferred Alternative of the MSRP draft restoration plan, for three reasons:

- 1) It will provide crucial and otherwise sparse funding to restore seabird populations in habitat that has been dramatically degraded by decades of abuse by human activity. The tragedy of DDT and DDE poisoning in seabird populations is just one in a series of hits these animals have recently taken, including the introduction of invasive predators on their isolated island breeding grounds, the flood of plastics and other debris into the marine environment, entanglement in fishing lines and hooks and disturbance of their nocturnal habits by brightly lit fishing boats, offshore oil structures, and coastal development.
- 2) It will employ restoration techniques that have been proven to lead to significant and permanent increases in seabird numbers, and consequently, measurable benefits to the marine environment of the region. Social attraction, non-native predator elimination, and habitat enhancement are all tried-and-true conservation strategies that have already proven themselves valuable.
- 3) It recognizes the unfortunate need for restoration triage □ while the charismatic Bald Eagle is still struggling to regain a foothold in the Southern California Bight after sustaining nearly half a century of DDT and DDE poisoning, its prospects of beginning to thrive within the next half-century are low □ the levels of residual DDT in the environment are still too high to allow for a self-sustaining Bald Eagle population in the region. The cost of sustaining the population artificially, therefore, would outweigh the long-term conservation benefit especially when compared to the conservation benefit that would result from dedicating the same funding amount to proven seabird restoration techniques. The Bald Eagle is clearly still a candidate for restoration efforts, but the costly maintenance of an eagle hacking program in a habitat still known to contain high levels of DDT and DDE is simply not a wise use of conservation funding that is limited and uncertain. Such an effort would be much more likely to succeed if it were delayed until the contaminant levels in the area have decreased to levels amenable to Bald Eagle survival.

In summary, I urge you to support the preferred Alternative 2, the scientifically sound alternative with the greatest per capita restoration benefit.

With respect,

Jacob Sheppard

---

Do You Yahoo!?

5/19/2005



## Milena Viljoen

---

**From:** Marie Ferguson [tatazina@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 19, 2005 3:14 PM  
**To:** msrp@noaa.gov  
**Subject:** Montrose Restoration Project

To Whom It May Concern,

With respect to the distribution of funds/moneys for the Montrose Restoration project, I am in favor and support of alternative 2 for the following reasons:

- 1)Alternative 2 provides money to restore seabird populations to regions impacted by the Montrose DDT releases.
- 2)The seabird restoration actions proposed by the council are all techniques proven to result in increases in seabird populations.
- 3)These actions will result in permanent, long term and measurable benefits to seabirds- species that are important members of the marine and terrestrial ecosystems of the Southern California Bight.
- 4)These seabirds also are a significant part of local eco-tourism and provide wildlife viewing opportunities for large numbers of tourists and residents alike.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me via e-mail. Thank you!

Sincerely,  
Marie Ferguson

**Milena Viljoen**

---

**From:** Josh Donlan [cjd34@cornell.edu]

**Sent:** Sunday, May 22, 2005 3:07 PM

**To:** msrp@noaa.gov

Dear Montrose Trustees and Support Staff;

I have researched and published extensively on the ecology of island ecosystems including the islands off the Pacific Coast of the Baja California Peninsula, the Galapagos, Hawaii, Australia and California's Channel Islands. The long-term damage caused by the careless dumping of DDT by the Montrose company is an environmental tragedy. The settlement and subsequent draft restoration plan represent a huge opportunity to redress these wrongs. I commend you for the quality of the research and analysis that went into the draft restoration plan and lend my fullest support to the preferred option- number two. This is without doubt the most efficient use of the money presented and will have the biggest short-term and long-term conservation benefit for the resources impacted by the DDT spill. Removing introduced mammals from islands is, put simply, one of our most powerful conservation tools in stopping extinctions and restoring ecosystems.

