



MEETING AGENDA

TIME/DATE: 12:30 p.m. / Monday, June 7, 2021

Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20, (March 18, 2020), the meeting will only be conducted via video conferencing and by telephone. Please follow the instructions on the following page to join the meeting remotely.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair – Natasha Johnson

Vice Chair – Jeff Hewitt

Kevin Jeffries, County of Riverside, District 1
Karen Spiegel, County of Riverside, District 2
Chuck Washington, County of Riverside, District 3
V. Manuel Perez, County of Riverside, District 4
Jeff Hewitt, County of Riverside, District 5
Colleen Wallace / David Happe, City of Banning
Julio Martinez / Mike Lara, City of Beaumont
Jeff Cervantez / Bill Davis, City of Calimesa
Larry Greene / Jeremy Smith, City of Canyon Lake
Tony Daddario / Wes Speake, City of Corona
Jocelyn Yow / Todd Rigby, City of Eastvale
Linda Krupa / To Be Appointed, City of Hemet
Lorena Barajas / Leslie Altamirano, City of Jurupa Valley
Natasha Johnson / Bob Magee, City of Lake Elsinore
Lesa Sobek / Bob Karwin, City of Meniffee
David Marquez / To Be Appointed, City of Moreno Valley
Jonathan Ingram / Christi White, City of Murrieta
Kevin Bash / Katherine Aleman, City of Norco
David Starr Rabb / Malcolm Corona, City of Perris
Erin Edwards / Patricia Lock Dawson, City of Riverside
Crystal Ruiz / Phil Ayala, City of San Jacinto
Maryann Edwards / Zak Schwank, City of Temecula
Ben J. Benoit / Joseph Morabito, City of Wildomar

WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

www.wrc-rca.org

MEETING AGENDA*

***Actions may be taken on any item listed on the agenda**

12:30 p.m.

Monday, June 7, 2021

Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20, (March 18, 2020), the Board meeting will only be conducted via video conferencing and by telephone. Please follow the instructions below to join the meeting remotely.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://rctc.zoom.us/j/89632665692>

Call in: +1 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 896 3266 5692

One tap mobile: +16699006833,,89632665692#

For members of the public wishing to submit comment in connection with the Board of Directors Meeting please email written comments to the Clerk of the Board at lmobley@rctc.org prior to June 6, 2021 at 5:00 p.m., and your comments will be made part of the official record of the proceedings. Members of the public may also make public comments through their telephone or Zoom connection when recognized by the Chair.

In compliance with the Brown Act and Government Code Section 54957.5, agenda materials distributed 72 hours prior to the meeting, which are public records relating to open session agenda items, will be available for inspection by members of the public prior to the meeting on the RCA's website, www.wrc-rca.org.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Government Code Section 54954.2, Executive Order N-29-20, and the Federal Transit Administration Title VI, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (951) 787-7141 if special assistance is needed to participate in a Board meeting, including accessibility and translation services. Assistance is provided free of charge. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to the meeting time will assist staff in assuring reasonable arrangements can be made to provide assistance at the meeting.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – *Under the Brown Act, the Board should not take action on or discuss matters raised during public comment portion of the agenda that are not listed on the agenda. The Board members may refer such matters to staff for factual information or to be placed on the subsequent agenda for consideration.*

5. **ADDITIONS / REVISIONS** – *The Board may add an item to the Agenda after making a finding that there is a need to take immediate action on the item and that the item came to the attention of the Board subsequent to the posting of the agenda. An action adding an item to the agenda requires 2/3 vote of the Board. If there are less than 2/3 of the Board members present, adding an item to the agenda requires a unanimous vote. Added items will be placed for discussion at the end of the agenda.*

6. **CONSENT CALENDAR** – *All matters on the Consent Calendar will be approved in a single motion unless a Board Member(s) requests separate action on specific item(s).*

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MAY 3, 2021

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6B. FISCAL YEAR 2020/21 THIRD QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT

Page 7

Overview

This item is for the Board of Directors to receive and file the FY 2020/21 Third Quarter Financial Report.

6C. WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY MULTIPLE SPECIES HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN FEE COLLECTION REPORT FOR APRIL 2021

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Overview

This is for the Board of Directors to receive and file the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) Fee Collection Report for April 2021.

6D. FISCAL YEAR 2020/21 THIRD QUARTER CONSULTANT REPORTS

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Overview

This item is for the Board of Directors to receive and file the FY 2020/21 Consultant Reports.

6E. RECURRING CONTRACTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021/22

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Overview

This item is for the Board of Directors to

- 1) Approve the single-year recurring contracts in an amount not to exceed \$3,334,393, for FY 2021/22;
- 2) Approve the recurring contract for specialized services in an amount not to exceed \$250,000, in FY 2021/22 and \$1,000,000, in FYs 2022/23 - 2025/26; and
- 3) Authorize the Chair or Executive Director, pursuant to legal counsel review, to execute the agreements on behalf of RCA.

7. ADOPTION OF FISCAL YEAR 2021/22 BUDGET AND APPROVAL OF THE BIOLOGICAL MONITORING PROGRAM WORKPLANS

Page 56

Overview

This item is for the Board of Directors to:

- 1) Adopt the FY 2021/22 Budget and related Resolution No. 2021-014, "*Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Adopting the Fiscal Year 2021/22 Operating and Capital Budget Including Budget Policies*";
- 2) Approve the Biological Monitoring Program Work Plan and Cost Estimate included as Appendix B in the FY 2021/22 Budget; and
- 3) Approve the Clinton Keith Road Overcrossing Mitigation Monitoring Reimbursable Program Work Plan and Cost Estimate included as Appendix C in the FY 2021/22 Budget.

8. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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Overview

This item is for the Board of Directors to receive and file an update on state and federal legislation.

9. PRESENTATION – SPECIES OF THE MONTH

10. BOARD OF DIRECTORS / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Overview

This item provides the opportunity for the Board of Directors and the Executive Director to report on attended meetings/conferences and any other items related to Commission activities.

- Nexus Study Implementation Update

11. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled to be held on **Monday, July 12, 2021**, via Zoom.

AGENDA ITEM 6A

MINUTES

WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Monday, May 3, 2021

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Board of Directors Meeting was called to order by Chair Natasha Johnson at 12:30 p.m., via Zoom Meeting ID 850 7931 4586, pursuant to Governor Newsom’s Executive Order N-29-20.

2. ROLL CALL

Board of Directors/Alternates Present

Karen Spiegel*
Chuck Washington
Jeff Hewitt
Colleen Wallace
Julio Martinez*
Jeff Cervantez
Larry Greene
Tony Daddario
Jocelyn Yow
Linda Krupa
Lorena Barajas

Natasha Johnson
Lesa Sobek*
David Marquez
Jonathan Ingram*
Kevin Bash
David Starr Rabb
Crystal Ruiz
Maryann Edwards
Ben J. Benoit

Board of Directors Absent

Kevin Jeffries
V. Manuel Perez
Erin Edwards

*Arrived after the meeting was called to order.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board Member Greene.

At this time, Board Member Martinez joined the meeting.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no requests to speak from the public.

5. ADDITIONS / REVISIONS

There were no additions or revisions to the agenda.

6. CLOSED SESSION

At this time, Steve DeBaun, legal counsel, announced the Board would be going in to Closed Session to discuss the four items on the agenda.

At this time, Board Members Sobek and Spiegel joined the meeting.

6A. CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8

Agency Negotiator: Executive Director or Designee

Item	Property Description	Property Owner	Buyer(s)
1	932-270-005 & 932-270-006	The Nature Conservancy (Schumacher)	RCA
2	932-160-026	The Nature Conservancy (LaFleur)	RCA
3	932-170-019	The Nature Conservancy (KS California)	RCA

6B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL: EXISTING LITIGATION

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)

Case No. RIC1901547

6C. REPORT OUT FROM CLOSED SESSION

There were no announcements from Closed Session.

At this time, Board Member Washington left the meeting.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR - *All matters on the Consent Calendar will be approved in a single motion unless a Board Member(s) requests separate action on specific item(s).*

M/S/C (M. Edwards/Greene) to approve the following Consent Calendar items.

7A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APRIL 5, 2021

7B. WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY MULTIPLE SPECIES HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN FEE COLLECTION REPORT

This item is for the Board of Directors to receive and file the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) Fee Collection Report for March 2021.

7C. ADOPT RESOLUTIONS NOS. 2021-008, 2021-011, AND 2021-012 AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS FOR ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY

This item is for the Board of Directors to:

- 1) Adopt Resolution No. 2021-008, *“Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Authorizing Entering into Grant Agreements with the Wildlife Conservation Board and Authorizing the Acquisition of All or a Portion of Assessor Parcel Number 932-160-026 Totaling Approximately 20.37 Acres in the County of Riverside”*;
- 2) Adopt Resolution No. 2021-011, *“Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Authorizing Entering into Grant Agreements with the Wildlife Conservation Board and Authorizing the Acquisition of All or a Portion of Assessor Parcel Numbers 932-270-005 and 932-270-006 Totaling Approximately 51.76 Acres in the County of Riverside”*; and
- 3) Adopt Resolution No. 2021-012, *“Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Authorizing Entering into Grant Agreements with the Wildlife Conservation Board and Authorizing the Acquisition of All or a Portion of Assessor Parcel Number 932-170-019 Totaling Approximately 20.18 Acres in the County of San Bernardino”*.

7D. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

This item is for the Board of Directors to receive and file an update on state and federal legislation.

8. AUTHORIZATION TO ACQUIRE TAX-DEFAULTED PROPERTIES FROM THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR AND ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2021-013 OBJECTING TO THE PUBLIC SALE

At this time, Board Member Ingram joined the meeting.

Board Member Marquez asked whether any of the delinquent taxes due on the properties had been paid and whether the properties had already been appraised. Hector Casillas, Right of Way Manager, noted that none of the three properties had made a tax payment and they are still available. The properties are not being purchased based on their appraised value, but rather the amount of delinquent taxes due, so no appraisal has been completed.

M/S/C (Marquez/Sobek) to:

- 1) **Authorize the acquisition of tax-defaulted properties from the Riverside County Treasurer-Tax Collector for open space for wildlife and plant life conservation in an amount not to exceed \$56,462; and;**

- 2) **Adopt Resolution No. 2021-013, “Resolution of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Objecting to the Public Sale and Approving the Purchase of the Tax-Defaulted Property from the Riverside County Treasurer-Tax Collector”.**

9. DRAFT PUBLIC OUTREACH PLAN

Cheryl Donahue, Public Affairs Manager, provided a presentation on the Draft Public Outreach Plan for the RCA. The draft plan focuses on more ways the RCA can help to build a bridge to the community. Building upon the previously laid foundation, the public outreach goals are being improved with experienced staff, digital campaigns, and a deliberate process with quarterly updates provided to the Board. Since the beginning of the year, the team has been learning about the RCA, gathered baseline data from social media accounts, expanded the contact database, and reformatted The Vista newsletter.

Chair Johnson expressed excitement at the presentation and for the Board to see not only all the work that has gone into this plan, but also that there will be quarterly updates with measurable metrics.

Board Member Ingram noted that years back, when a public outreach effort was started, the goal was to target foundations, environmental groups, or landowners who were interested in donating land or capital to fund land purchases. He inquired whether that idea was included in the new plan. Ms. Donahue stated this is something she would look at and noted that there is currently a place on the RCA website for donations.

Board Member Martinez mentioned that as a teacher at a local school district, if the RCA was looking for a small district to target some ideas, he would be willing to assist.

Board Member Benoit stated that a similar program was started at the Air Quality and Mobility District (AQMD) several years ago with similar starting stats, now, at least 4 years later, they have over 9,500 followers on Twitter. AQMD is now working to have all their educational material on YouTube to allow any teacher access to the information.

