



# NEWS RELEASE

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May 29, 2007

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Changes in the Works for Nonprofit Environmental Law Firm**

The Environmental Defense Center (EDC) announced today that its Executive Director, Cameron Benson, will be leaving to assume a new role as the City of Santa Barbara's Creeks Restoration and Water Quality Manager. Mr. Benson will begin his new position on July 9<sup>th</sup>, and EDC is actively recruiting for his replacement.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at the Environmental Defense Center. EDC's staff, Board of Directors, and supporters in the community have been amazing to work with," said Benson. "This is an incredible organization and, together, we have continued a 30-year tradition of successfully protecting our local environment. I know EDC will be an effective advocate for environmental protection long into the future"

"Cameron has provided strong and able leadership that has significantly strengthened EDC's ability to protect our environment and improve the quality of life for local residents. We wish him well as he takes the helm of the City's Creeks Division," said EDC Board President Whitney Abbott. "He is passionate about our local environment – particularly when it comes to improving creek and ocean water quality."

EDC's staff and Board of Directors will continue to lead local environmental protection efforts by providing the highest quality technical and legal advice to residents and community organizations working to improve air and water quality, preserve our remaining open spaces, and secure an environment free of toxic chemicals and pesticides.

The Environmental Defense Center protects and enhances the local environment through education, advocacy, and legal action and works primarily within Santa Barbara, Ventura and San Luis Obispo counties. Since 1977, EDC has empowered community based organizations to advance environmental protection. Program areas include protecting coast and ocean resources, open spaces and wildlife, and human and environmental health.

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