

HILDA L. SOLIS HOLLY J. MITCHELL LINDSEY P.HORVATH JANICE HAHN

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

KATHRYN BARGER

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

			The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:			
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments	Attachment	
73-B.		Favor	AC Sharp	Murder and rotting flesh is not environmental management, all or nothing mindset is idiotic. The Conservancy can't be trusted, they claim to be for restoration of original habitat, then why are they growing grapes, it's not like those are indigenous, they also require huge amounts if water & toxic pesticides Please demand they manage not murder.	No	
			Auroura Brannock	Please help stop this senseless slaughter of all deer on Catalina Island.	No	
			Barbara Brisacher	Please write to CDFW to oppose the conservancy plan to Kill all Catalina Deer!! We already have a hunting season, so why kill all of them? The deer are an important part of Catalina. They need to be saved and not slaughtered from helicopters with assault rifle shooters! Thank you for helping to save the Deer?? 73-B - to write the CDFW and oppose the conservancy's permit is the vote of our Avalon community. Petitions have been signed and continue to be signed daily opposing their permit too kill the Catalina Deer.	No	
			Bernadette Cortez		No	
			Brandi Vargas	Leave the deer alone!	No	
			Charles M Haid	Please help us spare these beautiful creatures from a misguided attempt to eliminate them by use of sharpshooters from helicopters! This is both cruel and inhumane.	No	
			Christian Van den Akker		No	



MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS

HILDA L. SOLIS HOLLY J. MITCHELL LINDSEY P.HORVATH JANICE HAHN KATHRYN BARGER

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

			The following individu	als submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments	Attachment
73-B.		Favor	daniel felts	Dear Board of Supervisors, I am writing to express my deep concern about the ongoing issues related to the dissemination of information to the residents of our community. On several occasions, I have been denied the ability to share crucial information with our community members. This denial has taken various forms, each of which has served to silence the voices and concerns of our community. One of the most significant ways in which this has occurred is through the refusal to allow the recording of public forums. Despite numerous requests, I have been consistently denied the opportunity to record these forums. These recordings are not intended for personal use, but rather to ensure that all community members, including those who are unable to attend the forums, have access to the information discussed. In addition to this, I have submitted several questions on numerous occasions, all of which have been ignored. These questions are not trivial, but rather they address the concerns and interests of our community members. The refusal to acknowledge and answer these questions is a clear indication of the silencing of our community's concerns. The Catalina Island Conservancy has been actively involved in these actions. By refusing to acknowledge the concerns of our community, the Conservancy is effectively silencing our voices. This is not the behavior we expect from an organization that is supposed to serve our community. Furthermore, the Conservancy has been exerting undue pressure on the city by threatening legal ramifications if our amended ordinance is not reamended. This level of intimidation is unacceptable and serves only to further silence our community. I urge you to consider these issues seriously. Our community deserves transparency, open communication, and the opportunity to voice their concerns without fear of being silenced or ignored. We need our leaders to stand up for our community and ensure that our voices are heard. Thank you for your attention to this matter.	Yes



HILDA L. SOLIS HOLLY J. MITCHELL LINDSEY P.HORVATH JANICE HAHN KATHRYN BARGER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