Lisa Mobley, Clerk of the Board, noted that the RCA meetings are being broadcast on YouTube, and the meetings that have been conducted via Zoom since the beginning of the year, will also be uploaded and available to the public.

Board Member Daddario asked staff to send out this presentation to the Board for their review.

Board Member M. Edwards inquired as to whether the education piece of the plan included something for high schoolers and career technical students interested in internships or apprenticeships. Ms. Donahue noted that the very first efforts have just been put together for the education piece of this plan, but she will make note of the suggestion and take it into consideration.

Board Member Sobek thanked staff for the presentation and their efforts and asked about the distribution of the newsletter. Ms. Donahue noted that the newsletter gets sent to the RCA Board, as well as all council members in Western Riverside cities.

This item is for the Board of Directors to receive a presentation summarizing the Draft Public Outreach plan.

10. ROUGH STEP COMPLIANCE COMMUNICATION

Tricia Campbell, Reserve Management and Monitoring Manager, provided a presentation on the Rough Step Compliance Communication. The RCA will be reaching out to the MSHCP permittees who have jurisdiction in the three Rough Step units that are out of balance. Under the MSHCP, a permittee is not to authorize removal of a vegetation community that is out of Rough Step compliance.

This item is for the Board of Directors to receive and file this informational item on Rough Step Compliance Communication.

11. PRESENTATION – GETTING TO KNOW THE MSHCP

Tricia Campbell, Reserve Management and Monitoring Manager, provided a presentation on the MSHCP permittees. The MSHCP permittees are comprised of 18 cities, as well as, the County of Riverside, Flood Control and Water Conservation District, Regional Park and Open Space District, Department of Waste Resources, RCTC, the RCA, the California Department of Transportation, and California Department of Parks and Recreation. All permittees are signatory to the implementing agreement and fulfill their requirements of the MSHCP through a discretionary approval process. Apart from the MSHCP permittees, there are also partners or cooperating agencies. Partners or cooperating agencies play an integral role in supporting the permittees of the MSHCP.

12. BOARD OF DIRECTORS / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Overview

Anne Mayer, Executive Director, provided a Nexus Study Update. Currently, 94% of jurisdictions have made significant progress on the approval and adoption of the Nexus Study Update. At the end of this week, there will be at least 11 jurisdictions which have fully adopted the Nexus Study. Staff remains on stand-by for each of the council meetings, both before to help city staff and ensure Board Members have all the information they need, and during the council meetings to make sure someone is on hand to answer any questions that might arise.

Chair Johnson thanked staff for the support that has been offered to the various council meetings. This proactive approach has ensured that city staff and council members are ready to consider the Nexus Study Update.

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for consideration by the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Board of Directors, Chair Johnson adjourned the meeting at 1:22 p.m. The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled to be held on **Monday, June 7, 2021**, via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lisa", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lisa Mobley
Administrative Services Manager/
Clerk of the Board

AGENDA ITEM 6B

WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

DATE:	June 7, 2021
TO:	Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority
FROM:	Executive Committee Jennifer Fuller, Financial Administration Manager
THROUGH:	Anne Mayer, Executive Director
SUBJECT:	Fiscal Year 2020/21 Third Quarter Financial Report

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for the Board of Directors to receive and file the FY 2020/21 Third Quarter Financial Report.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Attached is the FY 2020/21 Third Quarter Financial Report, which includes an Executive Summary (cash balance summary and financial statement overview), detailed financial statements, and Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) Fee Collections reports.

As of March 31, 2021, the RCA acquired 12 new properties totaling 565 acres valued at approximately \$7 million. In addition, the RCA received one land donation of approximately 3 acres with an estimated value of about \$73,000. The RCA also acquired 50 acres of Delhi Sands Flower-Loving Fly conservation credits valued at over \$6.3 million. Consultant costs related to properties acquired approximate \$234,000. The RCA is currently working with the California Wildlife Conservation Board and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services to obtain federal and state funding of approximately \$6.9 million and \$2.5 million, respectively, for seven properties. Additionally, the RCA is negotiating various land acquisitions with property owners which are eligible for federal and/or state funding.

Member Agencies remitted nearly \$15.2 million in local development mitigation fees to the RCA through the third quarter. This represents 145 percent of the budgeted mitigation revenues for the year. Staff cautiously projects that mitigation fee revenue could reach almost \$17 million by June 30, 2021. As of March 31, 2021, the Member Agencies reported 5,191 new residential units and 590 acres of new commercial/industrial development. Last year, the RCA had collected nearly \$12.5 million in local development mitigation fees as of March 31, 2020. The increase in fees is attributable to an increase in both residential development and commercial/industrial development.

RCA received tipping fees of approximately \$2.6 million for the first three quarters of FY 2020/21, which represent about 79 percent of the budgeted \$3.3 million for the year. As of March 31, 2021, just over 1.7 million tons of out-of-county tonnage were reported by the

Riverside County Department of Waste Resources. Staff projects that tipping fees will slightly exceed the budgeted revenues by June 30, 2021.

The RCA budgeted TUMF revenues of \$1.3 million for FY 2020/21. The Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) has remitted the first two quarters of TUMF revenues and WRCOG remitted \$191,197, related to additional prior year revenues that were not accrued in the FY 2019/20 audited financial statements. Staff projects that TUMF revenues will exceed the budgeted revenues at June 30, 2021.

During the third quarter, final payroll transactions were processed related to the termination of County employees. All staff working on behalf of the RCA are now RCTC employees, and salaries and benefits of those staff are reported as contract expenditures. An appropriation transfer was completed to move the remaining salaries and benefits budget to the contracts budget to allow for the proper accounting of those costs.

As of March 31, 2021, costs related to the management services agreement are approximately \$694,000. These costs mostly relate to staffing related costs. During the fourth quarter, it is expected that consultant costs will increase as the right of way team utilizes existing RCTC contracts more than the Riverside County Facilities Maintenance Real Estate division (FM). Staff projects total costs as of June 30, 2021, will be approximately \$2 million. It should be noted that two professional services contracts have been terminated, and staff will be performing more right of way work in house rather than contracting it out to FM.

The fund balance in the Capital Projects Fund was \$20.1 million as of June 30, 2020. Staff projects that by June 30, 2021, revenues will exceed appropriations by about \$2.3 million. This would increase the Capital Projects Fund balance to about \$22.4 million. The excess revenue over expenditures is attributable to an increase in Local Development Mitigation Fee revenue.

Staff projects that the RCA's General Fund balance could decrease by approximately \$1.4 million, from \$27 million to \$25.6 million, by June 30, 2021. The decrease is attributable to the salaries and benefits costs related to termination of County employees offset by increased Participating Special Entities revenues.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Staff currently project that current year budgeted expenditures will be sufficient to meet expected costs through the fiscal year-end.

Attachments:

- 1) Executive Summary (Cash Balance Summary and Financial Statement Overview)
- 2) Detailed Financial Statements
- 3) MSHCP Fee Collection Reports

Approved by the Executive Committee on May 19, 2021

In Favor: 5 Abstain: 0 No: 0



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Fiscal Year 2021

Third Quarter Financial Report

July 1, 2020 – March 31, 2021

Cash Balance Summary

	Amount
Balance as of 7-01-20	\$ 51,920,393
Cash Receipts 7-01-20 through 3-31-21	<u>27,086,602</u>
Cash Available	79,006,995
Cash Disbursements 7-01-20 through 3-31-21	<u>(24,476,539)</u>
Cash Balance 3-31-21	<u>\$ 54,530,456</u>

Budget to Actual and FYE Projections

RCA Operations (935100)	Budget	Actual	Year-End Projections
<u>Revenue</u>	\$ 2,650,225	\$ 2,737,982	\$ 2,910,400
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Salaries & Benefits	4,926,700	4,925,812	4,925,800
Supplies & Services	<u>496,240</u>	<u>182,195</u>	<u>319,300</u>
Total Expenditures	5,422,940	5,108,007	5,245,100
Net Change in Operating Position	\$ (2,772,715)	\$ (2,370,025)	\$ (2,334,700)

Budget to Actual and FYE Projections

Land Management & Monitoring (935300)	Budget	Actual	Year-End Projections
<u>Revenue</u>	\$ 3,748,710	\$ 2,609,841	\$ 4,078,500
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Salaries & Benefits	234,300	233,715	233,700
Supplies & Services	3,801,209	2,124,052	2,875,800
Other Charges	<u>70,000</u>	<u>60,365</u>	<u>62,000</u>
Total Expenditures	4,105,509	2,418,132	3,171,500
Net Change in Operating Position	\$ (356,799)	\$ 191,709	\$ 907,000

Budget to Actual and FYE Projections

Land Acquisition (935201)	Budget	Actual	Year-End Projections
<u>Revenue</u>	\$ 37,925,990	\$ 21,179,624	\$ 36,218,300
<u>Expenditures:</u>			
Salaries & Benefits	835,200	834,649	834,700
Supplies & Services	3,598,120	1,803,562	3,080,800
Interest-Notes	1,038,000	1,013,862	1,018,500
Capital Assets	<u>38,495,200</u>	<u>13,466,484</u>	<u>29,020,000</u>
Total Expenditures	43,966,520	17,118,557	33,954,000
Net Change in Operating Position	\$ (6,040,530)	\$ 4,061,067	\$ (2,264,300)



QUESTIONS

Regional Conservation Authority
Budget vs. Actual Comparison as of March 31, 2021
General Fund - 935100 Operations

ATTACHMENT 2

Note: Amounts subject to rounding

REVENUES		Budget	Actual	% of Actual to Budget	Note No.	Projection through 6/30/21	Variance with Budget
722000	Participating Special Entity	\$ 2,182,645	\$ 2,176,718	100%	1	\$ 2,176,700	\$ (5,945)
740020	Interest-Invested Funds	60,000	48,543	81%	2	97,100	37,100
769240	Other Gov MSHCP Infrastructure	30,000	255,923	853%	6	256,000	226,000
769260	Other Gov MSHCP Civic Projects	25,000	2,253	9%	7	10,300	(14,700)
771410	Flood Control District	52,580	40,000	76%	8	80,300	27,720
777860	Joint Project Review	100,000	64,545	65%		90,000	(10,000)
781520	Tipping Fees	200,000	150,000	75%	11	200,000	-
Total Revenues		\$ 2,650,225	\$ 2,737,982	103%		\$ 2,910,400	\$ 260,175

