



Jill C. Anderson
Executive Vice President
& Chief Operating Officer

March 3, 2025

Charlton Bonham
Director, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for the Catalina Island Restoration Project

Dear Director Bonham,

On behalf of Southern California Edison (SCE), I am writing to express our strong support for the Catalina Island Restoration Project. As the electric, water and gas utility service provider to Catalina Island, SCE recognizes the urgent need to protect its unique ecosystems, ensuring long-term resilience against climate change, wildfire risks, and biodiversity loss.

Invasive species have severely impacted Catalina's native habitats, threatening its 60+ endemic species and increasing the risk of devastating wildfires and drought. The loss of native chaparral to invasive grasses reduces the island's ability to retain water and resist fire, endangering both residents and infrastructure.

Catalina is Southern California's only large, publicly accessible island, attracting over a million visitors annually for recreation, education, and nature-based tourism. It serves as an outdoor classroom for thousands of students each year, fostering the next generation of environmental stewards. Preserving the island's biodiversity is not only crucial for conservation but also vital to the local economy and the well-being of its residents.

The Catalina Island Conservancy's science-based restoration plan offers a proactive approach to reversing habitat degradation, reducing wildfire risks, and ensuring a sustainable future. SCE urges the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to support this critical initiative. Investing in Catalina's restoration today will protect its ecosystems, safeguard its communities, and preserve an invaluable natural resource for all Californians.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We look forward to working together to protect Catalina Island for generations to come.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jill C. Anderson".

Jill C. Anderson