



AGENDA ITEM # 63

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

BLID-0210

ALEXI
ROB
SUSAN K. LACEY
FRANK SCHILLO
KATHY I. LONG
JUDY MIKELS
JOHN K. FLYNN

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF VENTURA**

GOVERNMENT CENTER, HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
800 SOUTH VICTORIA AVENUE, VENTURA, CALIFORNIA 93009

June 15, 1999

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 So. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

**SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE REMOVAL OF
MATILIJA DAM**

RECOMMENDATION:

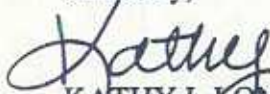
Approve the attached resolution officially supporting the removal of Matilija Dam.

DISCUSSION:

At the direction of our May 4th Board letter establishing a sub-committee to coordinate County efforts to decommission Matilija Dam, we have had initial meetings with County staff to discuss the course of action we need to take in moving ahead with this project. We are working with Congressman Gallegly to support his efforts in securing federal funding from the U.S. Army Corps, the Department of Interior-Bureau of Reclamation and other federal agencies that might be able to help with this project. We have been in contact with Roger Honberger and secured his assistance in targeting possible legislation that might help us secure additional funding for this project. Senator Feinstein is on the Senate Appropriations Committee, and Mr. Honberger has worked with her staff to urge inclusion of our project in the Senator's requests for budget appropriations and to be alert for opportunities to fund this project. We will also enlist the support of our State representatives, interested public members and agencies.

The adoption of this resolution and our work to date with different governmental and public agencies will send the message that we are committed to move ahead on this project.

Sincerely,


KATHY I. LONG
Supervisor, Third District


SUSAN K. LACEY
Supervisor, First District

Attachment

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF VENTURA
SUPPORTING THE REMOVAL OF MATILIJA DAM**

Upon motion of Supervisor _____, second by Supervisor _____, and
duly carried, the following resolution is adopted:

WHEREAS, Matilija Dam, located in Ventura County on Los Padres National Forest ~~land~~ ^{land surrounded by} and owned by
the Ventura County Flood Control District, was built in the 1940's as part of the Ventura River flood
control system and as a water source for the Ojai Valley; and

WHEREAS, because the original water storage capacity of 7,000 acre feet has been reduced to
approximately 500 acre feet by accumulated sediment from the steep mountain slopes and notching of the
dam, the dam provides no protection against floods and little water storage; and

WHEREAS, the existence of the dam has exacerbated beach erosion due to stoppage of sediment flow in
the river, and has blocked migration of Steelhead Trout to their natural spawning areas in the upper reaches
of Matilija Creek, a diverse group of interests is urging the decommissioning and removal of Matilija Dam;
and

WHEREAS, the Ventura County Board of Supervisors supports the efforts of our Federal legislators in
securing federal funding from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Department of Interior-Bureau of
Reclamation and other agencies who might be able to help with this project; and

WHEREAS, the partial or complete removal of Matilija Dam would represent a very ambitious and
expensive endeavor; will involve the cooperative efforts of many agencies including federal, state and local
governments; and will require careful analysis of alternatives and impacts including effects upon flood
protection, public facilities, private property, and the river and marine environments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ventura County Board of Supervisors supports
removal of the Matilija Dam subject to the satisfactory outcome of studies which must be done to assure
that the removal can be accomplished in an environmentally sound manner which takes into account all
issues of public safety, protection of public and private property, and the wise use of public funds.

ADOPTED ON _____

COUNTY OF VENTURA

BY _____
Chair, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: RICHARD D. DEAN,
County Clerk, County of Ventura
State of California, and ex-officio
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
thereof.

By _____
Deputy County Clerk