EXPENDITURES		Budget	Actual	% of Actual to Budget	Note No.	Projection through 6/30/21	Variance with Budget
510040	Regular Salaries	\$ 93,270	\$ 93,252	100%		\$ 93,200	\$ 70
510200	Payoff Permanent-Seasonal	864,872	864,872	100%		864,900	(28)
510440	Annual Leave Buydown	1,805	1,804	100%		1,800	5
515200	Retiree Health Insurance	34	34	100%		100	(66)
518100	Budgeted Benefits	3,966,719	3,965,850	100%		3,965,800	919
Subtotal Salaries and Benefits		4,926,700	4,925,812	100%		4,925,800	900
520200	Communications	40	38	95%		100	(60)
520270	County Delivery Services	150	-	0%		200	(50)
520320	Telephone Service	15	2	13%		-	15
520940	Insurance-Other	2,500	1,632	65%	12	2,200	300
521360	Maint-Computer Equipment	1,350	688	51%		800	550
521540	Maint-Office Equipment	175	53	30%		100	75
521640	Maint-Software	355	143	40%		200	155
523100	Memberships	295	267	91%		300	(5)
523230	Miscellaneous Expense	370	114	31%		300	70
523640	Computer Equip-Non Fixed Asset	225	115	51%		100	125
523660	Computer Supplies	30	-	0%		-	30
523680	Office Equip Non Fixed Assets	300	-	0%		-	300
523700	Office Supplies	150	61	41%		100	50
523750	Postage-Mailing	36	4	0%		100	(64)
523760	Postage-Mailing-ISF	134	79	59%		100	34
523800	Printing/Binding	150	-	0%		100	50
523840	Computer Equipment-Software	495	111	22%		200	295
524560	ACO Payroll Services	185	91	49%	13	100	85
524570	Auditing and Accounting	10,925	5,970	55%	14	8,000	2,925
524900	GIS Services	330	-	0%		-	330
525020	Legal Services	90,000	24,621	27%	15	49,000	41,000
525140	Personnel Services	540	(3)	-1%		100	440
525840	RCIT Device Access	810	498	61%	16	700	110
525850	RCIT Device Public	15	-	0%		-	15
526700	Rent-Lease Bldgs	5,985	4,480	75%	17	6,000	(15)
527780	Special Program Expense	600	180	30%		300	300
527840	Training-Education/Tuition	70	8	11%		-	70
527980	Contracts	376,750	142,500	38%	18	249,500	127,250
528120	Board/Commission Expense	1,590	339	21%		400	1,190
528140	Conference/Registration Fees	70	-	0%		-	70
528900	Air Transportation	90	-	0%		-	90
528960	Lodging	100	-	0%		-	100
528980	Meals	625	-	0%		-	625
529000	Miscellaneous Travel Expense	15	-	0%		-	15
529010	Parking Validation	150	-	0%		100	50
529040	Private Mileage Reimbursement	600	204	34%		200	400
529080	Rental Vehicles	20	-	0%		-	20
Subtotal Services and Supplies		496,240	182,195	37%		319,300	176,940
Total Expenditures		\$ 5,422,940	\$ 5,108,007	94%		\$ 5,245,100	\$ 177,840
Net Change in Operating Position		\$(2,772,715)	\$(2,370,025)			\$ (2,334,700)	\$ 438,015

Regional Conservation Authority
Budget vs. Actual Comparison as of March 31, 2021
General Fund - 935300 Land Management and Monitoring

Note: Amounts subject to rounding

REVENUES	Budget	Actual	% of Actual to Budget	Note No.	Projection through 06/30/21	Variance with Budget
740020 Interest-Invested Funds	\$ 60,400	\$ 45,491	75%	2	\$ 60,700	\$ 300
741000 Rents	93,880	70,031	75%	3	95,000	1,120
769240 Other Gov MSHCP Infrastructure	30,000	30,000	100%	6	30,000	-
769260 Other Gov MSHCP Civic Projects	25,000	-	0%		10,300	(14,700)
771410 Flood Control District	327,420	-	0%		493,400	165,980
777520 Reimbursement for Services	133,610	10,714	8%		110,200	(23,410)
781360 Other Misc. Revenue	28,400	44,606	157%	10	78,900	50,500
781520 Tipping Fees	3,050,000	2,408,999	79%	11	3,200,000	150,000
Total Revenues	\$ 3,748,710	\$ 2,609,841	70%		\$ 4,078,500	\$ 329,790
EXPENDITURES						
510040 Regular Salaries	\$ 158,450	\$ 158,450	100%		\$ 158,400	\$ 50
510440 Annual Leave Buydown	5,414	5,413	100%		5,400	14
515200 Retiree Health Insurance	180	180	100%		200	(20)
518100 Budgeted Benefits	70,256	69,672	99%		69,700	556
Subtotal Salaries and Benefits	234,300	233,715	100%		233,700	600
520200 Communications	215	230	107%		300	(85)
520320 Telephone Service	80	10	13%		100	(20)
520940 Insurance-Other	14,760	9,734	66%	12	13,000	1,760
521360 Maint-Computer Equipment	7,200	3,671	51%		3,800	3,400
521540 Maint-Office Equipment	940	188	20%		300	640
521640 Maint-Software	1,890	735	39%		900	990
523100 Memberships	1,685	1,424	85%		1,400	285
523230 Miscellaneous Expense	930	1,020	110%		1,100	(170)
523640 Computer Equip-Non Fixed Asset	1,200	615	51%		600	600
523660 Computer Supplies	160	-	0%		-	160
523680 Office Equip Non Fixed Assets	1,600	-	0%		-	1,600
523700 Office Supplies	800	307	38%		500	300
523760 Postage-Mailing	165	24	0%		100	65
523760 Postage-Mailing - ISF	715	423	59%		600	115
523800 Printing/Binding	800	-	0%		500	300
523840 Computer Equipment-Software	2,640	592	22%		900	1,740
524560 ACO Payroll Services	995	483	49%	13	600	395
524570 Auditing and Accounting	12,420	6,815	55%	14	9,000	3,420
524900 GIS Services	1,760	-	0%		-	1,760
525020 Legal Services	100,000	37,062	37%	15	51,000	49,000
525140 Personnel Services	2,880	(18)	-1%		300	2,580
525840 RCIT Device Access	4,320	2,656	61%	16	3,500	820
525850 RCIT Device Public	65	-	0%		-	65
526700 Rent-Lease Bldgs	31,910	23,891	75%	17	31,900	10
527780 Special Program Expense	3,200	960	30%		1,300	1,900
527840 Training-Education/ Tuition	370	43	12%		100	270
527980 Contracts	3,588,254	2,030,024	57%	18	2,750,000	838,254
528120 Board/Commission Expense	8,480	1,808	21%		1,800	6,680
528140 Conference/Registration Fees	1,380	-	0%		-	1,380
528900 Air Transportation	1,290	-	0%		-	1,290
528960 Lodging	1,660	-	0%		-	1,660
528980 Meals	1,165	-	0%		-	1,165
529000 Miscellaneous Travel Expense	80	-	0%		-	80
529010 Parking Validation	800	-	0%		-	800
529040 Private Mileage Reimbursement	2,200	611	28%		600	1,600
529080 Rental Vehicles	500	-	0%		500	-
529500 Electricity	1,700	744	44%		1,100	600
Subtotal Services and Supplies	3,801,209	2,124,052	56%		2,875,800	925,409
535220 Assessments & HOA	70,000	60,365	86%		62,000	8,000
Subtotal Other Charges	70,000	60,365	86%		62,000	8,000
Total Expenditures	\$ 4,105,509	\$ 2,418,132	59%		\$ 3,171,500	\$ 934,009
Net Change in Operating Position	\$ (356,799)	\$ 191,709			\$ 907,000	\$ 1,263,799

Regional Conservation Authority
Budget vs. Actual Comparison as of March 31 2021
Capital Projects Fund - 935201 Land Acquisition

Note: Amounts subject to rounding

REVENUES		Budget	Actual	% of Actual to Budget	Note No.	Projection through 6/30/21	Variance with Budget
722000	Mitigation Fee	\$ 3,750,000	\$ 3,750,000	100%	1	\$ 3,750,000	\$ -
740020	Interest-Invested Funds	110,000	96,234	87%	2	128,300	18,300
751680	CA-Grant Revenue	5,603,170	161,000	3%	4	2,135,500	(3,467,670)
766600	Fed-Capital Grants and Contrib	11,564,500	299,000	3%	5	6,174,500	(5,390,000)
777170	Development Mitigation Fees	10,500,000	15,192,817	145%	9	17,000,000	6,500,000
777600	TUMF Revenue-Developer Fees	1,300,000	1,588,554	122%		1,950,000	650,000
781220	Capital Contributions & Donations	4,910,000	73,000	1%	20	4,910,000	-
781360	Other Miscellaneous Revenue	188,320	19,019	10%	10	170,000	(18,320)
Total Revenues		\$ 37,925,990	\$ 21,179,624	56%		\$ 36,218,300	\$ (1,707,690)
EXPENDITURES							
510040	Regular Salaries	\$ 558,238	\$ 558,238	100%		\$ 558,200	\$ 38
510440	Annual Leave Buydown	28,872	28,871	100%		28,900	(28)
515200	Retiree Health Insurance	909	909	100%		900	9
518100	Budgeted Benefits	247,181	246,631	100%		246,700	481
Subtotal Salaries and Benefits		835,200	834,649	100%		834,700	500
520200	Communications	1,085	1,054	97%		1,400	(315)
520320	Telephone Service	405	52	13%		100	305
520940	Insurance-Other	72,740	46,797	64%	12	62,400	10,340
521360	Maint-Computer Equip	36,450	18,587	51%		19,400	17,050
521540	Maint-Office Equipment	6,385	2,246	35%		3,800	2,585
521640	Maint-Software	9,555	3,873	41%		4,500	5,055
523100	Memberships	8,020	7,210	90%		7,200	820
523230	Miscellaneous Expense	4,700	2,884	61%		3,500	1,200
523640	Computer Equip-Non Fixed Asset	6,075	3,112	51%		3,100	2,975
523660	Computer Supplies	810	-	0%		-	810
523680	Office Equip Non Fixed Assets	8,100	-	0%		-	8,100
523700	Office Supplies	4,050	1,555	38%		2,500	1,550
523750	Postage-Mailing	829	121	0%		800	29
523760	Postage-Mailing-ISF	3,621	2,142	59%		3,000	621
523800	Printing/Binding	4,050	-	0%		3,200	850
523840	Computer Equipment-Software	13,365	2,996	22%		3,900	9,465
524560	ACO Payroll Services	5,020	2,445	49%	13	3,000	2,020
524570	Auditing and Accounting	96,455	51,465	53%	14	69,000	27,455
524900	GIS Services	8,910	-	0%		-	8,910
525020	Legal Services	690,000	516,242	75%	15	670,000	20,000
525140	Personnel Services	14,580	(90)	-1%		1,500	13,080
525840	RCIT Device Access	21,870	13,442	61%	16	17,900	3,970
525850	RCIT Device Public	320	-	0%		-	320
526700	Rent-Lease Bldgs	161,530	120,950	75%	17	161,300	230
527780	Special Program Expense	16,200	6,000	37%		6,000	10,200
527840	Training-Education/Tuition	1,860	500	27%		500	1,360
527980	Contracts	2,320,250	988,758	43%	18	2,020,000	300,250
528120	Board/Commission Expense	42,930	7,405	17%		7,400	35,530
528140	Conference/Registration Fees	1,950	-	0%		-	1,950
528280	Imaging Supplies	500	-	0%		-	500
528900	Air Transportation	8,620	-	0%		-	8,620
528920	Car Pool Expense	500	-	0%		-	500
528960	Lodging	11,240	-	0%		-	11,240
528980	Meals	3,610	-	0%		-	3,610
529000	Miscellaneous Travel Expense	1,105	-	0%		-	1,105
529010	Parking Validation	4,050	-	0%		2,100	1,950
529040	Private Mileage Reimbursement	6,200	3,816	62%		3,300	2,900
529080	Rental Vehicles	180	-	0%		-	180
Subtotal Services and Supplies		3,598,120	1,803,562	50%		3,080,800	517,320
532600	Principal Payment	1,000,000	1,000,000	100%		1,000,000	-
534000	Interest Notes-Warrants	38,000	13,862	36%	19	18,500	19,500
535220	Taxes and Assessments	-	-	N/A		-	-
Subtotal Other Charges		1,038,000	1,013,862	98%		1,018,500	19,500
540040	Land	38,475,200	13,466,484	35%	20	29,000,000	9,475,200
540060	Improvements-Land	20,000	-	0%		20,000	-
Subtotal Capital Outlay		38,495,200	13,466,484	35%		29,020,000	9,475,200
Total Expenditures		\$ 43,966,520	\$ 17,118,557	39%		\$ 33,954,000	\$ 10,012,520
Net Change in Operating Position		\$ (6,040,530)	\$ 4,061,067			\$ 2,264,300	\$ 8,304,830

