

JARED HUFFMAN
2ND DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

WASHINGTON OFFICE
2445 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-5161
WEBSITE: huffman.house.gov

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0502

COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES
WATER, WILDLIFE, AND FISHERIES – RANKING MEMBER
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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

March 24, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
House Appropriations Committee
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the **San Francisco North Bay Dairy Community Transition Assistance** project in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the **County of Marin**, located at 3501 Civic Center Dr # 325, San Rafael, CA 94903.

The funding would be used to restart for organic dairy farms in the North San Francisco Bay that are facing a gutted market for organic milk, environmental conditions severely reducing on-farm forage production, feed cost increases from supply chain bottlenecks and inflation, and lease termination. To simultaneously protect ecosystems and lands where dairy operations exist while avoiding the negative ripple of dairy closures through this community and economy, this project is positioned to catch at-risk dairy operations and provide them a transition path all while conserving and rehabilitating fragile ecosystems.

This project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized by the Soil Conservation and Allotment Domestic Act of 1935, 16 U.S. Code sections 590a-590d and 590f-g.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because will achieve stacked benefits for working and natural landscapes. By keeping organic dairies in operation, albeit at a new location, the ecosystem services of food provisioning and similarly fire fuel reduction through grazing are accomplished. For lands where a lease is terminated and dairying ceased, it is worth noting that they are already part of an open and connected natural landscape providing wildlife habitat and corridors. And there is potential for those lands to be opened for direct public enjoyment and recreation.

I certify that neither I, nor my immediate family, has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress