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**From:** Joanie Jones [<mailto:cnjjones@cox.net>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 05, 2017 5:50 PM

**To:** Paula Perotte <[pperotte@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:pperotte@cityofgoleta.org)>; Roger Aceves <[raceves@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:raceves@cityofgoleta.org)>; Michael Bennett <[mbennett@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:mbennett@cityofgoleta.org)>; Stuart Kasdin <[skasdin@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:skasdin@cityofgoleta.org)>; Kyle Richards <[krichards@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:krichards@cityofgoleta.org)>; Michelle Greene <[mgreene@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:mgreene@cityofgoleta.org)>

**Subject:** Favor Care of Monarch & Habitat-Option 6

Dear Mayor and City Council members,

We favor

"Option 6" that more carefully balances the need for public access with the need to preserve critical Monarch habitat. This approach includes the following elements:

Prioritize and restore selected public access trails:

1. **Identify the areas that are currently lacking public access to Ellwood Mesa due to the trail closures**, and determine which trails in those areas require the least amount of Monarch habitat disruption to be safely reopened for public access.
2. **Assess which trees located along the public trail(s) identified for reopening actually constitute a "fall risk"** (described in the Althouse & Meade draft Action Plan as involving multiple factors in addition to tree health, including eucalyptus tree root strength, canopy height and weight load, percent trunk rot, wind, topographic position of the trunk, erosion, and other factors that were not assessed in the report).
3. **Identify the impacts to Monarch habitat from the selected interim trail safety measures and develop mitigation measures to replace and /or compensate for these impacts.**
4. **Submit an Emergency Coastal Development Permit (CDP) application for selective removal of trees found to constitute a "fall risk" that present an imminent danger to public safety along the trail(s) identified for reopening.** Include targeted mitigation and restoration actions as a condition to be performed immediately and simultaneously with any tree removal.

Preserve and restore Monarch habitat:

5. **Do not begin any large-scale removal of trees in or near the aggregation sites until a restoration plan is prepared and approved.** The City's Monarch biologist Dan Meade on page 25 of the Staff Report, section 1.7 refers to "the restoration plan...to be prepared prior to large scale tree removals." We agree. Most of the historic Ellwood sites (Sandpiper, West, North, and East) were still functioning as habitat last season and probably will function similarly in the coming season. Tree removal without planned simultaneous and immediate mitigation and

restoration is risky and may destroy the habitat value of the sites.

6. **Adopt an expedited timeframe for development and approval of the Monarch Habitat Management Plan for Ellwood Mesa that includes a timeline for phasing any tree removal and restoration of the aggregation sites, and a strategy for reopening the remaining public trails in coordination with habitat management strategies and requirements.** 3-5 years to develop a plan as projected in the Staff Report is unreasonable given that the City has been working on producing this Plan since 2010. Each month of delay in creating this plan translates to impacts to the Monarch that is literally the symbol of Goleta - this should be among the City's highest priority projects.

Your Neighbors,

Joanie & Colin Jones

**From:** jandkbrusca [<mailto:jandkbrusca@cox.net>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 05, 2017 5:59 PM  
**To:** Michelle Greene <[mgreene@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:mgreene@cityofgoleta.org)>  
**Subject:** option 6

I am contacting you to express my support for Option 6, Friends of the Ellwood Monarchs.

Kathie Brusca  
916 St Marys Lane  
Santa Barbara, Ca 93111  
683-1984



Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Cherie Topper <[cherie.sbas@gmail.com](mailto:cherie.sbas@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** September 6, 2017 at 7:57:45 AM PDT  
**To:** Valerie Kushnerov <[vkushnerov@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:vkushnerov@cityofgoleta.org)>, Paula Perotte <[pperotte@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:pperotte@cityofgoleta.org)>, Roger Aceves <[raceves@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:raceves@cityofgoleta.org)>, Michael Bennett <[mbennett@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:mbennett@cityofgoleta.org)>, Kyle Richards <[krichards@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:krichards@cityofgoleta.org)>, Stuart Kasdin <[skasdin@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:skasdin@cityofgoleta.org)>, Michelle Greene <[mgreene@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:mgreene@cityofgoleta.org)>, Anne Wells <[awells@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:awells@cityofgoleta.org)>  
**Cc:** Aaron Kreisberg <[akberg90@gmail.com](mailto:akberg90@gmail.com)>, Jessie Altstatt <[Jessie.altstatt@gmail.com](mailto:Jessie.altstatt@gmail.com)>, Dolores Pollock <[dolores.pollock@verizon.net](mailto:dolores.pollock@verizon.net)>  
**Subject:** SBAS Comment Letter on Ellwood Tree Removal