			The following individua	s submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments	Attachment
73-B.		Favor	Danielle C Austen	I am so glad our supervisors are taking the time to listen to us. The Catalina Island Conservancy's plan does not need to be so violent and Black and white. There need to be other options other than shoot the deer from a helicopter. This plan would leave the venison meat wasting in the sun, the smell would be excruciating, and the sounds from the shooting and helicopter could bring a lot of PTSD issues to veterans on the island. This is inhumane for so many reasons. No ethical hunter would want this or partake in this. What kind of person do they need to hire to complete such a horrific and heartless act? This is not a safe plan in any way. The deer are a beautiful part of the island and they don't both anyone. In fact, they bring joy to many. There needs to be a new plan and it should not involve a demented sharpshooter and a helicopter.	No
			Dianne Stone	I am opposed to the Catalina Island Conservancy's plan to slaughter all the deer on Catalina Island. Their plan is unnecessary, dangerous to visitors and residents alike, and additionally it is inhumane and brutal. Science does not support the total eradication of the deer. An appropriate number can be maintained and still manage conservation goals for the indigenous plants.	No
			Edward Lugo	Please send the letter to the CDFW urging them to deny the Catalina Island Conservancy's petition to eradicate the mule deer	No
			Jessica Romero	Please help us Save our deer from the inhumane catalina island CONservancey Thank you for all your efforts City of Avalon Planning Commissioner Jessica Romero	No
			Laryn Kaiser	Please stop the unnecessary and disgusting slaughter of the mule deer on Catalina Island. There's no reason humans need to shoot and kill all the mule deer and just leave the bodies around to rot. First of all if they want to remove some deer let them humanly relocate them. Second if the plan is to remove any non native animals from Catalina Island then when will the Buffalo be removed? My guess is they won't because the island makes money off of the buffalo, so it doesn't make sense to say they have to remove the Mule Deer because they are not native to Catalina. As a life long California resident and frequent visitor of Catalina Island I beg you to stop the slaughter of the mule deer. Thank you, Laryn Kaiser	No
			Linda P ALTHERR	Conservancy says they will pay millions to have them eradicated, for no justifiable reason, other than they've only been here 100 years and they might snack on a long lost indigenous plant that can grow back in its own time or can have fencing to protect it.	No



HILDA L. SOLIS HOLLY J. MITCHELL LINDSEY P.HORVATH JANICE HAHN

KATHRYN BARGER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

			The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:			
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments	Attachment	
73-B.		Favor	Marlina Alaniz	I'm writing today to express our deep concerns about the proposed eradication of the mule deer population on our beloved Catalina Island. These creatures have been an integral part of our island's culture and lifestyle for over a century. They are not just animals; they are a symbol of our rich history and a source of pride for our community. The thought of their eradication, particularly in such a violent manner, has caused significant distress among us. The sight and smell of decomposing carcasses could potentially cause distress, particularly among our children. It's not just about the loss of wildlife; it's about the loss of a part of our identity. Moreover, the impact extends beyond our local community. Tourists visit our island to experience its unique wildlife and natural beauty. The removal of the deer could negatively impact their experience and our tourism industry. We also question the humane treatment of the deer during this process. We understand the need to control the deer population, but we believe it should be done in the most humane way possible. The proposed method of eradication—shooting deer from a helicopter—raises serious questions about the ethics and humanity of such an approach. Furthermore, we are concerned about the potential spread of diseases from the decomposing carcasses. This could pose a risk to other wildlife and even to humans. We urge the authorities to consider these concerns and the emotional toll this plan could take on our community. We propose maintaining a smaller, manageable deer population on the island, regulated through hunting. This approach would allow us to preserve our cultural heritage, contribute to fire prevention, and protect our precious ecosystem. Thank you for considering our perspective.	No	
			Melinda Benson	Please see attached letters to CDFW laying out our opposition to the Catalina Island Conservancy's application to the eradicate deer from Catalina Island. Thank you.	Yes	
			Melodie J White	Please tell Fish & Game to kill the permit to kill Catalina Deer! Thank you!	No	
			Robin L Cassidy	please support Supervisor Hahn and the THOUSANDS OF LA cOUNTY RESIDENTS who do not want the California Dept of Fish and Wildlife to approve the inappropriate use of a scientific collection permit to carry out this short sighted and violent plan.	No	