Regional Conservation Authority
Notes to Financial Reports
March 31, 2021

Note: Amounts subject to rounding

	Operations	Land Management and Monitoring	Land Acquisition	Total RCA
REVENUES:				
1) Mitigation Fees				
Participating Special Entities:				
EMWD-Judson Potable Water	\$ 35,877			\$ 35,877
SCE-Valley Ivyglen Subtransmission Phase II	2,137,695			2,137,695
Lockheed Martin-Laborde Canyon	3,146			3,146
Species Specific:				
Crestmore Redevelopment, LLC			\$ 3,750,000	3,750,000
Total Participating Special Entities	<u>\$ 2,176,718</u>		<u>\$ 3,750,000</u>	<u>\$ 5,926,718</u>
2) Interest from Riverside County Treasurer Pool				
Total Interest	<u>\$ 48,543</u>	<u>\$ 45,491</u>	<u>\$ 96,234</u>	<u>\$ 190,266</u>
3) Rent revenues from the following sources:				
Goodhart		\$ 3,870		
Great Horses of America		4,500		
KCAA Radio		6,741		
Archery Club		1,875		
Cell Tower Lease		47,795		
Lockheed Lease		750		
Beekeepers		4,500		
Tower Leases and Property Rentals		<u>\$ 70,031</u>		
4) State revenues were received for the following property acquisitions:				
Walsh, Kenneth			\$ 161,000	
Total State			<u>\$ 161,000</u>	
5) Federal funds were received for the following property acquisitions:				
Walsh, Kenneth			\$ 299,000	
Total Federal			<u>\$ 299,000</u>	
6) Infrastructure contributions from Member Agencies:				
County TLMA-Hammer Ave Bridge Replacement	\$ 250,967	\$ 30,000		\$ 280,967
City of Beaumont-General Overlay & Slurry Proj	4,956			4,956
Total Infrastructure	<u>\$ 255,923</u>	<u>\$ 30,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 285,923</u>
7) Civic contributions from Member Agencies:				
County EDA - Jurupa Valley Boxing Club Parking	\$ 1,721			\$ 1,721
City of Menifee-Expansion of Community Service Facilities				532
Total Civic	<u>\$ 2,253</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 2,253</u>
8) Contributions from Riverside County Flood Control:				
Fld Cntrl Mit fee-Crestview Dr	\$ 40,000			\$ 40,000
Total Flood Control	<u>\$ 40,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 40,000</u>

Regional Conservation Authority
Notes to Financial Reports
March 31, 2021

Note: Amounts subject to rounding

Operations	Land Management and Monitoring	Land Acquisition	Total RCA
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REVENUES (Continued):

9) Mitigation fees through March 31, 2021 are as follows:

City of Banning	\$ 141,646
City of Beaumont	451,507
City of Calimesa	522,801
City of Canyon Lake	17,872
City of Corona	407,307
City of Eastvale	753,554
City of Hemet	266,746
City of Jurupa Valley	1,426,510
City of Lake Elsinore	206,946
City of Menifee	2,250,637
City of Moreno Valley	898,444
City of Murrieta	235,665
City of Norco	2,234
City of Perris	1,158,888
City of Riverside	325,127
City of San Jacinto	443,179
City of Temecula	514,264
City of Wildomar	111,700
County of Riverside	5,057,789
Total Mitigation	\$ 15,192,817

10) Miscellaneous Revenues were received as follows:

Deposit Agreements		\$ 19,019	\$ 19,019
Lennar El sol Burrowing Owl Translocation	\$ 44,606		44,606
Total Miscellaneous Revenues	\$ 44,606	\$ 19,019	\$ 63,625

11) RCA receives \$1.50 per ton for the out-of-county tonnage. In addition, RCA receives a maximum of \$400,000 annually for the in-county tonnage.

	Out-of-County Tonnage				
July 2020	193,764	\$ 16,667	\$ 273,979		\$ 290,646
August 2020	183,230	16,667	258,178		274,845
September 2020	180,549	16,667	254,157		270,824
October 2020	198,828	16,667	281,575		298,242
November 2020	177,701	16,667	249,885		266,552
December 2020	201,028	16,667	284,875		301,542
January 2021	200,576	16,667	284,197		300,864
February 2021	180,768	16,667	254,485		271,152
March 2021	189,556	16,667	267,667		284,333
Total Tipping Fees	1,706,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 2,408,999		\$ 2,558,999

EXPENDITURES:

12) Insurance provided by SDRMA:

General & Property	\$ 1,632	\$ 9,734	\$ 46,797	\$ 58,163
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13) County Auditor-Controller's Office

Warrants and JE Lines	\$ 46	\$ 246	\$ 1,244	\$ 1,535
Payroll Services	45	237	1,201	1,483
Total ACO Accounting Charges	\$ 91	\$ 483	\$ 2,445	\$ 3,019

14) Auditing and Accounting:

Brown, Armstrong Accountancy Corp	\$ 5,970	\$ 6,815	\$ 51,465	\$ 64,250
Brown, Armstrong Accountancy Corp	\$ 20,597	\$ 6,815	\$ 51,465	\$ 64,250

Regional Conservation Authority
Notes to Financial Reports
March 31, 2021

Note: Amounts subject to rounding

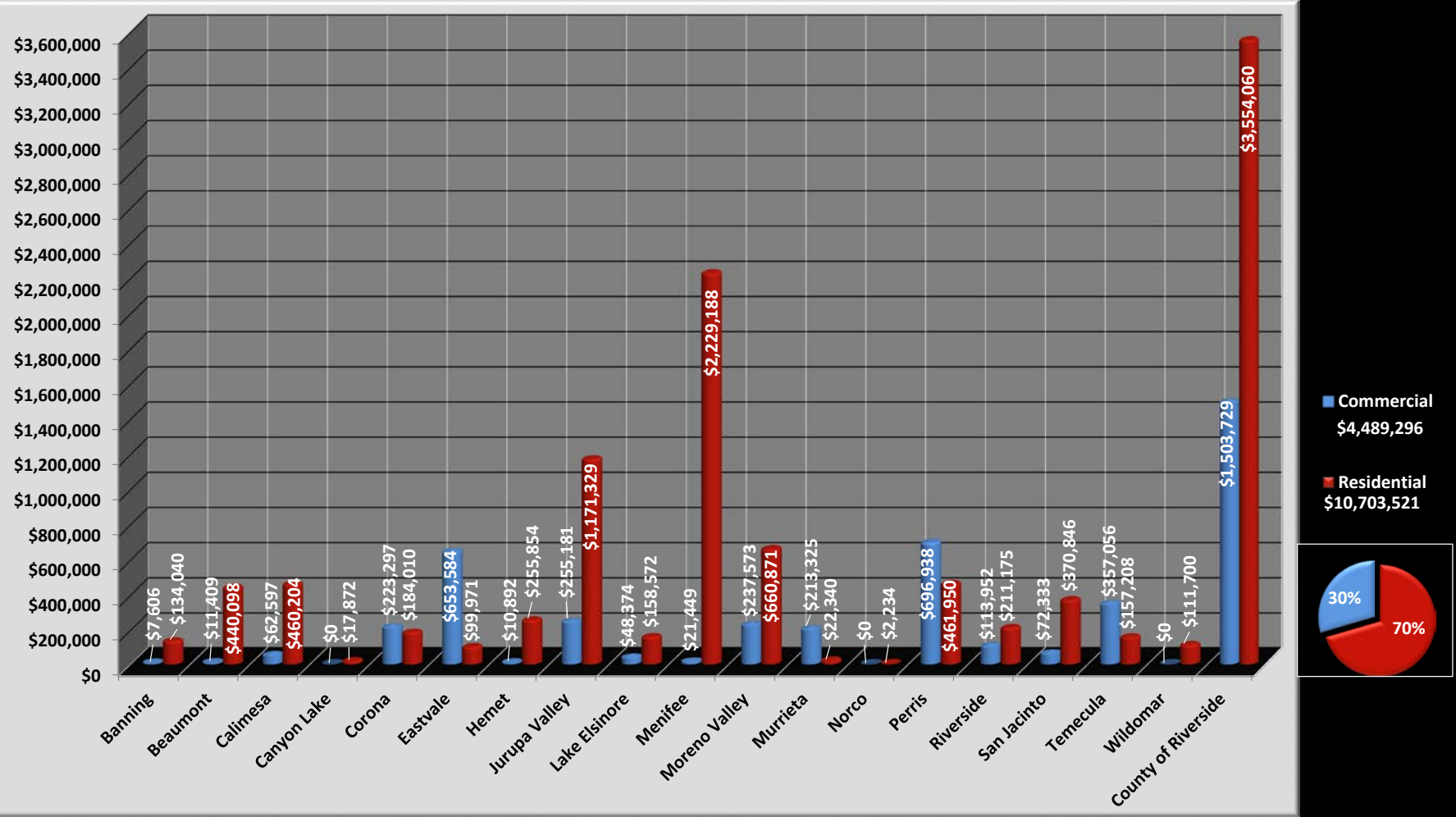
	Operations	Land Management and Monitoring	Land Acquisition	Total RCA
<u>EXPENDITURES (CONTINUED):</u>				
15) Legal Services as follows: Best, Best and Krieger	\$ 24,621	\$ 37,062	\$ 516,242	\$ 577,925
16) RCIT Device Charges RCIT Monthly \$1,844	\$ 498	\$ 2,655	\$ 13,442	\$ 16,594
17) Rent & lease building cost: RCA office monthly rent \$16,635	\$ 4,480	\$ 23,891	\$ 120,950	\$ 149,321
18) Contract services are as follows:				
Dudek	\$ 102,703	\$ 11,084	\$ 57,509	\$ 171,296
Economic & Planning Systems	1,356	7,234	36,624	45,215
EDA Real Estate Services			131,402	131,402
Hogan Lovells			112,500	112,500
Kadesh			56,250	56,250
OPR Communications	3,217	17,155	86,847	107,219
Parks & Open-Space Dist.-Land Mgmt.		727,565	6,534	734,099
RCTC	35,224	157,492	501,092	693,807
SAWA		1,109,494		1,109,494
Total Contracts	<u>\$ 142,500</u>	<u>\$ 2,030,024</u>	<u>\$ 988,758</u>	<u>\$ 3,161,281</u>
19) Interest to Riverside County on Loan Interest rate at average 2020 Treasurer Pool Investment rate of .92%			<u>\$ 13,862</u>	
20) Land acquisition costs are as follows:				
Properties donated to the RCA:				
Highpoint Donation			\$ 73,000	
Subtotal Donated Properties			<u>\$ 73,000</u>	
Properties acquired:				
Marelli Property			\$ 111,484	
Tuscany Hills Ph 4			101,383	
IDA Lane			277,578	
Agua Mansa DSF Conservation			6,250,000	
Welsh, Kenneth			462,719	
Fresh Start Homes			854,302	
Kinne, Amie and Jonathan			61,233	
Ybarra, Gabriel & Gloria			16,040	
Bush, Kevin			373,399	
Selders, Wim			131,588	
RHW Phase 2			3,748,934	
Catlin			96,387	
Eustachio			674,209	
Consultants Costs:				
EDA Real Estate Services			167,354	
Best Best & Krieger			50,729	
Parks & Open-Space Dist.			6,534	
Other			9,610	
Total Land Acquisition Costs			<u>\$ 13,466,484</u>	

REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
NET MSHCP MITIGATION FEE COLLECTIONS BY MEMBER AGENCY
FISCAL YEAR 2021

BASED ON ACCRUAL BASIS (Month reported by City)