Dear All,

Please find enclosed a comment letter on the eucalyptus tree removal project, from the Santa Barbara Audubon Society. Our conservation and science committee will be discussing the subject further in the meeting tonight.

Thank you for the opportunity to file these comments as part of the public record, and for the work that you are doing in the face of a complex situation.

Sincerely,

Cherie Topper

Cherie Topper  
Executive Director, Santa Barbara Audubon Society  
[www.santabarbaraaudubon.org](http://www.santabarbaraaudubon.org)  
Phone: 805-451-1389



# Santa Barbara Audubon Society

*A Chapter of the National Audubon Society*

PO Box 5508  
Santa Barbara, CA 93150  
[www.santabarbaraaudubon.org](http://www.santabarbaraaudubon.org)

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Date: September 3, 2017

To: City of Goleta Council and Staff

Re: Ellwood Grove Emergency Tree Removals

Dear Council Members and Staff,

This letter documents SBAS's concern regarding the recently released City staff report regarding current conditions within the Ellwood Mesa Eucalyptus groves.

Santa Barbara Audubon Society (SBAS)'s mission is to help conserve and restore the earth's natural ecosystems and improve its biological diversity, principally in the Santa Barbara area, and to connect people with birds and nature through education, science-based projects and advocacy. SBAS and our membership have been a voice for the natural world in the Santa Barbara area for more than 50 years.

We have grave concerns regarding all proposed options within the City staff report. Although the Ellwood area is best known for the over-wintering monarchs, the large stands of tall trees provide special micro-climate, cover and foraging habitat for resident and migrating birds. The Ellwood groves, Environmentally Sensitive Habitat, are not only important to birds during the typical breeding period (March to early August), but they are valuable to many more birds that rely on the resources in the grove during the fall migration which has already started (typically July to October). Avoidance of disturbance to the grove should extend from March through October.

Moreover, we wonder why there is a call for emergency action now, as there have been dead and dying trees for a number of years. We object to the artificial urgency of this hastily devised emergency action because the threat is not recent, but long-standing, and predates the establishment of the Butterfly preserve and city park.

The City simply needs to adjust its posture towards this Environmentally Sensitive Habitat and acknowledge some level of risk.

The inclusion within the staff report of the forestry logging plan from Mt Sutro (San Francisco) is concerning. We sincerely hope that this plan is not what City Staff truly feels is best for Ellwood. The addition of new or broader trails and roads to accommodate the heavy logging equipment to conduct felling and total removal of 900 trees is completely unacceptable. Not only will this industrial activity change the 'look and feel' of the park for years, it will compact the soil, crush understory plants and young trees, bury any existing seed bank of native plants, and bring great harm to the small rodent, reptile and insect communities that live on the mesa. The option of wholesale removal of trees will result in environmental destruction. Therefore we support downing and leaving in place only those trees that present an immediate risk to public safety.

SBAS has become aware of a sixth option that has been developed by The Friends of the Ellwood Monarchs (FOTM), an ad hoc community group composed of local residents. This "Option 6" carefully balances the need for public access with the need to preserve critical Monarch (and bird) habitat. This approach includes the following elements:

- 1) Prioritize and restore selected public access trails,
- 2) identify which trees along public trails actually constitute a fall risk,
- 3) identify impacts to Monarch and bird habitat and 4) submit a permit application which includes developed mitigation measures.