HILDA L. SOLIS HOLLY J. MITCHELL LINDSEY P.HORVATH JANICE HAHN

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

KATHRYN BARGER

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

			The following individua	ls submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments	Attachment
73-B.		Favor	Robyn A Shea	In favor of using expert hunters eradicating deer on Catalina Island from helicopters. It's the most humane methodology and wil be the least disruptive for the island overall.	Yes
			Sarah Kemen	The deer should not be eradicated by sharpshooters. There needs to be a better way to limit or control the mule deer population on Catalina Island.	No
			Sylvia Lugo	Please encourage the CDFW to deny the Catalina Island Conservancy's petition to eradicate the mule deer population. I fully support sending the letter.	No
			Vickie Pearce		No
		Oppose	AARON ECHOLS	Creating a letter to oppose the Catalina Deer Eradication would be a moral failure. What will Catalina look like in 100 years when none of us are here? Consider the long-term benefits of this short-term cost.	No
				The scientific and emotional arguments for each side have been presented, however, I urge you to contemplate the true ethical dilemma here - On one hand we have a small population of deer, most of which will be hunted and killed within the next 15 years through permitted hunting events. On the other hand we have the known ecological impacts that the deer cause daily as a result of their introduction to the Island. To be clear the impacts are not just to plants, they are to butterflies and other arthropods that need plants for food and reproduction, to the birds that need berry producing shrubs to eat and nest in; shrubs that are browsed down to the ground by deer, and so on. I dislike the killing of the deer just as much as the next person, however, it's a tough decision that must be made and made within the context of time. Just like the deer, all of us on this planet today will be gone in 100 years. Please assess what is good for the future and not just good for the now.	



CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS HOLLY J. MITCHELL LINDSEY P.HORVATH JANICE HAHN KATHRYN BARGER

			The following individuals	he following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:		
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments	Attachment	
73-B.		Oppose	Carrin Danisan	My name is Calvin Duncan. I have been a wildlife biologist for nearly 25 years, assisted in managing the introduced deer population on Catalina Island for many years, and hunted deer on Catalina Island. Please review my submitted letter and vote no to sending a letter of opposition to the Conservancy's deer eradication efforts. Hunting has not worked, and sharpshooting is more humane than hunting. Please follow the science and support the Conservancy's efforts to restore and protect Catalina Island.	Yes	



HILDA L. SOLIS HOLLY J. MITCHELL LINDSEY P.HORVATH JANICE HAHN

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

KATHRYN BARGER

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

			The following individual	s submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments	Attachment
73-B.	Relate 10	Oppose	Colleen Cosenza	I am asking that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors go on record with the California Department of Fish & Wildlife opposing the proposed mass slaughter of mule deer on Catalina Island. It is in the best interest of the public to further evaluate this proposed eradication, to determine if this action shouldnot be classified as an experiment under issuance of a scientific collection permit. My family has been on Catalina Island since the late 1800's. My ancestors helped create the uniquely rich heritage and culture of the island as it is today. For generations, our family has lived in the natural environment that makes Catalina unique. I grew up hiking the hills of the island learning about and developing a love and respect for the island's natural resources, that includes both native and introduced species. Islanders grow up eating the island's fish and venison as staple parts of our diet. Each generation raises their children with that lifestyle. We respect the entire ecosystem and understand that if properly managed, we can continue to enjoy the island as we know it for generations to come. Our country has a dark history of coming into lands that are inhabited by people who have developed a culture and way of life that is unique, and then dictating to them that their way of life isn't important. That these visitors "know better" than those who have lived harmoniously with the land for generation after generation, disregarding any effort to work with the community for compromise and establishment of a common goal that includes both improving current practices while also respecting the traditions and way of life the people who are part of that land. I hope that we as a country have learned from our past mistakes with these practices. When developing policies regarding land and wildlife management, I hope you will take into consideration the people who will be directly affected. This proposed eradication will take away a big part of the heritage of the Catalina Island community that my ancestors helpe	Yes



HILDA L. SOLIS HOLLY J. MITCHELL LINDSEY P.HORVATH JANICE HAHN KATHRYN BARGER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

