October 19, 2010

Honorable Frank Mecham
Chairperson, Board of Supervisors
County of San Luis Obispo
976 Osos Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408-2040

Subject: Comments Regarding the California Invasive Species Advisory Committee's Strategic Framework

Dear Chairperson Mecham:

Invasive species in our waterways present a significant risk to the economy and the environmental health of the county, and pose a serious threat to water supply and infrastructure systems. The risk continues to increase for the introduction of these harmful organisms into the county of San Luis Obispo.

In 2009, state agencies created the Invasive Species Council of California (Council), following the lead of the federal government and more than a dozen other states. This Council appointed 24 stakeholder representatives to the California Invasive Species Advisory Committee (Committee). As a critical baseline task, the Council and Committee have worked together to produce a strategic action plan. The plan recommends a series of interrelated actions to strengthen the State’s response to invasive species over the next three years. The Committee's draft Strategic Framework is available for public review, starting September 23, 2010, and ending October 22, 2010.

On October 6, 2010, the Water Resources Advisory Committee unanimously voted to request that your Board submit a letter to the California Invasive Species Advisory Committee expressing that:

- You agree with the highest priorities identified in the Strategic Framework regarding funding and prevention, and that
- You encourage the State to pursue these priorities expeditiously.

Purpose of the Committee:
To advise the County Board of Supervisors concerning all policy decisions relating to the water resources of the SLO County Flood Control & Water Conservation District. To recommend to the Board specific water resource programs. To recommend methods of financing water resource programs.

Excerpts from WRAC By-Laws dated 3/6/07
The strategic action plan can be downloaded at the following website link: http://www.iscc.ca.gov/docs/CISAC_StrategicFramework.pdf

Respectfully,

Michael Winn

MICHAEL WINN
Chairperson, Water Resources Advisory Committee

cc: SLO County Board of Supervisors w/attachments

Attachment: Draft Comment Letter
October 19, 2010

CISAC Strategic Framework
1220 N Street, Room 221
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Comments Regarding the California Invasive Species Advisory Committee's Strategic Framework

To whom it may concern:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and recommendations on the California Invasive Species Advisory Committee's Strategic Framework.

The San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors agrees with the highest priorities identified in the Strategic Framework regarding funding and prevention, especially with regard to invasive species that impair our State’s waterways, and we encourage you to pursue these priorities expeditiously.

We look forward to your consideration of these recommendations.

Sincerely,

Frank Mecham
Chairperson, Board of Supervisors