Iris Chi  
Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning (DRP)  
320 W. Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Ms. Chi:

The Angeles National Forest received the notice and invitation to comment on the Significant Ecological Areas (SEA) Ordinance Amendment project. The project number is Environmental Assessment No. RPPL2018004477.

After carefully reviewing the proposed amendment, the Angeles National Forest supports the alternative option. The alternative option stated that other than the exempted areas, the rest of the areas will follow the county-wide SEA regulation for single-family residences and agricultural uses (shown in green on map titled “Single Family Residence Exemptions-Alternative Option Santa Clara River SEA”).

Angeles National Forest manages the largest contiguous open space within Los Angeles County, however, habitat connectivity does not end at the National Forest boundary. The Angeles National Forest Land Management Plan (ANF LMP) sets the general management direction to different program areas within the Forest. The ANF LMP specifically articulated the responsibility of the National Forest to coordinate with local government, developers, and other entities to complement adjacent federal and non-federal land use zones. The National Forest would participate in regional planning effort to identify linkage to surrounding habitat reserves and other natural areas to maintain biodiversity. This LMP strategy aligns well with the goal of the alternative option in the SEA amendment. For more details, please see ANF LMP Part 2 Link 1- Habitat Linkages Planning (p.107, 2005).

The National Forest appreciates the opportunity to comment on this project and we look forward to future collaboration on maintaining long-term habitat linkages.

Sincerely,

RACHEL SMITH  
Acting Forest Supervisor
October 05, 2018

Department of Regional Planning
Hall of Records
320 W. Temple Street, Room 1360
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: SEA (exemptions for Farm Land)

To Whom It May Concern,

In 2015 farmers in the Antelope Valley were given an exemption from SEA overlays on their “previously disturbed farm land.” Farmers worked along side the Dept. of Regional Planning and various other groups, to establish that farm ground would not be affected by SEA’s. Now, just a few years later, the SEA’s are back! I strongly oppose the proposed removal of SEA’s from farm land and would like to be assured the Regional Planning Commission hears of my opposition. SEA’s will place unnecessary restrictions on our farm property and destroy the value of our land.

Sincerely,

Brandon Calandri

cc: Supervisor Kathryn Barger
Sup. Kathryn Barger
Los Angeles Co. Board of Supervisors
500 W. Temple St. Room 869
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Oct 5, 18

Dept of Regional Planning
Hall of Records
320 W. Temple St., Rm 1360
Los Angeles, Calif. 90012

Dear Dept of Regional Planning,

I oppose the Regional Planning's proposal to remove the SEA exemptions from disturbed farm land in the Antelope Valley. My grandpa and Dad farmed here and now I farm with my son. We take care of the land and it takes care of us. We see the placing of SEA's on our farm as a taking of property rights! You will find more hide, rabbits, coyotes and other wildlife around our farming operation than you will in the middle of the desert. We have bird watchers show up regularly at our farm. But what you want to do could & would hamper our farming. Disturbed farm land should continue to be exempt from SEA's. I want to make sure that the Regional Planning Commission hears our position on the removal of SEA exemptions from farm land in the Antelope Valley.

Thank you,
Kyle & Kyle Ranches

C.C. Sup. Kathy Barrer
October 3, 2018

Dept. of Regional Planning
Hall of Records
320 W. Temple St., Room 1360
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: SEA’s exemption removal proposal

Dear Dept. of Regional Planning,

I am a 4th generation farmer in the Antelope Valley. As a farmer, I work to take care of our farm land; to produce a quality crop, to make a living for my family, provide products to our community, and employment for many individuals. Removing SEA exemptions from farm land is a destructive idea that will limit what land owners can do on their own ground and reduce the value of a farmers investment in his future – the land itself. Please be sure to pass my opposition of removing SEA exemptions to previously disturbed farm land along to the Regional Planning Commission.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Jacob Kyle, Farmer

CC Supervisor Kathryn Barger
October 4, 2018

Dept. of Regional Planning
Hall of Records
320 W. Temple St., Room 1360
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to register my profound indignation with the current efforts of the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning to consider removal of SEA exemptions from Agricultural/Farm property in the Antelope Valley. I worked along side of the Blue Ribbon Committee, negotiating in good faith with the County and Dept. of Regional Planning, and now, 3 years later, we are again facing SEA overlays being placed on our farm ground.

What is the rationale behind removing the SEA exclusions from Agricultural now? Are expansion of SEA’s appropriate? I see no substantiation for changing the SEA designations. Disturbed Agricultural ground and farms should continue to be exempt from being including in SEA’s. The proposed blanket designations of additional SEA’s on Agricultural property is being considered without satisfactory justification. The sudden change in designations of SEA’s is not well documented and supported by science.

Farmers work along side of the natural environment and do not infringe on wildlife corridors. Farmers understand the value of our natural biological resources. Farmers do not want to do a biological review on their farm property if the property has been fallowed for a few years. Once again, disturbed farm ground needs to be exempt.

I am quite concerned SEA overlays will hinder our Valley’s farmers and devalue our land.
I want to be assured the Regional Planning Commission hears our position in opposition of removing SEA exemptions from farm land.

Sincerely,

Julie Kyle

cc: Supervisor Kathryn Barger
From:
Richard Miner
9678 Dawn Road
Rosamond, Ca. 93560

To:
Dept of Regional Planning
Hall of Records
320 W. Temple St., Room 1360
Los Angeles, Ca 90012

Dear Sirs:

I am a board member of the Los Angeles County Farm Bureau and I am a farmer. The recent change in your plans regarding SEA’s is the reason for this letter.

I am personally not affected by the SEA designation. I do have farmer friends that are affected. I believe that existing farmland should not be re-zoned into the SEA classification. It is just that simple for me. Please reconsider your area plan decisions.

Sincerely,

Richard Miner