			The following individua	ls submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments	Attachment
73-B.		Oppose	daniel felts	Dear Board of Supervisors,	Yes
				I am writing to express my deep concern about the ongoing issues related to the dissemination of information to the residents of our community. On several occasions, I have been denied the ability to share crucial information with our community members. This denial has taken various forms, each of which has served to silence the voices and concerns of our community. One of the most significant ways in which this has occurred is through the refusal to allow the recording of public forums. Despite numerous requests, I have been consistently denied the opportunity to record these forums. These recordings are not intended for personal use, but rather to ensure that all community members, including those who are unable to attend the forums,	
				have access to the information discussed. In addition to this, I have submitted several questions on numerous occasions, all of which have been ignored. These questions are not trivial, but rather they address the concerns and interests of our community members. The refusal to acknowledge and answer these questions is a clear indication of the silencing of our community's concerns.	
				The Catalina Island Conservancy has been actively involved in these actions. By refusing to acknowledge the concerns of our community, the Conservancy is effectively silencing our voices. This is not the behavior we expect from an organization that is supposed to serve our community.	
				Furthermore, the Conservancy has been exerting undue pressure on the city by threatening legal ramifications if our amended ordinance is not reamended. This level of intimidation is unacceptable and serves only to further silence our community.	
				I urge you to consider these issues seriously. Our community deserves transparency, open communication, and the opportunity to voice their concerns without fear of being silenced or ignored. Please help us ensure that our voices are heard.	
				Thank you for your attention to this matter.	
				Sincerely, Daniel Felts	
			Daniel Knapp	Follow the scientific recommendations for most humane eradication of non- native deer.	No



HILDA L. SOLIS HOLLY J. MITCHELL LINDSEY P.HORVATH

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

JANICE HAHN KATHRYN BARGER

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED



CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS HOLLY J. MITCHELL LINDSEY P.HORVATH JANICE HAHN KATHRYN BARGER

			The following individuals	e following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:		
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments	Attachment	
73-B.		Oppose	Desirae Trainer	I am writing to you as a concerned citizen of Avalon California, on Catalina Island. I strongly oppose the Conservancy's plan to eradicate the mule deer here on the island. As a whole the community here has been fighting so hard to continue to spread the word and hopefully get this horrible thing stopped. There are so many points to this argument that I hope it stands out and you consider our plea to stop this. Thank you for your time.	No	
			Desiree DiLorenzo	These deer are a special part of the island and have brought joy to many of the people. My best friends family lives on the island and are absolutely disturbed by this agenda.	No	
			Emily Kreisberg	Removing deer on Catalina will be the best way to preserve native and rare island species.	No	



HILDA L. SOLIS HOLLY J. MITCHELL LINDSEY P.HORVATH JANICE HAHN

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

KATHRYN BARGER

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

			The following individual	s submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments	Attachment
73-B.		Oppose	Gina Saldana	Please save the deer. I was born and raised on Catalina, as well as my father, brothers, aunts, uncles, and cousins. The deer and the residents have had a symbiotic relationship. When times were tight, the deer sustained us nutritionally. It was viscerally painful to us when the pigs and goats were eliminated from our beloved island home. I still miss them. It pains us deeply that this is once again under consideration, and in effect as we speak, regarding the deer. I keep asking myself why? The ecological and scientific reasonings from the Catalina Island Conservancy are unsound as the deer have been here 100 years and have never caused problems to anyone or anything. Truthfully, they may go after your geraniums or grapes, but other than flowers and certain plants they are harmless. And defenseless. Even if Geoff and Alison Rusack want to build in the interior of Catalina, I still don't understand what this has to do with the deer. Someone has told me that Alison does not like to have the grapes, (not endemic to Catalina) enclosed with fence, (to protect them from the deer) at El Rancho Escondido, the ranch where the Rusacks have built a compound. Surely a person cannot be so shallow as to eliminate a species on an island due to the aesthetics of fencing. But here we are. The former Wrigleys loved having the animals here and told the Rusacks they would have to eliminate them over their dead bodies, which they did. Deer are dying from disease in the rest of California while the deer on Catalina are protected and disease free. If the beseeching and begging from island residents is not enough, surely this is reason enough to keep them. I thought the Fish and Game for Wildlife was to protect the wildlife in California. How can Catalina be exempt? Unless not renewing the easement has allowed Geoff Rusack to do with the island what he will, after all, he owns it. Still, what is the bottom line and why should these beautiful animals be eliminated from an island that they have been living on for 100 years? Furthe	No