SBAS agrees with FOTM that an Emergency Coastal Development Permit (CDP) application *must* be developed and submitted before any tree removal within any of the Ellwood groves takes place. This CDP would allow for selective removal of trees found to constitute a "fall risk" that present an imminent danger to public safety along the trail(s) identified for reopening. Targeted mitigation and restoration actions must be a condition to be performed immediately and simultaneously with any tree removal.

In addition to supporting Option 6, SBAS reiterates that the City must not begin any large-scale removal of trees in or near any of the aggregation sites until a restoration plan is prepared and approved. The City has been working on this plan since 2010. The time span estimated within the Staff report (3-5 years to develop this plan) is completely unreasonable as staff have been working on it already for 7 years.

Lastly, we urge the City to recall that after hasty and un-permitted tree removal and trail clearing work within the grove last year, there were many fewer Monarchs using the grove. This should serve as a dire warning as to what their response may be for the scale of work proposed by options 1-5.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed emergency action. Ellwood reserve is too important culturally and ecologically to squander through hasty and ill conceived actions.

Sincerely,



Cherie Topper  
Executive Director  
Santa Barbara Audubon Society





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**From:** Brian Trautwein [<mailto:btrautwein@environmentaldefensecenter.org>]

**Sent:** Friday, September 01, 2017 12:18 PM

**To:** Ellwood Mesa <[ellwoodmesa@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:ellwoodmesa@cityofgoleta.org)>

**Subject:** Raptor Nesting Season

Dear City Officials,

I reviewed the staff report and have a question.

I read that nesting bird surveys will begin on Feb 1.

I've heard that that raptors and owls which use Ellwood Mesa for nesting can begin pairing off, forming territories and nesting as early as December.

Is this true?

If so, is it possible to begin nesting season as soon as the raptor and owl nesting season begins, rather than waiting until February when other types of birds begin nesting?

Thank you,

Brian



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

From: Edward Zutaut [<mailto:ezut@cox.net>]

Sent: Friday, September 01, 2017 3:41 PM

To: Ellwood Mesa <[ellwoodmesa@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:ellwoodmesa@cityofgoleta.org)>

Subject: Options on tree removal on Elwood Mesa.

Immediate action on option 1 makes great sense. Option 2 makes little sense as the cost and effort needed to remediate the 26 trees that are dying anyway appears to be excessive. And the dying trees are such a fire hazard. In fact, due to the advanced age of most of the trees in the multiple groves, and the fact that they are not indigenous to the area, and are one of the highest tree types prone to fire, suggests they should not be replaced in the future. The city needs to make the difficult choice of culling most if not all of the groves. The butterflies were not coming to this area in the 1800's and so they are not indigenous either.

Respectfully

Edward Zutaut

Sent from my iPad



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

From: Jolie Kocmur [<mailto:joliekocmur@gmail.com>]

Sent: Saturday, September 02, 2017 8:58 AM

To: Ellwood Mesa <[ellwoodmesa@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:ellwoodmesa@cityofgoleta.org)>

Subject: Birds and Replanting

We live at 7559 Palos Verdes Dr, Goleta, Ca. We essentially live in the main grove. We know the forest, we know it is unhealthy, yet the grove is still beautiful and still very much alive with life in the tree tops. Here are some of our concerns:

1. What will happen to the Birds. When you go to an arboretum you hear less bird calls than from our backyard, which looks over the preserve. My nine year old son is an avid birder because of it. He can identify many birds in our backyard and among the trees. Has the value of the grove been evaluated as a habitat for local and migratory birds of all kinds been considered? In particular, there are a few days in spring when we have an intoxicating array of migratory birds from all over.
2. Leave it better than we find it. The grove is unhealthy but still living. And still beautiful. Do you have restoration funds sufficient to do the work now to leave the grove area beautiful and natural looking after work is done? I am a CA native enthusiast and successfully planted more than 500 local natives on the back slope of our home. I love the work. If you have a committee working on this I'd like to be a part of it.