Sincerely,

Josh Donlan

C. Josh Donlan  
Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology  
Corson Hall, Cornell University  
Ithaca, New York 14853  
Voice: 607.227.9768  
Voice: 607.254.4269  
Fax: 607.255.8088  
<http://www.eeb.cornell.edu/donlan/donlan.html>

6/6/2005

Paul & Cheryl Blevins  
P.O. Box 443  
Mesilla, N. M. 88046  
5-16-2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

Dear Mr. Baker,

We would like to express our support for continuing funding for Catalina Island's bald eagle restoration, and to allocate Funding for saving the Peregrine Falcons on the island.

Though we live in New Mexico, we are quite familiar with the island and have visited Catalina together for over 20 years as a couple, and with our young children. Cheryl has visited Catalina for nearly 50 years, having spent much of her youth on the island.

So much hard work has been done to restore the bald eagles to the island, it would be a shame to let this good program fall through the cracks due to lack of funding.

There are a number of reasons to continue funding the bald eagle program on Catalina:

- The Montrose Settlement monies were meant to address mitigation measures for populations such as the bald eagles on Catalina that were impacted by years of DDT and PCBs.
- The reallocation of funds could lead to the disappearance of the bald eagles again from Catalina; undoing the many years of progress. Indeed, it could adversely affect the other Channel Islands if a healthy population of bald eagles is not assured in Catalina, where groundwork has already been in place.
- The Catalina Fox is a federally listed endangered species found no where else in the world. The abandonment of bald eagle restoration could put the fox population at risk. There is concern that the presence of bald eagles helps to deter golden eagle population formation. Golden eagles have decimated Northern Channel Islands fox populations. Abandoning Catalina bald eagle restoration may lay the path for the Catalina Fox to suffer the same fate as the Northern Channel Islands fox.
- Catalina Island is a place that is reasonably accessible to the public and offers the chance for a large number of people to be able to visit and enjoy bald eagles in a natural setting. The public education opportunities available in a place like Catalina cannot be overstated; the potential to reach schoolchildren, and everyday citizens exists on Catalina to an extent that does not exist in many other settings.

Though we support habitat restoration in other areas for ecosystems and fisheries, we feel it is too soon to abandon Catalina Island where so much progress has been made.

We hope you will reach an alternative that will continue to provide funds for bald eagle restoration work on Catalina for future generations to appreciate.

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RECEIVED

JUN 06 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

Sincerely,



Dear Mr. Baker,

I am one of the million-plus visitors or residents who, each year, enjoy the breathtaking beauty of the bald eagles of Catalina Island, restored with the help of funds from the Montrose Settlement for environmental damage caused by extensive DDT and PCB dumping through the 1970s. As you know, the alternative favored by the Montrose Natural Resource Trustees would cease funding of bald eagle restoration on Catalina Island, the only natural setting in Southern California that I can visit to enjoy these magnificent birds. Please do not reallocate Catalina funding to the Northern Channel Islands and Mexico, but designate Montrose Settlement moneys to Catalina efforts to continue bald eagle restoration, and also to begin peregrine falcon restoration and the restoration of marine fisheries on and near Catalina Island which was the Island most impacted by the dumping. Catalina Island is where this money will be spent most appropriately, and will best serve the public interest.

Sincerely yours,

Signature

Phone

Address

City, State, Zip

Also signed by 146 others

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OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION

*[Handwritten signature]*  
*5318 St. Mary St. #22*  
*LBC, CA 902*  
*(562) 884-4075*



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board Los Angeles Region



Dr. Alan Lloyd  
Secretary for  
Environmental  
Protection

Over 51 Years Serving Coastal Los Angeles and Ventura Counties  
Recipient of the 2001 *Environmental Leadership Award* from Keep California Beautiful

320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200, Los Angeles, California 90013  
Phone (213) 576-6600 FAX (213) 576-6640 - Internet Address: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb4>

Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor

May 31, 2005

Lisa Wolfe  
California Department of Fish and Game  
1700 K. Street, Suite 250  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RECEIVED BY  
JUN 06 2005  
OSPR - Legal

Dear Lisa Wolfe,

Re: CEQA Documentation for Project in the Ventura River Watershed

**Montrose Settlements Restoration Program (MSRP)**  
**SCH no. 2002031095**

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the CEQA documentation for the above-mentioned project. For your information a list of permitting requirements and Regional Board Contacts is provided in Attachment A hereto.