COUNTY AND CITIES:	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	FY 2021 YTD TOTALS	PERCENT OF TOTAL	2,234.00	7,606.00
	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2021	2021	2021			Residential	Commercial
CITY OF BANNING	\$ 2,234	\$ 2,234	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,468	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 132,710	141,646	0.93%	134,040.00	7,606.00
CITY OF BEAUMONT	24,574	46,914	-	26,808	73,961	183,188	-	-	96,062	451,507	2.97%	440,098.00	11,409.00
CITY OF CALIMESA	84,892	69,254	71,488	55,850	67,020	55,850	55,850	-	62,597	522,801	3.44%	460,204.00	62,597.38
CITY OF CANYON LAKE	2,234	4,468	-	-	2,234	2,234	2,234	2,234	2,234	17,872	0.12%	17,872.00	
CITY OF CORONA	29,042	11,440	29,220	28,686	13,841	22,340	22,254	8,580	241,904	407,307	2.68%	184,010.00	223,296.95
CITY OF EASTVALE	30,030	45,760	15,601	-	8,580	-	228,712	424,871	-	753,554	4.96%	99,970.55	653,583.58
CITY OF HEMET	1,369			31,210	81,602	57,952	18,070	26,808	49,735	266,746	1.76%	255,854.00	10,891.86
CITY OF JURUPA VALLEY	29,042	308,292	483,257	40,212	17,872	26,808	179,819	182,268	158,940	1,426,510	9.39%	1,171,329.00	255,181.30
CITY OF LAKE ELSINORE		25,549	50,920	27,170	27,282	36,433	66	37,226	2,300	206,946	1.36%	158,572.00	48,374.16
CITY OF MENIFEE	140,970	218,846	262,493	212,144	203,294	189,890	252,356	446,800	323,844	2,250,637	14.81%	2,229,188.00	21,448.92
CITY OF MORENO VALLEY	90,440	33,510	4,468	106,712	142,121	122,870	164,270	109,691	124,362	898,444	5.91%	660,871.00	237,573.21
CITY OF MURRIETA	-	-	13,415	55,955	-	-	-	164,061	2,234	235,665	1.55%	22,340.00	213,325.48
CITY OF NORCO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,234	-	2,234	0.01%	2,234.00	
CITY OF PERRIS	8,936	48,203	60,318	251,798	136,274	491,407	61,510	84,804	15,638	1,158,888	7.63%	461,949.80	696,937.78
CITY OF RIVERSIDE	18,369	57,919	58,219	11,962	2,298	14,786	-	85,618	75,956	325,127	2.14%	211,174.76	113,951.88
CITY OF SAN JACINTO	32,971	44,680	53,616	17,872	53,816	37,978	80,426	69,254	52,566	443,179	2.92%	370,846.00	72,333.06
CITY OF TEMECULA	2,234	26,544	8,580	388,358	23,684	6,056	30,834	-	27,974	514,264	3.38%	157,208.00	357,055.64
CITY OF WILDOMAR	26,808		33,510	8,936	2,234	17,872	2,234	2,234	17,872	111,700	0.74%	111,700.00	
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE (LMS)	315,407	373,078	517,932	577,678	528,924	672,434	239,122	364,705	1,468,510	5,057,789	33.29%	3,554,060.00	1,503,729.32
TOTAL COUNTY AND CITIES	839,552	1,316,691	1,663,036	1,841,352	1,389,505	1,938,098	1,337,758	2,011,388	2,855,437	15,192,817	100.00%	10,703,521.11	4,489,295.52
												70.45%	29.55%

**Fiscal Year 2021
MSHCP Development Mitigation Fee Revenues
July 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021**



Note: Amounts subject to rounding

AGENDA ITEM 6C

WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY	
DATE:	June 7, 2021
TO:	Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority
FROM:	Executive Committee Jennifer Fuller, Financial Administration Manager
THROUGH:	Anne Mayer, Executive Director
SUBJECT:	Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan Fee Collection Report for April 2021

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for the Board of Directors to receive and file the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) Fee Collection Report for April 2021.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Western Riverside County MSHCP Local Development Mitigation Fee (LDMF) collections provide funding for the acquisition of additional reserve lands and related costs. The RCA budgeted \$10.5 million in LDMF collections for FY 2020/21. Other fees are contributed by Member Agencies and other jurisdictions for civic and infrastructure projects. For FY 2020/21, the RCA budgeted \$490,000 for such contributions.

Attached is the LDMF Collection and Civic/Infrastructure Contribution report for April 2021, which reflects combined collections to date of \$15,738,543.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to the receipt and file of this fee collection report.

Attachment: Western Riverside County MSHCP LDMF Collection and Civic/Infrastructure Contribution Report for April 2021

<i>Approved by the Executive Committee on May 19, 2021</i>				
In Favor:	5	Abstain:	0	No: 0

**WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY MSHCP LDMF COLLECTION AND CIVIC/INFRASTRUCTURE
CONTRIBUTION REPORT FOR APRIL 2021**

Amounts subject to rounding

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT MITIGATION FEE COLLECTIONS							
City/County	Month	REMITTED				EXEMPTIONS & FEE CREDITS	
		Residential Permits	Commercial Industrial Acres	Amount Remitted	Total FY Year-to-Date	Residential Permits	Amount
City of Banning	March-Rcvd May			\$0	\$8,936		
City of Beaumont	March	43		96,062	451,507		
City of Calimesa	March		8.23	62,597	522,801		
City of Canyon Lake	March	1		2,234	17,872		
City of Corona	March	14	28.96	241,904	407,307		
City of Eastvale	March-No Activity			-	753,554		
City of Hemet	March	18	1.25	49,735	266,746		
City of Jurupa Valley	March	61	2.98	158,940	1,426,510		
City of Lake Elsinore	March	1		2,300	206,946		
City of Menifee	March	150		323,844	2,250,637		
City of Moreno Valley	March	44	3.43	124,362	898,444		
City of Murrieta	February		21.57	164,061	235,665		
	March	1		2,234			
City of Norco	March-No Activity			-	2,234		
City of Perris	February	8	8.80	84,805	1,143,250		
	March-Rcvd May			-			
City of Riverside	February-Pending			-	163,553		
	March-Pending			-			
City of San Jacinto	March	3	6.03	52,566	443,179		
City of Temecula	March	19		27,974	514,264		
	Roripaugh DA ¹			-		48	\$107,232
City of Wildomar	March	8		17,872	111,700		
County of Riverside	April	215	5.14	519,405	5,577,194		
	Total LDMF Collections	586	86.39	\$1,930,895	\$15,402,300	48	\$ 107,232

CIVIC AND INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRIBUTIONS			
City of Beaumont General Overlay & Slurry Project		\$4,956	\$4,956
Total Civic and Infrastructure contributions from all Member Agencies			331,287
	Total Civic/Infrastructure Contributions	\$4,956	\$336,243

TOTAL APRIL 2021 \$1,935,851 \$15,738,543

¹ Roripaugh Development Agreement dated 12/17/02. Project is exempt under Assessment District 161.

AGENDA ITEM 6D

WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

DATE:	June 7, 2021
TO:	Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority
FROM:	Tricia Campbell, Reserve Management/Monitoring Manager
THROUGH:	Anne Mayer, Executive Director
SUBJECT:	Fiscal Year 2020/21 Third Quarter Consultant Reports

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for the Board of Directors to receive and file the FY 2020/21 Third Quarter Consultant Reports.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The RCA receives quarterly reports from three consultants that support the RCA in its Joint Project Reviews, species monitoring, and land management roles as required by the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan. The consultants are Dudek, Santa Ana Watershed Association, and Riverside County Regional Parks and Open-Space District, respectively.

Attached to this staff report are the most current quarterly reports (01/01/2021 – 03/31/2021).

Attachments:

- 1) Dudek
- 2) Santa Ana Watershed Association
- 3) Riverside County Regional Parks and Open-Space District

**CONSULTANT REPORT
DUDEK
FISCAL YEAR 2021 THIRD QUARTER REPORT**

Report Covers Period: 01/01/2021 to 03/31/2021

Services Provided During Current Work Period:

Joint Project Reviews

As part of our ongoing duties related to Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) implementation for the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (RCA), Dudek continued to provide review of biological reports, analysis, and submittals related to Joint Project Reviews (JPRs) by Permittees (e.g., Cities, County). Dudek reviewed, provided comments, and completed multiple JPRs for Permittees during this reporting period.

Permittee Trainings and Support

Dudek assists the RCA in providing training and support to Permittees on MSHCP implementation. These training sessions are provided once a year or upon request, and include an overview of the MSHCP, RCA responsibilities, Permittee responsibilities, rough step, JPR process, required surveys and mitigation, CEQA documents, changes to the MSHCP, reserve lands, and the Wildlife Agencies' (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife) role. Discussion of circumstances unique to each Permittee is also provided in the training. Due to COVID-19, no training occurred during this quarter and the training sessions have been temporarily placed on hold but are anticipated to resume later this year.

Monthly meetings with the Riverside County Environmental Programs Department (EPD) are ongoing. These meetings are a forum to discuss upcoming or ongoing County Habitat Acquisition and Negotiation Strategy (HANS)/JPRs, conservation criteria, and other Permittee requirements to facilitate MSHCP consistency. RCA and EPD meetings this quarter were held on January 6, February 3, and March 3, 2021.

Additional separate meetings or conference calls were held with RCA, Dudek, Wildlife Agencies, Permittees and/or applicants and their consultants, including but not limited to State Route 71/91 Interchange Public/Quasi-Public (PQP) Land Replacement (Riverside County Transportation Commission) and Mountain Avenue East Basin Project (Eastern Municipal Water District). The meetings associated with the San Jacinto River Levee Phase 3 (Riverside County Flood Control) project have now been regularly included in the Monthly RCA/Wildlife Agencies Meetings.

Dudek also has multiple calls each week with applicants/biologists on other projects regarding MSHCP implementation and compliance questions. Dudek fields questions on an ongoing basis related to new projects, ongoing projects, and/or past projects, both inside and out of the criteria area. Dudek also provides assistance regarding how the MSHCP review process works in coordination with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process.

Wildlife Agency Coordination and Meetings

Dudek attended three monthly meetings with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) staff hosted by the RCA. Duties included coordinating with attendees and review of materials ahead of the meeting. Meetings with the Wildlife Agencies this quarter were held on January 21, February 18, and March 18, 2021.

Pre-Application Meetings

Dudek also attended three Pre-Application Meetings with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regional Water Quality Control Board, CDFW and USFWS staff. Projects represented by Permittees and/or the project representatives are presented for consideration. The various regulatory agencies and RCA discuss, review, and seek solutions to issues related to permitting and MSHCP compliance. The review and analysis presented in these meetings is often subject to MSHCP Consistency review which is part of Dudek's role with the RCA. Meetings with the regulated waters Permitting Agencies this quarter were held on January 13, February 10, and March 10, 2021.

In addition, in this reporting period, Dudek provided documentation and support to CDFW and USFWS related to ongoing projects and questions on MSHCP implementation.

Participating Special Entities

Dudek staff provided support and coordination related to pending and existing Participating Special Entities (PSEs). Dudek remains involved in all processing of Southern California Edison (SCE) PSE application reviews, including follow-up on conditions required of the West of Devers System Upgrade Project (WODUP) such as conditions to finalize riparian/riverine mitigation and replacement of Additional Reserve Lands (ARL) and PQP lands. The Holmes property proposed by SCE for ARL/PQP replacement land and riparian/riverine mitigation has finally closed escrow with the Inland Empire Resource Conservation District (IERCD). Revised documentation that finalizes this replacement and mitigation was submitted in February 2021 and is pending final review. Coordination between Dudek and SCE has also been ongoing to help with their questions regarding mitigation implementation during construction.

Revised supporting documentation for the Lockheed Site 1 Amended PSE was formally submitted on March 22, 2021 after multiple rounds of review and comments. Draft Findings were prepared by Dudek and sent to RCA for review on March 23, 2021.

Criteria Refinements

A request for a Criteria Refinement for the Beaumont Pointe Specific Plan (City of Beaumont) was submitted on March 9, 2021. Comments were provided during a call on March 22, 2021, and revisions to the supporting documentation are needed. Coordination and review are ongoing.

RCA and Management Support

Dudek staff provided various forms of analysis and provided staff support by attending meetings, conference calls and conducting research via email related to ongoing and past projects. During this reporting period, Dudek was involved in discussions on various projects, particularly those with substantial issues. Dudek works closely with Tricia Campbell (Reserve Management/Monitoring Manager) and other RCA staff to assist with past and ongoing JPRs, PSEs, Minor Amendments,

Criteria Refinements, as well as report templates, Permittee and biological consultant coordination and training, and consistency with MSHCP implementation procedures, including Reserve Assembly (Cell/Cell Group/Subunit) analysis standards.

**CONSULTANT REPORT
SAWA – MSHCP BIOLOGICAL MONITORING PROGRAM (BPM) FISCAL
YEAR 2021 THIRD QUARTER REPORT**

Report Covers Period: 01/01/2021 – 03/31/2021

Services provided during current work period:

Administrative

- Covid-19 update
 - Staff working remotely.
 - Updated COVID-19 protocol.
- Seasonal biologist hired, started March 1 and gave 2-week notice March 29. Position left open.
- Clinton Keith Field Biologist announcement posted, interviews and selection made. New biologist, Nicole Tomes, started on March 22.
- On March 2021, Management Monitoring Coordination Meetings resumed with the following presentation by Tesa Madsen-McQueen (UCR-EEOB) - *Tracing the fingerprint of climate change: 40 years of vegetation response across a dryland elevation gradient.*
- Herp Taxa Lead candidate fell through and position will be reposted.

Biological Monitoring

Avian

- **2020 Avian Projects:**
 - Data entry/checking complete. Reports complete and under review.
 - Cross training biologists in field.
- **2021 Avian Projects:**
 - **California Gnatcatcher Nest Monitoring:** protocol and training completed and surveys in progress. No nests found yet, but we have started seeing behavior that indicates pairs may soon be nesting.
 - **Burrowing Owl Trail Cameras:** Cameras were installed at San Jacinto Wildlife Area (SJWA) and at the Regional Conservation Authority's (RCA) Nuevo Donation. Up to two pairs of owls have been seen at SJWA. Also, two owls detected at the Nuevo Donation burrows that do not appear to be a pair. Opened all artificial burrow chambers and did not see any eggs; however, three of the chambers were occupied by skunks including one with an adult and her litter.
 - **Purple Martin:** Protocol finalized. Training and scouting for survey areas completed.

- **California Spotted Owls:** Protocol finalized. Training and scouting for upcoming surveys completed. Surveys in progress. Five points surveyed thus far. Had some issues with locks being damaged and sites being inaccessible due to snow. No owls yet.

Herpetofauna

- **2020 Herpetofauna Projects:**
 - Data entry/checking complete. Reports in progress and under review.
- **2021 Herpetofauna Projects:**
 - **Vernal Pools:** No pools holding water yet, found new pools to survey at Cleveland National Forest (near Bedford Motorway).
 - **Herp Arrays:** Temporarily on hold due to absence of lead staff.

Mammals

- **2020 Mammal Projects:**
 - Data entry/checking complete. Reports complete and under review.
- **2021 Mammal Projects:**
 - **Clinton Keith Undercrossing Camera Trapping:** Data collection and analysis in progress. Coyotes, Bobcat, Raccoon, Common Raven, Human with Dog were detected.
 - **Clinton Keith Wildlife Overcrossing Camera Trapping:** Data collection and analysis in progress: Coyote, Bobcat (2), Lagomorphs (rabbit species), Greater Roadrunner, Desert Cottontail, Human (workers-BMP surveys and County weed spraying), San Diego Black-tailed Jackrabbit.
 - **Clinton Keith Wildlife Overcrossing - Quino Checkerspot Butterfly Habitat Survey:** Three meetings have been held and surveys in progress.
 - **Los Angeles Pocket Mouse:** Preparing for 2021 surveys.

Rare Plants

- **2020 Rare Plant Projects:**
 - Data entry/checking complete. Reports complete and under review.
- **2021 Rare Plant Projects**
 - **Engelmann Oak:** Preparing for 2021 surveys.
 - **Brandt's Phacelia:** Weeding treatment was started on January 22, 2021. We have hit the peak and will continue to measure plants for size and reproductive vigor for another few weeks. Numbers were lower than in 2020, but a few hundred is still a good population. Two new biologists have been trained on this protocol in the field.
 - **Rare Plant:** Surveys in progress.

Invertebrates

- **2020 Invertebrate Projects:**
 - Data entry/checking complete. Reports complete and under review.
- **2021 Quino Checkerspot Butterfly (QCB) Projects**
 - Larvae detected on February 11, 2021 at the Multiple Species Reserve (MSR).
 - Adults detected: new location east of MSR Kiosk, MSR, Oak Mountain.

- Adults not detected during multiple surveys conducted: Warm Springs Core, Clinton Keith Overcrossing, Johnson Ranch/Lake Skinner, El Sol, Veil Lake, Sage Core (Magee Hills), Aguanga, Wilson Valley, Brown Canyon.
- Bureau of Land Management reported adults near Oak Mountain, outside of conservation.
- **2021 Delhi Sands Flower-loving Fly:** Preparing for 2021 surveys.

Data/GIS

- **2020 Data/GIS:**
 - Data quality control/certification – near complete.
 - Species occurrence dataset - half done.
 - Post-dataset processing for species leads.
 - Maps for survey and summary reports – near complete
- **2021 Data/GIS:**
 - Data requests – Riverside County Parks and Open Space, San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District, and Regional Conservation Authority (RCA).
 - Redesigned BMP Project Tracker (data/reports).
 - Support with Engelmann Oak surveys, Personal Data Assistant, scheduling.
 - Baseline information for taxonomy changes appendix.
 - Queries for Leads/RCA.
 - Creating datasheets for multiple survey projects.

Collaborations

- Coordinate with U.S. Forest Service to share 2021 California Short-eared Owl surveys.
- Coordination continuing with California Department of Fish and Wildlife staff at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area for Burrowing Owl management.
- Coordination with Center for Natural Lands Management on Quino Checkerspot Butterfly surveys and Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease reporting.
- Collaborate Alkali Vegetation Communities with Riverside County Parks.
- Manager collaborating with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Will Miller)/other Natural Community Conservation Plan's on region-wide herpetofauna monitoring.

Training/Workshops

- Seasonal biologist training.
- New Clinton Keith Project Biologist training.
- Avian field training and testing.
- Quino Checkerspot Butterfly biologist(s) cross training.
- Leads and All-hands monthly meetings.
- RCA monthly meetings.

- Western Section of the Wildlife Society Virtual Conference (Manager/Supervisor/2 Leads/2 Biologists attended).

Status of Deliverables

- **2020 Reporting**
 - Species Occurrence Dataset: In progress.
 - Survey Reports: In review.
 - Annual Report Summary Reports - In review.
- **FY2021/2022**
 - Annual Work Plan: Complete.
 - Budget: Complete.

**CONSULTANT REPORT
RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL PARKS AND OPEN-SPACE DISTRICT
LAND MANAGEMENT UNIT
FISCAL YEAR 2021 THIRD QUARTER REPORT**

Report Covers Period: 01/01/2021 – 03/31/2021

General Administration

Following reports from Rangers Johnny Garcia and Rob Fountain that habitat has been damaged by a Southern California Edison (SCE, Edison) contractor at the EMWD Conservation Easement and neighboring RCA Wilder property, Natural Resource Manager (NRM) Jonathan Reinig reached out to the SCE environmental clearance office to investigate and report the issue. SCE confirmed they were responsible for the habitat damage that occurred in occupied habitat of the federally Endangered San Bernardino Kangaroo Rat. SCE work was halted immediately in the area. A meeting was then attended with the SCE's GIS staff to assist them in identifying RCA conserved lands in the present and future. The RCA initiated procedures for remedial action for the damage (see Patrol/Enforcement, San Jacinto HMU (Habitat Management Unit) section below for more details).

NRM Reinig attended a meeting with representatives of Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians to discuss light grading that was discovered by ranger staff on portions of the Soboba Donation Phase 3 Conservation Easement. It was confirmed that the grading was completed by Soboba Public Works at the bequest of the neighboring mobile home park for weed abatement. During the meeting, it was agreed that the ground scraping by machinery of any portion of the property was not compatible with the sensitive natural resources of the property. The Tribe agreed to place boulders to bar future vehicular access to the property and reached out to its Public Works Department to notify them that vehicle access to the parcel was no longer permissible (see Patrol/Enforcement, San Jacinto HMU section below for more details).

Communications were held with a Battalion Chief of Riverside County Fire concerning the Warren Fire. The seven-acre fire on the Pico Thompson property was started when a 17-year-old individual went off roading with his vehicle on the property. Prosecution of the responsible individual was unsuccessful (see Maintenance/ Fencing, San Jacinto HMU section below for more details).

The Reynolds property in Lake Elsinore was checked for a California Poppy bloom on several occasions. Due to below average rainfall, very few poppies could be found at the former super bloom site. Comparative pictures were provided to the RCA of the last super bloom in contrast to current conditions for public outreach purposes.

NRM Reinig spoke with members of the mountain bike working group to further plans to close illegally created trails on the Temecula escarpment south of Rancho California Rd. A draft notice of trail closures was composed and sent to the RCA for review. A meeting was then attended with the RCA/RCTC inform new staff of past and planned mountain bike trail creation remediation.

A meeting was attended with the RCA to discuss the success criteria of the Department of Water Resources (DWR) restoration site at the RCA Oak Valley Partners property, which had completed its fifth and final year of maintenance. A subsequent field meeting was then attended by NRM Reinig with the RCA, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, DWR, and Environmental Science Associates at the restoration site. While the site had performed well at establishing a riparian forest/scrub area as intended, one more round of nonnative weed control was requested to curtail widespread nonnative weeds at the site prior to agency sign off.

Several meetings were attended with the Redlands Conservancy (Conservancy) regarding their proposed restoration experiment on the RCA Live Oak Canyon property. Input was provided on the specifics of the restoration experiment and a description of the project was submitted to the RCA so that a right of entry could be drafted for the Conservancy.

A field meeting was attended with the RCA, the current owners of the future Renaissance Ranch Donation, and a restorationist from Glenn Lukos Associates. The site had historical surface mining activity on it. Discussions were held concerning restoring the disturbed area of the property to alluvial fan sage scrub to coincide with the property's transfer to the RCA. Input was provided on a draft Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) for the restoration.

Several meetings were attended with the RCA, Lennar Homes, VCS Environmental, and the wildlife agencies (U.S. Fish and Wildlife, California Department of Fish and Wildlife) regarding the Pacific Mayfield development Burrowing Owl translocation. A comprehensive cost estimate for the translocation of Burrowing Owls was composed and submitted to the RCA to facilitate the funding of the project. By mid-quarter, eight Burrowing Owls were successfully translocated to the El Sol property (see Habitat/Species Management, Menifee HMU section below for more details).

Ranger Supervisor Ruben Rodriguez corresponded with the Pulte Group on their gates and land near the Evandel-Wilson and Evandel-Bergstein properties. The Unit's desire of the Pulte Group to replace their gates was re-conveyed. The gates block vehicle access to the RCA properties in the area and were regularly secured shut by ranger staff throughout the quarter and before. Near the end of the quarter, permanent repairs were made to the gates by Pulte Group. The Unit coordinated installation of Knox lock on the gates with the Riverside County Fire Menifee Station so that they could gain access to the area, if needed (see Patrol/Enforcement, Menifee HMU section below for more details).

NRM Reinig attended a virtual Hidden Valley Wildfire Area Restoration Planning meeting.

NRM Reinig attended a meeting with the RCA and Betsy Miller (formerly with the San Diego Multiple Species Conservation Plan) to discuss her experience with vegetation management as it pertains to weed abatement on conserved lands.

NRM Reinig attended a meeting concerning the proposed Blue Mountain Preserve north of Box Springs Mountain. The proposed Preserve is in its planning phase. Although the proposed Preserve will occur mostly in San Bernardino County, it would also encompass some RCA parcels.

Discussions were held with Indoacochea Sheep Ranch staff concerning the Unit's desire to have the EMWD San Jacinto River corridor, So Cal Gas La Paloma coastal sage scrub restoration site,

and McElhinney-Stimmel property grazed in spring 2021. The creation of a Parks vendor account with the Shepard was initiated.

After lengthy research into rules and regulations regarding ultralight aircraft, NRM Reinig reached out to the ultralight pilot who had spurred the inquiry. While not prohibited from the airspace above RCA properties, the pilot was asked to maintain a minimum above ground level (AGL) of 200 feet during bird nonbreeding season and above 500 feet AGL during the bird breeding season (February to August) to alleviate impacts to sensitive species. The pilot agreed to voluntarily comply.

Communications were held with a representative of Golden Era Productions regarding Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) activity occurring on the Building Management Services Conservation Easement. The conservation easement is owned and managed by Golden Era Productions, so it was recommended that they block the unwanted access.

Inquiries were fielded with several neighbors of the Cornerstone property who were advocating for trail access into the areas' conserved lands. Information was conveyed on why the conserved lands are officially closed to the public until further notice.

NRM Reinig reviewed the Murrieta 180 "Moore" property Habitat Mitigation Monitoring Plan (HMMP) and developed a Property Analysis Record (PAR) for its long-term management after mitigation is completed.

The draft Adobe Springs HMMP was reviewed and commented on for the RCA.

The Unit's FY21-22 budget workbook was completed.

Updated shapefiles of RCA gates and 2020 fires were organized and submitted to the RCA.

The 2020 weed abatement shapefile was completed by Ranger Supervisor Rodriguez.

Incidentally observed covered species forms were completed for 2020 and were submitted to the MSHCP Biological Monitoring Program.

Parks Maintenance Worker (PMW) Alfredo Salazar met with fencing vendors and gathered gate quotes for the Wilhelm Ranch, Warren partners, and Kailin properties along the Highway 74 corridor.

Ranger Supervisor Rodriguez gathered quotes for a new dump trailer. A bid was chosen by Parks purchasing and the trailer was acquired.

The CAL FIRE skid steer tractor grant Request for Quote was reviewed and commented on.

The annual purchase of herbicide for the Unit's fuel reduction program and habitat restoration was submitted to Helena Chemical.

Specifications for two new trucks for the Unit were settled upon and submitted to Parks for acquisition.

Natural Resource Specialist (NRS) Ana Sawyer and NRM Reinig attended the Western Section of the Wildlife Society's Annual Conference.

NRM Reinig prepared for and attended the annual Western Riverside County Burrowing Owl working group meeting. The current status of the species on RCA managed properties was given to the group.

NRM Reinig attended a Santa Ana to Palomar Mountain Linkage Working Group meeting.

NRS Sawyer attended the San Diego Mountain Lion Management and Monitoring Program research meeting.

A Yosemite Bullfrog removal webinar was attended.

NRM Reinig and Ranger Supervisor Rodriguez regularly attended bi-weekly Parks Managers and Supervisors COVID-19 conference calls. Discussions during the calls focused on local trends of the outbreak and changing County protocols.

The monthly RCA Management and Monitoring Coordination meeting and the monthly Parks Managers meeting were regularly attended virtually by NRM Reinig.

After a COVID induced hiatus, one MSHCP Management and Monitoring meeting was attended. A presentation of updates and highlights of the Unit's work for the past year was presented to the group.

Staff attended monthly MSHCP Land Management Unit staff meetings.

Patrol/Enforcement

Badlands Habitat Management Unit (HMU)

The CALMAT property was patrolled on an approximately weekly basis. Signage at property, which had melted during the Sanders fire in the previous quarter, was replaced. Contact was made with five OHV riders as they approached the property's boundaries and five fence cuts were located and repaired throughout the quarter at the property.

The Wolfskill-Driscoll property was patrolled on an approximately weekly basis, including several All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) patrols in hard to access portions of the property. In the secluded northern portion of the property, dirt bike damage was located adjacent to a cut in a previously fortified fence line. The barricade was reinforced once more. Across the rest of the property and throughout the quarter, two gates and two additional fence cuts were secured shut after being found cut open.

The Schmeling property was regularly patrolled with no issues to report.

Cactus Valley HMU

The Bautista property was patrolled monthly. Little activity was noted at the property until late in the quarter when three cuts were found in the northern fence line with OHV tracks leading into the

property. The cut wires were found positioned back in place so as to appear secured. The cuts were repaired.

Additional properties patrolled in the Cactus Valley HMU with no issues to report included Baez, Bustos, Butcher, Chard, and Greer.

Gavilan HMU

The contiguous North Peak #1, 2, 3 and 4 properties continued to be a hot spot for unauthorized activity and as a result were patrolled on a more than weekly basis. Throughout the quarter, contacts were made with a total of 19 OHV riders in or approaching the properties. In general, property boundaries were discussed, boundary signs were pointed out, and the riders were asked to leave. Contact was attempted with four additional OHV riders who fled. A group of three upland hunters and two groups of target shooters were contacted on the properties and escorted out. One overnight camper was contacted and informed of the prohibition of camping on RCA conserved land. Two cuts to the fence line at a reoccurring problem area along Vista Avenue were repaired, and a vehicle barricade in the north western section of the property was found dismantled. The barricade and signage were reinstalled.

The Adams, Andrade, and North Peak # 2 properties along El Toro Cut Off Road also continued to see heavy misuse including dumping and OHV activity. A motion activated game camera was placed in the area in an attempt to capture the license plate numbers of illegal dumpers but was unsuccessful when the camera was stolen. Ranger Richard Chagolla was able to contact one individual who admitted to being responsible to one of the piles of dumped debris, after personal information was found in the pile. After being given a chance to remove the debris without success, Lake Elsinore Code Enforcement was contacted to pursue punitive actions against the individual. To dissuade OHV activity stemming from El Toro Cut Off Road, two fence lines along the road were extended and two OHV barricades were repaired and reinforced.

The Reynolds property was occasionally patrolled. Several recently installed OHV barricades in the interior and along the boundaries of the property were compromised routinely during the quarter. Repairs to the often hard to reach barricades were scheduled. Contact was made with two Razor OHV vehicles outside the Reynolds property on Walker Canyon Road. The Razors were approaching the property and were re-directed.

Ranger Chagolla attended an open archery shoot at Bolton property's leased archery range. Information was exchanged with the members and visitors of the archery club and general restrictions and rules of the conserved lands were conveyed. One new target in an unauthorized portion of the property was located by the ranger and removed by the club. Additional patrols of the property found no issues to report.

At the Toscana Donation Phase 2, OHV activity was noted on high ridgetops entering the property. The access points were addressed by parks maintenance workers (see Maintenance/Fencing, Gavilan HMU section below for more details).

The Chun and adjacent Helmand properties were inspected. Recently installed RCA "Boundary" signs were found missing and were reinstalled.

Additional properties patrolled in the Gavilan HMU with no issues to report included Dawson Creek, Greenwald, Hariton, Marrelli, North Peak El Toro Road, and Ordonez.

Meniffee HMU

Following notification received by the RCA of possible Unexploded Ordnances (UXO) in the southern parcel of the Cornerstone property, staff made and installed temporary "Danger Unexploded Ordnances Keep Out" signs around the parcel. The signs were installed around the southern parcel of the property in conjunction with additional RCA "No Trespassing" signs. Although the property had been posted with RCA "No Trespassing" signs prior, the property continued to experience cuts to its wildlife fencing by those who sought to recreate inside it and beyond. In total, three cuts to the property's fence were repaired throughout the quarter. Permeant UXO signs were ordered.

Following a report received by the MSHCP Biological Monitoring Program of an individual in the Anheuser Busch property doing shovel work, Ranger Fountain inspected the area. A new BMX jump track was discovered in previously undisturbed habitat on the east side of the creek in the Phase 1 parcel. The jumps were dismantled, and the area was posted as closed. A subsequent inspection of the area showed it undisturbed. To discourage use by the public at the wildlife undercrossing of Clinton Keith Road, RCA "No Trespassing" signage was installed on either side of road. RCA "No Trespassing" signs installed in a previous quarter at the nearby wildlife overcrossing were found removed and laying on the ground. The signs were reinstalled. Patrols of the remainder of the property were completed with no issues to report.

Following reports of an illegally created OHV trail at the Rullo property, ranger staff investigated the disturbance. Along the northern boundary of the property, a new ATV trail was found leading into RCA conserved lands and back out to private property in the shape of a U for approximately 70 yards. A ranger business card and note were left on the gate of the private property believed responsible for the incursion, however by quarters end no contact was made.

The fence line at the Clark property along Bundy Canyon Road was found cut for a second time. Tire tracks led into the property and to a home scheduled for demolition adjacent to the property's southern boundary. Once again, inquiries were made with the City of Wildomar to ascertain if the trespass issue arose from their workers as part of the Bundy Canyon Road Widening project. The City communicated it was not associated with the Bundy Canyon Road Widening project. The fence line was secured shut and reinforced.

In an effort to address unauthorized use of the Evandel-Wilson and Evandel-Bergstein properties in the Murrieta Hills, rangers patrolled the properties and adjacent private property to the north. The two private gates on roads leading into the area continued to be regularly cut open and re-secured by staff before being permanently repaired by the Pulte Group. Rangers contacted 16 OHV riders on or near the RCA properties and escorted them out of the area. At the bequest of Riverside County Fire, a large stack of wood pallets and a fire ring were removed from the area by staff.

While inspecting the Casa Modelo property, Ranger Chagolla located piles of brush pushed into the property boundary by a tractor from the adjacent private property resident. The resident was contacted and asked to remove the brush piles, for which they complied. A second nearby private property resident was also contacted by the ranger regarding large piles of trimmed branches that were placed in the property. The second resident removed the dumped limbs.

A homeless encampment, in the process of being built, was discovered at the Shiang property by PMW Jeff Burke. Ranger staff returned to inspect the area and found a shelter and personal items hidden in the trees on the property. A notice to vacate was left for the occupants. A follow-up inspection revealed most items were removed. The remaining items were picked up and removed by staff. A nearby gate on the property was found cut open and was secured shut.

The Chappell property's buildings experienced repeated trespassing and vandalism throughout the quarter including breaking and entering and graffiti. Neighbors of the property called Murrieta police on two occasions to report teenage individuals attempting to break into the buildings. However, when police arrived both times the suspects were no longer present. Ranger Fountain held ongoing communications with Murrieta Community Patrol and the Murrieta Fire Department to report additional vandalism, encourage local police patrols, and coordinate the installation of a Knox lock so that the agencies could gain access to the property, if needed. Repairs to the building's boarded windows and doors were made on three occasions and a cut in the property's fence was located and wired shut. A motion activated game camera was placed facing the buildings late in the quarter. The camera captured photos of three teenaged individuals attempting to throw large rocks through one of the building's boarded doors.

Ranger Fountain continued to make regular patrols of the Winchester 700 Murrieta property's trails on e-bike to assure the continued closure of some of the property's trails located in sensitive areas. Access controls were reinstalled on two closed trails on two occasions after being found removed by mountain bikers. A motion activated game camera was placed on one of the closed trails. Although access controls were not tampered with during the camera's deployment, the camera did capture one mountain bike rider and one hiker using the closed trail.

The Riverside County Transportation Department's "Yellow House" at the future Clinton Keith Donation was inspected. Rangers removed two large garbage bags worth of homeless debris that were left at the building.