Best,  
Jolie Kocmur  
805-259-1440

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** 2Palley <[2Palley@cox.net](mailto:2Palley@cox.net)>  
**Date:** September 4, 2017 at 8:48:02 AM PDT  
**To:** <[pperotte@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:pperotte@cityofgoleta.org)>, <[raceves@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:raceves@cityofgoleta.org)>, <[mbennett@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:mbennett@cityofgoleta.org)>, <[skasdin@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:skasdin@cityofgoleta.org)>, <[krichards@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:krichards@cityofgoleta.org)>, <[mgreene@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:mgreene@cityofgoleta.org)>  
**Subject:** Save Ellwood

Dear City Council member,

As a frequent and longtime walker at Ellwood I am horrified by the implications of option 1. Please endorse Option 6 from the staff report.

respectfully

Kenneth Palley





**From:** "Goleta, CA" <[webmaster@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:webmaster@cityofgoleta.org)>  
**Date:** September 6, 2017 at 8:51:39 PM PDT  
**To:** "Lopez, Deborah" <[dlopez@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:dlopez@cityofgoleta.org)>  
**Subject:** Save Ellwood  
**Reply-To:** Cody Westheimer <[codymusic@me.com](mailto:codymusic@me.com)>

Message submitted from the <Goleta, CA> website.

**Site Visitor Name:** Cody Westheimer  
**Site Visitor Email:** [codymusic@me.com](mailto:codymusic@me.com)

I grew up in Winchester Canyon and visited Ellwood almost daily with my father. It's what gave me such a deep appreciation of nature and I was shocked it's being threatened again by "emergency measures."

For that reason, in addition to speaking last night at the city council meeting I put together this PSA style video so that the public can be aware of what might happen to our cherished place if we don't demand the best from our elected (and appointed) officials.

I thank you for your time and service to "The Good Land."

<https://youtu.be/EaDTR3IPAVI>



**From:** abordofsky49 <[abordofsky49@gmail.com](mailto:abordofsky49@gmail.com)>

**Date:** September 7, 2017 at 5:39:05 AM PDT

**To:** <[pperotte@cityofgoleta.org](mailto:pperotte@cityofgoleta.org)>

**Subject: Monarch Habitat**

Hello, please vote for "Option 6", from Friends of Ellwood's recommendations for the Monarch Habitat at Ellwood. Thank you very much. Sincerely, Jeremy and Anna Bordofsky, Goleta.

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device



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From: Steve George [mr.sgeorge@yahoo.com]  
Sent: Wednesday, September 06, 2017 12:53 PM  
To: Stuart Kasdin

Dear Mayor and City Councilmembers,

RE: Ellwood Bluffs / Monarch Preserve issues

First I would like to thank you for your attention to the issue of the Ellwood Bluffs (Eucalyptus tree die-off and threatened habitat). The work of your team appears to have been comprehensive and well thought through. I have now participated in two long evenings hearing the readouts from identified experts and from concerned residents. Last night we heard from about 20 people that had coordinated their recommendation for the "unknown" option 6. We also heard from the "expert" arborist that he did not have a recommendation. How can that be possible – he is the expert? I heard go slow and don't do anything until we have every "T" crossed and every "i" dotted. The truth of the matter is – WE – the residents of Goleta and our Government – dropped the ball. As I said last night – shame on us for not caring for our precious treasures. We should have been caring for our trees (and wildlife) all along. Unfortunately we did not and now we have to remedy the situation. The following are my thoughts after last night's marathon 3 hour discussion.

- I heard people say that they were going to ignore signs. Sort of like they do when they walk their dogs on the Bluffs (the sign says all dogs must be on a leash no longer than 6 feet). Very few dogs are on leashes at all and not a lot of dog excrement is picked up. So – yes – they will ignore the signs.
- I heard that everyone should be able to take responsibility for themselves and if a tree falls on them it is their problem. That is the case until it happens, then it becomes OUR problem.
- I am sure that the eucalyptus branch that fell on the daycare center in LA will most likely result in a law-suit for whose responsibility it was to protect the children and have kept the tree trimmed. (LA Times last week)
- Now let's talk about their young children that play in and around those trees without adult supervision. Let's talk about the child or children that gets killed or injured by a falling branch or tree. Then it will be the City's problem for not protecting their children. It is big talk now –just wait until it happens.
- Take a look at the huge (appearing healthy) eucalyptus tree on Calle De Los Amigos in Hidden Valley that uprooted and fell across the road in a spring rain shower this year. That was not viewed as a risk by the many people that passed it each day.