The project site lies in the Ventura River Watershed that was listed as being impaired pursuant to Section 303 (d) of the Clean Water Act. Constituents causing impairment in the Ventura River watershed include algae, copper, selenium, silver, and zinc. The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board will be developing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for the watershed, but the proposed project is expected to proceed before applicable TMDLs are adopted. In the interim, the Regional Board must carefully evaluate the potential impacts of new projects that may discharge to impaired waterbodies.

Our review of your documentation shows that it does not include information on how this project will change the loading of these pollutants into the watershed. Please provide the following additional information for both the construction and operational phases of the project.

- For each constituent listed above, please provide an estimate of the concentration (ppb) and load (lbs/day) from non-point and point source discharges.
- Estimates of the amount of additional runoff generated by the project during wet and dry seasons.
- Estimate of the amount of increased or decreased percolation due to the project.

*California Environmental Protection Agency*



Our mission is to preserve and enhance the quality of California's water resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

- Estimates of the net change in cubic feet per second of groundwater and surface water contributions under historic drought conditions (as compiled by local water purveyors, the Department of Water Resources, and others), and 10-year 50-year, and 100-year flood conditions.

If you have any questions please call me at (213) 576 6683.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Erickson  
Associate Geologist, TMDL Unit  
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

EE  
Attachments (1)  
cc:  
State Clearinghouse  
file

## ATTACHMENT A

- ✓ If the proposed project will result in a **discharge of dredge or fill into a surface water** (including a dry streambed), and is subject to a **federal license or permit**, the project may require a *Section 401 Water Quality Certification*, or waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements. For further information, please contact:

Valerie Carrillo, Nonpoint Source Unit at (213) 576-6759.

- ✓ If the project involves **inland disposal of nonhazardous contaminated soils and materials**, the proposed project may be subject to *Waste Discharge Requirements*. For further information, please contact:

Rodney Nelson, Landfills Unit, at (213) 620-6119

\*\*\*\*\*

- ✓ If the overall project area is **larger than five acres**, the proposed project may be subject to the State Board's *General Construction Activity Storm Water Permit*. For further information, please contact:

Tracy Woods, Statewide General Construction Activity Storm Water Permits at (213) 620-2095.

- ✓ If the project involves a facility that is proposing to discharge storm water associated with **industrial activity** (e.g., manufacturing, recycling and transportation facilities, etc.), the facility may be subject to the State Board's *General Industrial Activities Storm Water Permit*. For further information, please contact:

Kristie Chung, Statewide General Industrial Storm Water Permits at (213) 620-2283.

- ✓ If the proposed project involves requirements for new development and construction pertaining to **municipal storm water programs**, please contact:

Dan Radulescu, Municipal Storm Water Permits, Los Angeles County at (213) 620-2038;  
Jeff Mack, Municipal Storm Water Permits, Ventura County at (213) 620-2121.

- ✓ The proposed project also shall comply with the local regulations associated with the applicable **Regional Board stormwater permit**:

Los Angeles County and Co-permittees:  
NPDES No. CAS614001  
Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 96-054.

Long Beach County and Co-permittees:  
NPDES CAS004003  
Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 99-060.

Ventura County and Co-permittees:  
NPDES No. CAS004002  
Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 00-108.

\*\*\*\*\*

- ✓ If the proposed project involves any construction and/or groundwater **dewatering to be discharged to surface waters**, the project may be subject to *NPDES/Waste Discharge Requirements*. For further information, please contact:

Augustine Anijelo, General Permitting and Special Projects Unit at (213) 576-6657 (All Region 4 Watersheds).

- ✓ If the proposed project involves any construction and/or groundwater **dewatering to be discharged to land or groundwater**, the project may be subject to *Waste Discharge Requirements*. For further information, please contact:

Kwang-il Lee, Non-Chapter 15 Unit, at (213) 620-2269 (All Region 4 Watersheds).

## **DUPLICATES**

The following letters are exact duplicates of others received, either signed by different names, or sent in on separate letterhead. The 146 duplicates of the postcard (see above) are not included.





**Greg Baker, Program Manager**  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

May 18, 2005

Re: Habitat Restoration on Catalina Island

As a long time resident of Southern California and a frequent visitor to Catalina Island, I strongly urge you to continue your support of the Habitat Restoration on Catalina Island.

**Reasons to Continue Funding Catalina's Bald Eagle Restoration, and to Allocate Funding for Peregrine Falcons and Marine Fisheries Restoration**

- **Too Soon to Abandon Efforts** – According to IWS's current data, DDT levels are decreasing in the eggs of at least one pair of nesting eagles. This suggests that Catalina's bald eagles may soon be able to reproduce on their own, and it is simply too soon to abandon restoration efforts on Catalina.
- **Eagles Now Present May Leave** – It cannot be assumed that Catalina's current population of eagles would stay on the Island if they couldn't reproduce over the next few years; and, in fact, the reallocation of funds could mean the disappearance once again of bald eagles from Catalina. This could impact all of the Channel Islands.
- **Public Access to Eagles Should Be a Priority!** – With more than a million visitors each year, and as the only Channel Island with significant visitation, Catalina Island is the one place in Southern California that a significant number of people can visit to enjoy bald eagles in a natural setting. Since the Montrose Settlement was meant to restore this natural resource to the public, Catalina should be a priority where funding restoration efforts is concerned.

**Corporate/Retail Offices**

12544 Kirkham Court Suite 15 Poway, CA 92064  
ph. (858) 679-4682 info@insidesportfishing.com  
www.insidesportfishing.com

**Production Offices**

20950 Castle Rock Road Laguna Beach, CA 92651  
ph. 949.497.3031 fx. 949.376.0220  
insidesportfishing@cox.net

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MAY 23 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWIR

- Settlement Monies Are Most Appropriately Used On and Near Catalina – Montrose Settlement monies were meant to address damage to natural resources such as bald eagles that were impacted by DDT and PCBs directly. They were not meant for addressing the impacts of introduced predators and invasive plant species that are now negatively impacting sea bird populations. The Trustees are proposing that as an alternative to funding the important bald eagle or peregrine falcon restoration work on Catalina, or fisheries restoration around Catalina, the monies be reallocated to fund bald eagle and marine restoration on the Northern Channel Islands and for the eradication of cats and rats, some of which would be done in Mexico. These locations are far from Catalina and the San Pedro Basin, the site of the greatest impacts. In order to meet stated goals of the Montrose Settlement, these funds should be applied in the areas of greatest impact, making Catalina Island and its surrounding waters the most appropriate site for use of Montrose Settlement funds.
- Catalina's Endangered Fox is at Risk – Abandoning bald eagle restoration on Catalina may put the Catalina Island fox population at risk. While much is unknown, it is possible that the presence of bald eagles on Catalina deters the formation of a golden eagle population. Golden eagles have decimated Island fox populations in the Northern Channel Islands. Discontinuing bald eagle restoration efforts on Catalina is simply too risky to the continued recovery of the Catalina Island fox, which is federally listed as an endangered species and is found on Catalina and nowhere else in the world.
- Catalina's Bald Eagles Fuel Recovery Elsewhere – The bald eagles that are being produced on Catalina Island are a potential source population for recovery of bald eagles on the Northern Channel Islands, and for the adjacent mainland.
- Catalina is the Most Cost-Effective Investment – An investment in Catalina's recovery efforts is an investment in a comprehensive eagle recovery effort which includes the human intervention still necessary to ensure reproduction, the protection and restoration of eagle habitat that is critical to the birds' survival on the Island, and, important educational outreach efforts that engender an appreciation of these magnificent birds and inspire the public to support their reestablishment and protection.
- Support the Catalina Bald Eagle Alternative – In their own plan, the Committee identifies an alternative that would use part of the settlement funds to support eagle restoration on Catalina in the long term. They would prefer, however, to spend the money on species in far-away places. Please ask that they create an alternative that continues to provide funds for bald eagle restoration work on Catalina, ensuring that these

magnificent birds will fly free for millions of Catalina visitors to enjoy today and throughout future generations.