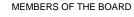


MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS HOLLY J. MITCHELL LINDSEY P.HORVATH JANICE HAHN KATHRYN BARGER

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

			The following individu	als submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments	Attachment
73-B.		Oppose	Joe Saldana	Hello Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, As a former Avalon resident, I urge you to save ALL the deer on Catalina Island! It is important for all of us to be involved in our communities! Please use your leadership powers and moral compass to help fight for the residents of Avalon and save the culture of the community. The culture that includes it's wild animals: pigs, goats, buffalo (bison), deer, and foxes. These living animals were once allowed to live and thieve on the Catalina Island by the original owner, William Wrigley. The wild animals have been a part of the Island Community longer than most of us have been alive! The animals have fed many of the families on the island since they were brought there. I belonged to one of those families that was provide meat from the goats, pigs and deer. These resources provided many Island families with food we otherwise would not have had. William Wrigley believed in hunting and providing such opportunities for those that lived on and visited the island. I urge you to look way back on how popular hunting was and how many people enjoyed visiting the island just to have a chance to see one of wild animals. For those of us that were born and raised on the island, these animals were apart of us and our community. We never would have dreamed that the pigs and goats would be taken away from us. How wrong and naive were we! Please help save the deer from being slaughtered and removed from Catalina Island. Thank you!	No





CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

HILDA L. SOLIS HOLLY J. MITCHELL LINDSEY P.HORVATH JANICE HAHN KATHRYN BARGER

			The following individua	als submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments	Attachmen
73-B.		Oppose	Joe Saldana	Hello Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, As a former Avalon resident, I urge you to save ALL the deer on Catalina Island! It is important for all of us to be involved in our communities! Avalon residents need your support now on saving the deer from extinction. Please use your leadership powers and moral compass to help fight for the residents of Avalon and save the culture of the community. The culture that includes it's wild animals: pigs, goats, buffalo (bison), deer, and foxes. These living animals were once allowed to live and thieve on the Catalina Island by the original owner, William Wrigley. The wild animals have been apart of the Island Community longer than most of us have been alive! The animals have fed many of the families on the island since they were brought there. I belonged to one of those families that was provided with meat from the goats, pigs and deer. These resources provided many Island families with food we otherwise would not have had. William Wrigley believed in hunting and providing such opportunities for those that lived on and visited the island. I urge you to look way back on how popular hunting was and how many people enjoyed visiting the island just to have a chance to see one of wild animals. For those of us that were born and raised on the island, these animals were apart of us and our community. We never would have dreamed that the pigs and goats would be taken away from us. How wrong and naive were we! As LA County Supervisors, you have the power to save the deer from being slaughtered and removed from Catalina Island forever.	No
		АМ	Ken Niessen	Dear Supervisors- I am a professional biologist who has worked on the Channel Islands for more than 20 years, and was on the ground on Santa Cruz Island when non-native pigs were successfully removed and Santa Rosa Island when non-native deer and elk were successfully removed. I have pretty good knowledge of how aerial culling works, and I support the plan of the Catalina Island Conservancy to cull the non-native mule deer by using helicopters and sharpshooters. While the proposed motion by Supervisor Hahn claims that culling from helicopters is inhumane, no definition of humane is given, and the action is described as drastic. However, quick decisive action is the best strategy for the humane welfare of the animals, for the public recreating on Catalina Island Conservancy land, and ultimately for quicker restoration and recovery of the island ecosystems.	



CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

HILDA L. SOLIS HOLLY J. MITCHELL LINDSEY P.HORVATH JANICE HAHN KATHRYN BARGER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Aerial culling is the proven, preferred method used world-wide by scientists to successfully and quickly remove large non-native animals to restore islands to more natural conditions. Aerial culling is fast, accurate, and cost effective. Animals are not herded by helicopters, and sharpshooters are not shooting haphazardly on the landscape. The pilots are skilled at moving through the landscape, using topographic features to hide the sight of and muffle the sound of approach. Helicopters provide a very clear view of the ground and the deer. Sharpshooters will generally need one shot, and with the helicopter, if a follow-up is needed, they can guickly and easily give it. In general, the approach is not stressful to the animals, and the animals are humanely dispatched. This can be in contrast to on the ground-based hunters, who are not uniformly good shots if members of the public, and in the rough terrain of the island do not have great odds at ever getting another shot at a wounded deer. Any suffering over the whole deer population is over in quickly in a matter of months with helicopter culling, as opposed to over years with ground-based culling. Trapping and capturing deer for either removal from the island or trying to sterilize them or implant them with contraceptives would also take years of captures, and deer do not do well when captured, and historically there has been mortality of stressed deer at the time of capture.