- Let's consider what will happen with dead trees when (and if) we start a rehabilitation plan that involves watering to keep the surviving live trees alive – what is the potential that the dead trees (if not removed) will fall due to moist land and dead roots?
- Apparently we do not know the legal and insurance implications of inaction – we need to know this.
- Doing option 6 means that there will be repeated needs to enter the groves, disrupt the surface vegetation and wildlife. My father and grandfather were arborists and were experts at their jobs and I learned from them that removing any tree disrupts the surroundings. Even using small equipment is invasive.

It seems prudent to me to go with **option 2**. Remove the majority of dead trees for human safety and bug infestation reasons. Preserve as much of the main monarch grove as possible and start a rehabilitation plan immediately including some sort of irrigation plan (maybe with the abundance of grey water trucked from the sewer plant). On a side note: Where is the water coming from that is being used in the rehabilitation test area at the west end of the bluffs?

**Plan option 2** supports lowering the risk of injury of visitors, reduces the impact to the environment by disrupting the surface only once, allows for an immediate action plan for restoration - which will encourage the butterflies/birds/creatures to return to their habitats, is the most cost effective (lets be frank – this is relevant), and limits legal and insurance risk factors.

This will open all the main trails to the bluffs and beach, which was a high priority of option 6 speakers. Let's not forget that a lot more people come to the bluffs and monarch grove than just the people in the adjacent houses.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Steve George

305 Moreton Bay Lane #5

Goleta, CA 93117

805-845-5017

Mr.sgeorge@yahoo .com

**From:** Victor Cox [mailto:vic.cox.freelance@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Thursday, September 07, 2017 11:59 AM

**To:** Paula Perotte <pperotte@cityofgoleta.org>; Stuart Kasdin <skasdin@cityofgoleta.org>; Roger Aceves <raceves@cityofgoleta.org>; Michael Bennett <mbennett@cityofgoleta.org>; Kyle Richards <krichards@cityofgoleta.org>; Deborah Lopez <dlopez@cityofgoleta.org>

**Subject:** Ellwood mesa tree removal plan

Dear Mayor Perotte and Councilmembers,

You heard a number of good ideas on Tuesday night from many concerned residents who simply are not convinced that the Ellwood Mesa forest has an immediate crisis that requires the drastic action of Option One, the removal of more than a thousand "dead and dying" trees and developing a management plan afterward. This scale of "thinning" the forest seems like removing a patient's heart--and promising a transplant years in the future--instead of treating/replacing damaged coronary arteries.

We much prefer the approach of Option Six, with the amendments proposed by Anna Citrin. Consolidate paths and remove large, dead trees along these main paths to make the public safer. Place strategic signs warning that visitors must enter at their own risk, and offer them maps to help keep them on the safer trails. Perhaps these steps would also appease the insurer. This seems to me more logical and successful approach than the other options.

Since longer droughts are a part of climate change, in addition I suggest accelerating work on the management plan and that it seriously explore the costs and benefits of piping recycled water into the forest, perhaps using drip irrigation.

After valiantly listening to nearly three hours of public hearings (and showing from your comments that you were thinking about what you heard) I think you realize that deciding the fate of the Ellwood eukes is not an issue you want to rush into.

Thank you for your service.

Vic & Inge Cox





September 7, 2017

Mayor Paula Perotte and City Council  
City of Goleta  
130 Cremona Dr. #B  
Goleta, CA 93117

Dear Mayor Paula Perotte and City Council members,

We are writing to you to express our concern with the five recently proposed options to address the hazards posed by dead eucalyptus trees within the Ellwood Mesa Open Space / Sperling Preserve, which were discussed in the City Council meeting on September 5, 2017.

