

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: January 26, 2011

TO: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Patricia Allison, City Manager's Office

**SUBJECT: REQUEST BY MAYOR WOOD FOR A LETTER IN SUPPORT OF
CONGRESSMAN DARRELL ISSA'S H.R. 41 "BEAUTY MOUNTAIN
AND AGUA TIBIA WILDERNESS ACT"**

DRAFT

January 28, 2011

The Honorable Darrell Issa
221 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Subject: Support for the Beauty Mountain and Agua Tibia Wilderness Act (HR 41)

Dear Congressman Issa:

I am writing on behalf of the City of Oceanside in support of HR 41, the Beauty Mountain and Agua Tibia Wilderness Act, which you have introduced. This bill will not only enhance the local tourism economy and improve recreation opportunities, but it will ensure that magnificent scenery and rich wildlife habitat are conserved for the future. I applaud your proposal which would add 7,796 acres to the existing Agua Tibia Wilderness, expand Beauty Mountain Wilderness by 13,635 acres and ensure that a campground and trailhead is built outside Beauty Mountain Wilderness to improve recreational opportunities.

Characterized by deep canyons and rugged coastal sage scrub, Agua Tibia is enjoyed by hikers and equestrians who travel the region via the Cutca Trail. It is home to such sensitive species as the California gnatcatcher and the rosy boa constrictor.

As the name implies, Beauty Mountain is a scenic jewel draped in chaparral, fascinating rock formations and oak woodlands. Both of these areas provide endless recreational opportunities as well as priceless habitat for endangered wildlife. Both areas serve as critical plant and wildlife migration corridors between Anza-Borrego Desert State Park on the east and the coastal mountains of Riverside and San Diego Counties to the west.

Thank you for sponsorship of H.R. 41; it is an investment in our State's natural resources and our economic future.

Sincerely,

JIM WOOD
Mayor

Cc: City Council