Aerial culling is safe for the public. Aerial culling will be over relatively quickly, and the public can quickly return to using the land. As said above, helicopters provide excellent visibility, and mistakes of target are unknown. When goats were culled from Catalina Island, no members of the public were harmed; in fact, over many similar projects worldwide, there has never been reported harm to the public by aerial culling. It is extremely unlikely the public would be harmed on Catalina Island in aerial culling of the non-native deer. Finally, quick culling is crucial to restoration and recovery of the unique Catalina Island ecosystems, which evolved without the relatively recent introduction of mule deer. The non-native mule deer have scientifically been demonstrated to have negative effects on the native plants on the island, especially on endemic plants, and on rare, Federally listed plants on the Endangered Species List. Culling the deer will have positive direct effects on the plants- they will not be eaten or trampled. There will be positive indirect effects as well- erosion will be reduced, especially important as rainfall is expected to be more intense with climate change. Some people have objected to deer being left where they fall, saying they are wasted. They are not wasted. They will return their nutrients to the island soil, and then nourish the members of the native island ecosystem- the foxes, birds, insects, fungi, and ultimately plants.

In conclusion, I support the aerial culling of non-native mule deer on Catalina Island as being scientifically sound, humane, safe, and beneficial to the to the future of the island. Catalina Island is a beautiful place, and as society has an increased appreciation of our diminishing natural areas, it is crucial that action be quickly taken to return Catalina Island to a more natural condition. If not, the landscape will continue to more-and-more resemble the degraded mainland, and not be an improving example of island uniqueness.



HILDA L. SOLIS HOLLY J. MITCHELL LINDSEY P.HORVATH JANICE HAHN KATHRYN BARGER

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

]	
	Thanks for your consideration of my letter- Ken Niessen	
Linda Van den akker	Please do not kill the deer in Catalina The Wrigley's brought them over and if the conservancy wants them gone, they can find a humane way to do it with the help and money from the Wrigleys. What is being considered, is cruel and inhumane. Sterilization would be an answer as would letting them die a natural death. Also, as much as I am against killing anything, make the hunting season more accessible. My husband's family, our family, and future generations have/ will enjoy the island. We've owned a home there for 80 years, but if this slaughter takes place, we will never see the island in quite the same way. I will be hesitant to visit and I'm sure others feel the same.	No
Nasomi Fraga	This is Dr. Naomi Fraga and I am the Director of Conservation Programs at the California Botanic Garden, a leading institution on plant conservation in our state. I would like to speak in support of Catalina Island Conservancy's Restoration Project and in opposition to the proposed letter to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife in Opposition to Catalina Island Conservancy's Permit Application for Eradication of the Island's Mule Deer Population Cataliana Island Conservancy's project is guided on the best available science and will support numerous rare plant populations. I'd like to speak on the impact the project will have on rare plant populations. Catalina supports 34 plants endemic to the Channel Islands, eight of these only occur on Catalina Island. Four of these rare plants are listed under the Federal Endangered Species Act.	No
	The Island Rush Rose, Crocanthemum greenei, one of the federally listed plants was listed under the endangered species act in 1997 due to the primary threat of large-scale topsoil loss caused by non-native mammal activity. To quote the species five-year review published by the USFWS in 2019 "The non-native mammals trampled the soil crust and initially consumed native plants, which tended to be replaced by non-native grasses. Non-native plants displace native species and are poorly suited to erosion control compared to the deep-rooted, native shrubs."	
	This year in 2023 four federally listed plants endemic to neighboring San Clemente Island were delisted from the federal endangered species act in part due to the removal of non-native herbivores such as mule deer. The Service found the U.S. The Navy's successful removal of non-native herbivores led to the recovery of severely degraded vegetation. This is one of many examples demonstrating the importance of these restoration actions. I am voicing my support for the Catalina Island Conservancy's restoration	



MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS HOLLY J. MITCHELL LINDSEY P.HORVATH JANICE HAHN KATHRYN BARGER

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

	project as a scientist who works in service of plants which we all depend on. They are the indigenous inhabitants of the island that give Catalina its unique sense of place. I support the Conservancy's action to steward these sensitive populations as the primary caretakers of the island. I oppose to LA County Board of supervisors submitting a letter to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife in Opposition to Catalina Island Conservancy's Permit Application for Eradication of the Island's Mule Deer Population Thank you.	
Nate Blanks		No
Patricia McCormick	We cannot mitigate the effects of climate change on Catalina Island without removal of the invasive species that degrade its flora and fauna. Our most endangered trees exist only in protective cages and our bird, bat and bee populations decline or disappear because their habitat is deer foder. The evidence of robust plant resurrection on Santa Cruz and Santa Rosa Islands as a result of deer removal justifies the same process on Catalina Island. Allowing the deer to remain on Catalina Island is contrary to the conservation principles and an injustice to the environment. It was folly to bring mule deer to the island; It's irresponsible to not support their removal. Please do not oppose the permit application for eradication of the island's mule deer population.	No
Peter Sharpe	I support the Conservancy's Permit Application and oppose a letter in opposition from the County Supervisors	Yes
Robert Brooks	I urge you to oppose this agenda item. Catalina Island is a world recognized biodiversity hotspot with high level of endemism, which means the plants and animals are found nowhere else on Earth. The Conservancy's Restoration Project will remove the mule deer to protect the health and safety of the island's biodiversity and human population. Mule deer are not native to Catalina Island and were introduced for sport hunting about 100 years ago. The plants and animals on the island evolved without large browsers like mule deer and their populations have contributed to the loss of many rare plants. Further, mule deer browsing after wildfire helps to converts Catalina's island chaparral to nonnative grasslands that are more likely to ignite and spread wildfire, increasing the wildfire threat to the residents of Avalon. The Conservancy has carefully planned the removal of the mule deer with science-based methods and the most humane removal process for the animals.	No
Robyn A Shea	RESUBMITTING CORRECTED REPSONSE.	Yes
Sarah Ratay	The eradication of the mule deer on Catalina is an essential conservation project that will make a huge positive impact on the biodiversity of the Channel Islands. This is the most important possible conservation work of	No



MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS HOLLY J. MITCHELL LINDSEY P.HORVATH JANICE HAHN KATHRYN BARGER

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

	this decade! It is so essential to protecting the many unique plant and animal species that are on the island, and helping with their resilience to climate change impacts. I saw first hand for many years the destruction wrought by the deer on individual plants and it was heartbreaking. Please don't be dissuaded by the resistance to this initiative. No one wants these deer to die but it is the only effective way to get this essential conservation action done. And use of helicopters and sharpshooters is actually the most humane and quick way to remove the deer. Any other method, they suffer more and it is less effective, which will result in more suffering over time. Please give the unique native plants and animals a fighting chance against extinction. Thank you!	
Scott A Morrison	Please see attached letter expressing the strong support of The Nature Conservancy for the proposed eradication of deer from Catalina Island. It outlines how the plan is based on globally recognized, science-based best practices, which explicitly account for animal welfare. Indeed, the methods proposed including the use of helicopters adhere to the guidelines for euthanasia for wildlife as detailed by the American Veterinary Medical Association. These same methods have been used by managers of other Channel Islands, including The Nature Conservancy and the National Park Service, to successfully remove harmful introduced herbivores and restore unique island ecosystems and biodiversity. I respectfully encourage the Board to be guided by science, and promote the conservation of Catalina's unique plants and animals and not advance this proposed letter. Thank you for your consideration. Scott Morrison, Ph.D., Director of Science and Conservation, The Nature Conservancy, California.	Yes
Susan L Smyth	Please deny Catalina Conservancy's Permit Application for Eradication of the Island's Mule Deer Population. I've lived on Catalina permanently since 1963. I unfortunately was witness to the aftermath of the Conservancy's surprise mass slaughters of the island's goats & boar. It was and is needless too destroy animals that do nothing but enhanced the island's economy and ecosystems. Thank you!	No
T W Vickers	Please see attached letter.	Yes
Tiffany Armenta	The eradication of mule deer on Catalina is a critical conservation action that must happen! This issue was literally a conservation case study while earning my PhD at UCLA; the consensus among professionally trained biologists and ecologists is that these deer incur major adverse impacts to the land. The Channel Islands are home to many unique and rare plant species that occur nowhere else in the world and the deer are simply decimating these populations. Please don't be dissuaded by the humane arguments- this is truly the best option to protect this unique ecosystem AS A WHOLE. Removing one species would allow for dozens of other species to thrive. Furthermore, use of helicopters and sharpshooters is the most humane and effective way to remove the deer. Please do your part in resource protection and give this fragile ecosystem a fighting chance against extinction! Thank you	No



MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS HOLLY J. MITCHELL LINDSEY P.HORVATH JANICE HAHN KATHRYN BARGER

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

	Traci Degnan	There have not been significant studies to prove that eradicating all of the Catalina island Mule Deer is necessary. In previous statements from the catalina Island Conservancy, they have claimed to easily be able to manage a her of 500 deer. The Conservancy has hindered the hunting program in previous years to make it difficult to manage the herd. Last year they removed a lot of their requirements and we had one of our best hunting seasons ever, showing that a successful hunting program can be managed. Also, the times when the Conservancy claims the deer are unhealthy, the photos they show were taken during the height of the drought that all of California was experiencing and all the deer statewide were experiencing the same health issues. 2022-2024 the deer are healthy and strong. The island plant habitats are also thriving and growing. Also, Chrinic Wasting Disease is decimating deer across the state and nation. Catalina Island Mule Deer may be the only isolated and protected herd that can be used to help repopulate the Mule deer if needed.	No
	William Hoyer	Mule deer eradication is necessary to preserve the natural heritage on Catalina Island. The use of helicopters is the most humane and efficient method to conduct this restoration effort. Other Channel Islands have used helicopters successfully to eradicate invasive herbivores, and to preserve the ecology of the islands. Catalina is the last of the Channel Islands to remove destructive herbivores, and should be commended for taking this necessary conservation action to preserve the island's plants and animals for generations to come. If you follow science and local island conservation successes you will not sign this opposition letter.	No
Other	Allie Deza	My family has been visiting Catalina Island for generations, and the mule deer are a magical and memorable part of our time on the island. Please do not inhumanely mass slaughter them. Aerial shooting at the height of summer tourism is dangerous. Hunting organizations estimate an average of 7-9 bullets per deer are used in an aerial hunt. The carcasses will be left to rot. The residents of the island already lived through the slaughter of the pigs and goats. They remember the screams and cries, for days, of the animals as they suffered and slowly died. The Conservancy has stated themselves that the number of deer on the island is unknown. How can they make a case that the deer are overpopulated? Please respect the wishes of those who have a long loved the island. Do NOT grant this permit.	No
	Gordon A Jorgenson	PLEASE Do NOT allow the Conservancy to mercilessly kill all the deer on Catalina Island! Their studies are FRAUDULENT and rigged for their political agenda! The deer pose NO HARM OR THREAT to the island's ecosystem. They just want to kill off innocent animals!!!	No
	Jayme Godin	The Catalina Island Conservancy has failed to provide scientific evidence that the deer must be eradicated. This permit must be denied.	No
	Joan D Blacutt	Please save the innocent deer!	No



MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS HOLLY J. MITCHELL LINDSEY P.HORVATH JANICE HAHN KATHRYN BARGER

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

		Mike Deza	The Catalina Island Conservancy has failed to provide scientific evidence that the deer must be eradicated. This permit must be denied.	No
		Sonia Deza	I am against the eradication of the mule deer on Catalina island.	No
	Item Total	55		
73-C.	Favor	Traci Degnan		No
	Oppose			
	Other			
	Item Total	1		