For decades, the Xerces Society has worked to understand and conserve monarch butterflies in California and throughout North America. We now know that western monarchs overwintering in coastal California have declined more than 95% since the 1980s and the migratory population faces a high risk of extinction in the next few decades.<sup>1</sup> The Ellwood Main overwintering site is among the most important western monarch habitat – of the hundreds of sites in California where monarchs spend the winter, Ellwood Main is ranked as the fourth highest priority to conserve, based on the historic monarch population and overall degree of population decline.<sup>2</sup> Indeed, in 1990, an estimated 129,000 monarchs utilized this site.<sup>2</sup> Thus, management decisions at the Ellwood complex have a greater potential to help – or harm – the overall western monarch population than management activities at most other western monarch overwintering sites.

We recognize the hazard posed by dead trees – both to the monarch habitat and to public safety, and understand the urgency of the situation. However, we object to any plan that proposes to log hundreds of trees – albeit dead ones – within and around monarch butterfly aggregation areas in a very short period of time, and then not begin replanting and restoring the site for 3-4 years.

We recommend that an emergency monarch butterfly habitat management and restoration plan be developed and implemented immediately after tree removal, so that the microclimatic conditions that monarchs require can be restored as soon as possible. In addition, we recommend that only the dead trees that pose an immediate hazard to the monarch aggregation sites be removed this fall – e.g. those that would damage aggregation trees if they were to fall on their own this winter – and that all work be completed by 9/30/17, so that active logging within the Ellwood complex does not occur during the monarch butterfly overwintering season. If needed, we would support the

closure of public trails through the preserve, so that public safety will not be jeopardized while a more measured approach to tree removal and restoration is taken.

Although options 1 and 2 presented in the *Draft Ellwood Mesa Open Space / Sperling Preserve Tree Safety Action Plan*<sup>3</sup> would be most harmful to the monarch butterfly population that overwinters within Ellwood Main and the Ellwood Complex, we do not believe that any of the options presented will adequately protect the monarch habitat.

We recognize the incredible expertise that Dan Meade and Jessica Griffiths bring to monarch butterfly habitat conservation, and encourage you to continue consulting with Althouse & Meade to quickly develop and implement a habitat restoration and management plan for this site in 2017, and to address hazards posed by dead trees with minimal disruption to the monarch butterflies. In addition, the Xerces Society is deeply invested in monarch butterfly conservation, and we would be happy to provide further input on the management and restoration of monarch butterfly overwintering habitat within the Ellwood Complex.

Sincerely,



Sarina Jepsen  
Endangered Species Program Director, The Xerces Society



Emma Pelton  
Conservation Biologist, The Xerces Society

References Cited:

1. Schultz, C. B., L. M. Brown, E. Pelton, and E. E. Crone. 2017. Citizen science monitoring demonstrates dramatic declines of monarch butterflies in western North America. *Biological Conservation* DOI 10.1016/j.biocon.2017.08.019.
2. Pelton, E., S. Jepsen, C. Schultz, C. Fallon, and S. H. Black. 2016. *State of the Monarch Butterfly Overwintering Sites in California*. 4+vi pp. Portland, OR: The Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation. (Available online at <https://xerces.org/state-of-the-monarch-butterfly-overwintering-sites-in-california/>)
3. Draft Ellwood Mesa Open Space / Sperling Preserve Tree Safety Action Plan <http://www.cityofgoleta.org/home/showdocument?id=15319>

Michael Iza  
7190 Alameda Avenue  
Goleta, CA 93117  
805-453-9234  
mikeiza@cox.net

September 7, 2017

Mayor and Councilmembers  
City of Goleta  
130 Cremona Drive, Suite B  
Goleta, CA 93117

RE: Agenda Item A.1 Emergency Conditions on Ellwood Mesa

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers:

I am writing in regard to the item Emergency Conditions on Ellwood Mesa on the Council September 7 agenda. As you are aware, the Friends of the Ellwood Monarchs and the Goodland Coalition submitted an "Option 6", which describes:

1. Assessing the fall risk of dead trees on the two trails which have no alternate access to Ellwood mesa and corresponding coastline. These two trails were identified as being located at the Coronado Drive and Rancho Estates forest access points;
2. **Remove ONLY trees designated as a "fall risk" that would affect users of the above two trails.** "Fall risk" is described in the Althouse & Meade draft Action Plan as involving multiple factors in addition to tree health, including eucalyptus tree root strength, canopy height and weight load, percent trunk rot, wind, topographic position of the trunk, erosion, and other factors that were not assessed in the report;
3. Submit an Emergency Coastal Development Permit (CDP) application for selective removal of trees found that constitute a "fall risk", as defined above, that present an imminent danger to public safety along the trail(s) identified for reopening. The CDP shall include targeted mitigation and restoration actions as a condition to be performed immediately and simultaneously with any tree removal.

