

94-501

MARIPOSA COUNTY  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AGENDA  
ACTION FORM

DATE: November 22, 1994  
AGENDA ITEM NO: 6-D

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HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

BY: James F. Evans

PHONE: 966-6121

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: (POLICY ITEM: YES\_\_\_ NO\_X\_)

Discussion and Possible Action regarding a US Forest Service Special Use Permit Application in Cooperation with the American Indian Council of Mariposa County and including the Approved Project in the US Forest Service Action Plan for the Bower Cave/Jordan Creek Special Interest Area. (Previous Board Direction).

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

See attached memo.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION.

See attached memo for Use Permit alternatives. Negative Action would maintain the current undeveloped, unprotected status of the Site.

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COSTS: (X) Not Applicable  
A. Budgeted CURRENT FY \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
B. Total anticipated costs \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
C. Required Add'l funding \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
D. Internal Transfers \$ \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:  
List the attachments and number pages consecutively:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
2 page memo  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

SOURCE: ( ) 4/5ths vote required  
A. Unanticipated revenues \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
B. Reserve for contingencies \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
C. Source description: \_\_\_\_\_  
Balance in Reserve for Contingencies, if approved: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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CLERK'S USE ONLY:  
Resolution No.: 94-501  
Ordinance No.: \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote - Ayes: \_\_\_\_\_ Noes: \_\_\_\_\_  
Absent: \_\_\_\_\_ Abstain: \_\_\_\_\_  
( ) Approved ( ) Denied  
(X) Minute Order Attached  
( ) No Action Necessary

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S  
RECOMMENDATION:  
This item on agenda as:  
 Recommended  
 Not Recommended  
 Policy Determination  
 Submitted w/ Comment  
 Returned for further action

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: MARGIE WILLIAMS  
Clerk of the Board  
County of Mariposa,  
State of California

A.O. Initials: mc / [signature]

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy

MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MINUTE ORDER

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TO: JIM EVANS, Housing and Community Development  
Agency Director

FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board *By J.B.*

SUBJECT: Possible Action Regarding U.S. Forest Service  
Special Use Permit Application Re  
Bower Cave/Jordan Creek Special Interest Area  
Resolution Number 94-501

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THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA,  
ADOPTED THIS Order on November 22, 1994

ACTION AND VOTE:

**9:34 a.m.** Jim Evans, Housing and Community Development  
Agency Director;

D) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding a United States Forest Service Special Use Permit Application in Cooperation with the American Indian Council of Mariposa County and Including the Approved Project in the United States Forest Service Action Plan for the Bower Cave/Jordan Creek Special Interest Area

**BOARD ACTION:** Discussion was held with Jim Evans. Bill Leonard/American Indian Council of Mariposa County, provided input. Supervisor Balmain thanked Ken Gosting for presenting copies of the story run in Life Magazine in May 1953 on the Cave. (M)Balmain, (S)Taber, Res. 94-501 adopted authorizing submission of a joint application with the American Indian Council for a Special Use Permit from the Forest Service; amending the existing County Rural Revitalization Program Action Plan to include management of the Bower Cave/Jordan Creek Special Interest Area; and directing Housing and Community Development Agency Director to seek funding for fencing of the site/Ayes: Unanimous. Supervisor Balmain advised of the Northside History Center's interest in this project.

cc: Jeffrey G. Green, County Counsel  
File



James F. Evans Director

# HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY



- Calaveras/Mariposa County Community Action Agency
- Head Start
- Housing Authority of the County of Mariposa
- Recreation Programs

November 14, 1994

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: James F. Evans, Director *JFE*

SUBJECT: BOWER CAVE

On September 20, 1994, the Board directed HCDA to work with the Forest Service, PG&E, and American Indian Council to come up with a program that would protect and enhance Bower Cave and make it available to the public, including direction that a special use permit...be sought from the Forest Service. As we discussed, the USFS has adopted a Bower Cave/Jordan Creek Special Interest Area (SIA) Management Plan which allows public day use and overnight camping. Protection of Bower Cave is accomplished by allowing viewing but not actual access to the floor and walls of the Cave.

Attached please find a letter from the American Indian Council of Mariposa County approving in concept a joint application with the County for a Use Permit for the Bower Cave/Jordan Creek SIA.

Therefore, I recommend consideration of the following:

- 1) The County submit a joint application with the Council OR support an individual Indian Council application OR submit an individual County application for a Special Use Permit from the USFS in accordance with existing USFS Management Plan(s).
- 2) Amend the existing Mariposa County Rural Revitalization Program Action Plan to include management of the Bower Cave/Jordan Creek SIA. This would facilitate USFS funding for this Project.
- 3) Direct me to seek funding from PG & E or other local organizations to install interim fencing to discourage vandalism on Bower Cave.

Thank you for your consideration and direction regarding this matter.



# American Indian Council of Mariposa County

P. O. BOX 1200 • MARIPOSA, CALIFORNIA 95338

Chairman  
William H. Leonard  
Vice Chairman  
Michael Hammer, Jr.  
Secretary  
Charles T. Davenport  
Treasurer  
Frannie Gann  
Director at Large  
Bill Tucker

October 19, 1994

James F. Evans, Director  
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY  
P. O. Box 39  
Mariposa, CA 95338

Re: Bower Cave/Jordan Creek

Dear Jim:

In response to your letter dated October 12, 1994, the Board of Directors met on October 13, 1994, and approved in concept joining the County of Mariposa in making application to the U.S. Forest Service for a Use Permit on the Bower Cave/Jordan Creek site.

Our long term goals would be to preserve the Cave and surrounding areas for traditional Mi-Wok spiritual and ceremonial uses as well as limited visitation in accordance with established U.S. Forest Service plans.

Thank you for your consideration and inclusion of the American Indian Council of Mariposa County Inc. in this process.

Sincerely,

William H. Leonard  
Chairman

WHL/pml

21 1994

P.O. Box 320  
Catheys Valley, CA 95306  
966-6753

November 17, 1994

Jim Evens, Director  
Mariposa County Housing and Community Development Agency  
P.O. Box 39  
Mariposa, CA 95338

Dear Jim:

The American Indian Council's proposal to work with the Stanislaus National Forest staff and preserve Bower Cave is good news. Their presentation to the Board of Supervisors on November 22 will be an important step in this effort.

The Supervisors agreed at their September 20 meeting that prompt action must be taken to protect this unique and fragile treasure and at last open it and the surrounding area to responsible visitors. It's essential that the community lend our support. We look forward to working together with you and the American Indian Council to insure that this project moves forward without delay.

Thank you, Jim, for your effort so far. As you know, many people have expressed concern and willingness to help.

Sincerely,



Caroline Wenger Korn