- Support Habitat Restoration on Catalina Island – Bald eagles, peregrine falcons, and sea birds need a healthy ocean and island. The Committee also proposes to spend significant funds supporting research on fisheries in the recently designated Marine Protected Areas on the Northern Channel Islands. Catalina, the island hardest hit and most visited, should be considered for funding for its fisheries and ecosystems.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael D. Fowlkes". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "M".

Michael D. Fowlkes

Mr. Jack Berlin  
8311 Delgany Avenue  
Playa Del Rey, CA 90293

May 19, 2005

Greg Baker, Program Manager  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 West Ocean Boulevard, Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

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MAY 23 2005  
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

Dear Mr. Baker,

As one of the million-plus frequent visitors to Catalina, I, along with my family, enjoy the breathtaking beauty of the bald eagles that have been returned to the island.

As you know, these amazing creatures are endangered and have been restored with the help of funds from the Montrose Settlement which addressed environmental damage caused by extensive DDT and PCB dumping through the 1970s. Alternatives currently proposed by the Montrose Natural Resource Trustees would cease funding of bald eagle restoration on Catalina Island, the island hardest hit by this dumping and THE ONLY natural setting in Southern California that we can go to enjoy these magnificent birds.

PLEASE take action to influence Montrose Settlement Restoration Committee Members and Trustees that rather than allocate funding to the Northern Channel Islands and as far south as Mexico, their moneys are best spent on eagle restoration, efforts to help restore peregrine falcons and restoration of the marine fisheries on and near Catalina Island.

Public comment ends May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please act before then. The favor of your reply regarding this important issue would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Program Manager Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

*RE: Catalina Island Restoration Program*

Dear Mr. Baker,

This letter is a sincere plea to continue funding Catalina's Bald Eagle restoration and allocate funding for Peregrine Falcons and Marine Fisheries restoration. There are many crucial issues at stake, some of which are as follows.

Abandoning your efforts now would hinder the abilities of the bald eagles to reproduce as their eggs still contain elevated DDT levels.

The disappearance of bald eagles from Catalina may occur if they are not able to reproduce over the next few years, which could impact all of the Channel Islands.

Over one Million visitors come to Catalina each year to enjoy the natural resources of the island including having access to bald eagles in a natural setting.

Damage from DDT and PCBs directly affected Catalina the worst. Settlement monies were not meant for addressing the impacts of introduced predators and invasive plant species.

The endangered Catalina Island Fox is federally listed as an endangered species and Catalina is the only place in the world where it is found. Abandoning the restoration program could allow Golden Eagles to decimate the Island Fox population.

The Bald Eagles that are being produced on Catalina Island are a potential source population for recovery of Bald Eagles elsewhere.

Catalina is the most cost-effective investment as the recovery effort includes the human intervention necessary to ensure the protection of the Eagle habitat and outreach efforts that inspire the public to support and protect the Eagles.

Please create an Alternative that continues to provide funds for Bald Eagle restoration work on Catalina, ensuring that these magnificent birds will fly free for millions of Catalina visitors to enjoy today and throughout future generations. Our children and grandchildren should have a right to view Bald Eagles too!

Sincerely,



Cheryl Morgan

Cc: Ann Muscat  
Mel Dinkle  
Catalina Island Conservancy

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MAY 23 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

Program Manager Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

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Sincerely,

  
William Seals

Cc: Ann Muscat  
Mel Dinkle  
Catalina Island Conservancy

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MAY 23 2005  
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SHR

Program Manager Greg Baker  
Montrose Settlements Restoration Program  
501 W. Ocean Blvd., Suite 4470  
Long Beach, CA 90802

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MAY 23 2005

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL  
NATURAL RESOURCES-SWR

*RE: Catalina Island Restoration Program*

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Sincerely,



Deborah Wilkinson

Cc: Ann Muscat  
Mel Dinkle  
Catalina Island Conservancy