**In the near term, we are in full support of the items described in Option 6 above.** However, it is clear from the agenda staff report that the Ellwood forest complex is in dire need of a long term management plan. To that end, we strongly urge council to consider the following actions in order to ensure the future health of the Ellwood forest complex and associated habitats.

- Prioritize the proper development, review, adoption, and associated permitting of a thorough, peer reviewed Management Plan;
- **Establish a frequent update schedule on the status of the Management Plan to be presented to council, the public, and also on the City's website (i.e. monthly or bimonthly).** Updates would include status of forest health as well as timeline, schedule, and milestones met in development of the Management Plan.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to the continuing community discussion surrounding this issue.

Warmest regards,

*Michael Iza*

Michael Iza, M.S., Goleta Resident

Additionally signed:

Lily Oliveira, Goleta Resident  
Timothy Burgess, Ellwood Resident  
Amanda Burgess, Ellwood Resident  
Stephanie Drake, Ph.D., Ellwood Resident  
Khristopher Drake, Ellwood Resident  
Heather Shea, Goleta Resident  
Ryan Cey, Ellwood Resident  
Melanie Cey, Ellwood Resident  
Tamra Abel, Ellwood Resident  
David Abel, Ellwood Resident  
Amy Herzog, Ellwood Resident  
Jenn Birchim, Ellwood Resident  
Rachel Quittner, Ellwood Resident  
Brian Quittner, Ellwood Resident  
Kim Hurley, Goleta Resident  
Troy Hurley, Goleta Resident  
Kathy Goeden, Ellwood Resident  
Becca Wrench, Ph.D., Goleta Resident  
Dean Wrench, Goleta Resident  
Lisa Potter, Goleta Resident  
Ruth Ann Rentfrow, County Resident  
Tim Maskrey, Ellwood Resident  
Claudia Hamers, Ellwood Resident  
Tina Allen, Goleta Resident  
Scott Jones, Goleta Resident  
Janelle Ashby, Ellwood Resident  
Rob Geller, Ellwood Resident  
Jill Means, Ellwood Resident  
Mina Mitani, Ellwood Resident  
Ariana Katovich, Ellwood Resident  
Ove Kargard, Ellwood Resident  
John Bircham, Ellwood Resident

Amy Marston, Goleta Resident  
Ryan Castorino, Ellwood Resident  
Kristin Castorino, Ellwood Resident  
Shannon Mercier, Ellwood Resident  
Chris Mercier, Ellwood Resident  
Brittany Jordan, Ellwood Resident  
Cody Makela, Goleta Resident  
Patty Makela, Goleta Resident  
Mike Kaufman, Ellwood Resident  
Linda Kaufman, Ellwood Resident  
Shithi Kamal-Heikman, Ellwood Resident  
Shama Kamal, Ellwood Resident  
Sten Heikman, Ellwood Resident  
Abul Kamal, Ellwood Resident  
Sara Iza, M.S., Goleta Resident  
Lisa Berry, Ph.D., County Resident  
Jeanine Byers, Ellwood Resident  
Dan Byers, Ellwood Resident  
Tara Hug, Ellwood Resident  
Andy Hug, Ellwood Resident  
Laura Maskrey, Ellwood Resident  
Jeff Hamers, Ellwood Resident  
Scott Allen, Goleta Resident  
Ingrid Jones, Goleta Resident  
David Shea, Goleta Resident  
Kyle Ashby, Ellwood Resident  
Suzanne Kyre, Ellwood Resident  
Josh Ellinwood, Ellwood Resident  
Diane Murphy, Goleta Resident  
Kathleen Katovich, Ellwood Resident  
Cathleen Kargard, Ellwood Resident