At the Elsinore Lakeview Estates property, ranger staff found increased evidence of OHV activity and recently installed signage removed. Hardier signage with wood backing was installed along the property's boundaries.

The Nelson property was patrolled on two occasions. Although the property's OHV barricade was found intact, one dirt bike rider was spotted high on a ridgeline in the interior of the property. Contact was attempted but was unsuccessful when the rider left the area.

Ranger staff arrived at the El Sol property to discover a vehicle accident, with California Highway Patrol (CHP) onsite. The accident damaged a portion of the property's fence. The damaged fence was repaired.

Additional properties patrolled in the Menifee HMU with no issues to report included Benton 36, Delgado, Emerald Aliso, Gentry, Lake Skinner Investors, McElhinney-Stimmel, Rafco, and Rindahl.

River HMU

At the Teledyne property two interior gates were found cut open and were repaired.

Sage HMU

Staff continued to show a large presence in the Wilson Creek area properties (Odegaard, Pena, Terra Investors, United Five Star, and Wilson Creek) to address increased OHV issues. Ongoing communication and coordination with the caretaker of the large farm to the west of the properties occurred. Contacts were attempted with at least nine OHV riders, but most were unsuccessful when the riders fled the area. One fence breach was repaired at the western most Pena property. Staff also worked to block key access points in two locations (see Maintenance/ Fencing, Sage HMU section below for more details).

In the interior of the Anza Knolls property, Ranger Garcia discovered an abandoned truck mired in sand. The ranger contacted California Highway Patrol (CHP) to assist with recovery of the vehicle. It was learned that the vehicle became stuck in the property following a high-speed pursuit. Eventually the vehicle was removed by CHP. Later in the quarter, staff went to the property to investigate reports of a dumped office trailer. The trailer was located and found to be too damaged to tow away. Staff later returned with a tractor and large trailer to remove the dumped trailer but found it already removed by unknown individuals.

Recently installed fencing along the eastern boundary of the Winchester 700 Reed Valley property was cut and repaired on one occasion. A recently installed interior fence nearby, blocking a new OHV path was discovered torn down on one occasion and cut open on another. It was also repaired.

The block of conserved properties in the Glen Oaks area (Bell, Selders, Tax Sale 2013 Detail 10, and Weigel) were patrolled monthly. Rangers confirmed neighbor reports of an uptick in OHV activity on the existing dirt roads of the properties. OHV access was being gained by dirt bikes hopping over the properties' horse step-overs. Additional "No OHV" signs were installed and modifications to the step-overs were planned.

A broken window was discovered at one of the Cordova property buildings. The window was boarded closed.

Rangers inspected the interior of the newly established Temecula Conservation Easement #3 property. Three homeless camps were observed on the property. No action was taken as the area is under the management of the City of Temecula and is in an area frequented by homeless individuals.

At the Mulder property, an increase in OHV activities was noted on dirt roads, providing an access point into the greater Vail Lake area by riders. Plans to block the access points were initiated.

The fence line was discovered compromised at the south east corner of the O'Conner property. The fence was put back into working order and reinforced.

Removed signage at the Rivera property was reinstalled.

Additional properties patrolled in the Sage HMU with no issues to report included Betchel, Burum, Bush, Dinh, Dorfner, Geller #2 Phase 1, JPR, JPR 6, Karam, Kuehler Conservation Easement, Leb, Licata, Martin, Reden, Reden Phase 3, Solis Easement, Tax Sale 2013 #10, Tax sale 2016 #4, and Wallis/Mullings.

San Jacinto HMU

Early in the quarter, Rangers Fountain and Garcia found extensive damage to habitat at the EMWD San Jacinto River Conservation Easement and adjacent Wilder property. The damage was initially suspected, and later confirmed, to be caused by SCE workers who were conducting distribution pole upgrades in the area. The habitat damage was caused around all ten poles on or immediately adjacent to the properties. SCE workers drove vehicles and heavy machinery to and around each pole, often on several different previously untraveled paths. The work resulted roughly 2.7 acres of shrubs being crushed and soils disturbed on the property. Staff documented the damage with photographs, mapped the areas impacted with arcCollector, and submitted the data to the RCA. In a separate incident, rangers found one of the EMWD property gates cut open. It was re-secured shut.

At the Soboba Donation Phase 3 Conservation Easement, Ranger Fountain discovered areas of the site (strips of land immediately adjacent to the south east edge of the adjacent mobile home park as well as around the mobile home park storage yard) disturbed by heavy equipment. The scraping only effected the surface of the soil with some herbaceous growth still present and gopher activity seen in the recently disturbed areas. To prevent any future incursions by machinery into the parcel, Soboba Public Works placed large boulders at the property to bar any future vehicle access.

The Soboba Donation Phase 1 and 2 properties in the San Jacinto River Wash were patrolled several times. The area had seen upticks in OHV activities which were mostly emanating from down river. Contact was made with a new homeless individual that was in the process of setting up an encampment on the property. The prohibition of camping on RCA properties was conveyed to the individual and they left the area.

The KB Homes SJ River property and general area continued to experience a large uptick in OHV activity that began in the previous quarter. The property was regularly patrolled by ranger staff as well as City of Perris Code Enforcement officers and Riverside Sherriff Office (RSO) Deputies. The large presence of law enforcement agencies in the area, who issued citations to riders, helped to decrease the activity throughout the quarter. Still, a fence line and gate in the western portion of the property needed several repairs after being cut by riders accessing the area. Contact was also made with a hot air balloon pilot who landed on the property on two occasions.

Ranger Garcia patrolled the Ida Lane property on several occasions. Access by OHV riders was noted on the property through a private parcel near the property's south eastern corner. Contact was made with the private property owner who assured staff that the OHV activity was not caused by him. Recently installed signage at the new property was found removed in the area and was replaced.

Three fence repairs were required at the Higgins Nuevo property throughout the quarter.

Immediately following up on reports from a neighbor of a vehicle traveling off road at the Sey property, rangers responded to the site. When rangers arrived, the vehicle had already left the area.

Additional properties patrolled in the San Jacinto HMU with no issues to report included: Carlsbad, KB Homes Coastal Donation, Kirchner, Meadows at Lone Cone (SJRR), RCTC McAlister, Riverpark, San Jacinto River Ranchos Meadows at Lone Cone, and Tax sale 2012 # 1.

Santa Ana Mountains HMU

NRM Reinig conducted reconnaissance at the Temecula Escarpment properties for illegally created trail closures. Trails entering the Francis property from the west were less traveled and entrenched than was anticipated. Large-scale dumping was confirmed on the steep slopes along Camino Gatillo on the Francis Nassef and Julie-Phase 2 property. Cleanup has been scheduled.

The lock on the cable gate at the Rancho Escarpment property was found cut on two occasions. The gate was re-secured shut both times and RCA "No Trespassing" signs were installed.

At the Shamblin property a vehicle barricade was found ripped from the ground. Although no evidence of vehicles entering the property were apparent, repairs to the barricade were planned.

Additional properties patrolled in the Santa Ana Mountain HMU with no issues to report included: Bentley, Beresford, Biggerstaff, Carr, Clark, Fethke, Fischer, Hansen/Layton, Hermann, Kalmia, Kamyar Roka, Kollar, Jenkins, Lowe, Montecristo, Otto, Stockdale, Tax Sale 2013 Detail 12, Welsh, and Wolf.

San Timoteo HMU

The Oak Valley Partners property continued to be a site targeted by OHV riders and homeless encampments. The property was patrolled on at least a weekly basis, often by Ranger Chagolla working alongside Calimesa Police Department and Code Enforcement. Five new homeless encampments were found and posted to vacate at the property and one old encampment was located and cleaned up. Regular contacts were made with OHV riders on private parcels to the north and west of the property as they approached the property boundaries. One fence cut and one cut lock were located and repaired. New "No OHV" and RCA "Boundary" signs were installed in several locations and an OHV trail leading into the property's southern boundary was blocked with a segment of fencing.

Owing to its vicinity to a popular over-look spot, the Spring Mountain Ranch PA1 Edison gate on Pigeon Pass Road continued to be targeted by vandals. The gate was found cut open on two occasions and was re-secured shut. On one occasion a vehicle was discovered with occupants who had spent the night just beyond the cut opened gate. The occupants were asked to leave.

At the southern boundary of the Pecuniary Capital property, Ranger Chagolla followed up on a neighbor's report of illegal grading. It was found that several of the adjacent private properties had been graded and debris was pushed onto the Pecuniary Capital property. The property's southern boundary was signed with additional RCA "Boundary" signs. Despite several attempts no contacts were made with the presumed responsible parties.

The Palmyrita property cable gate was vandalized but remained secured.

Additional properties patrolled in the San Timoteo HMU with no issues to report included: Cuccia/Vogel, GSKM, Kramer, Lin, RLC/Elcasco, and Wang.

Maintenance/ Fencing

General

Maintenance staff begun dismantling an old horse corral at the Anheuser Busch property to use as gates at other locations.

Vehicle 09-653 was repaired in house for a front-end tracking bar bend. PMW Stan Miller repaired the unit after it was driven into a rough area on the CALMAT property.

The Unit's hazardous waste drums were scheduled for proper disposal. In total, 220 gallons of waste oil and one 55-gallon drum of oil-soaked dirt, that had been collected from RCA and Parks Open Space lands, was disposed of.

Badlands HMU

A 75-foot section of vehicle damaged fence line was repaired at the Wolfskill-Driscoll property along Gilman Springs Road.

Cactus Valley HMU

SCE worked to remedy a power pole at the Goodhart property after PMW Salazar reported concerns with it leaning. Upon inspection, SCE prioritized the repair as urgent and replaced the anchor wire and transformer that night and into the early morning. PMW Salazar stayed on the scene until the work was completed.

Gavilan HMU

A 130-foot cable and wire fence were installed at an access point into the Toscana Donation Phase 1 property to block vehicle trespassing and dumping.

A cable gate at the Patterson property was re-constructed by PMW Miller after it was found destroyed.

Maintenance staff hiked fencing supplies onto a high ridgetop along the Toscana Donation Phase 1 property's southern boundary to extend fencing that was being circumvented by dirt bikes.

Sage HMU

Access controls were completed at key OHV access points into the Wilson Creek properties. Staff completed 1,300 feet of new fencing and installed one gate along El Reposo Road at the Pena and adjacent Melmoth properties. The gate was fabricated using the corral fencing from the Anheuser Busch property. Further south, along the eastern boundary of the Wilson Creek property a 300-foot cable, pole, T post, and wire barricade was installed. One additional key access point along the western boundary of the United Five Star Capital (1) property remained open and was scheduled for access controls in the fourth quarter.

San Jacinto HMU

Following damage to the south eastern field gate by firefighting agencies during the Warren fire on the Pico Thompson property, staff installed a permanent gate fabricated using the corral fencing from the Anheuser Busch property. Staff coordinated with Riverside County Fire to remove the burnt vehicle responsible for the blaze. In addition, 100 feet of steel cable and wire fencing was installed at a vandalized OHV barricade in the northern portion of the property.

San Timoteo HMU

Staff completed the installation of 1,512 feet of roadside fencing and a gate at the Lin property.

Santa Ana Mountains HMU

RCA "Boundary" signage was installed at the White Conservation Easement.

Weed Abatement

The Emerald Meadows property was treated with herbicide along Riverview Drive.

The Wolfskill-Driscoll property roadside herbicide application was completed along Gilman Springs Road.

At the Riverside Clark property, herbicide treatments were completed adjacent to private structures.

Habitat/Species Management

Badlands HMU

NRS Sawyer visited the quarterly photo point monitoring stations at the CALMAT property. Damage to the property from the Sanders fire in the second quarter was inspected. Much of the property's OHV grant funded restoration area was intensely burned, destroying most of the remaining shrubs which were planted in 2015. The coastal sage scrub area west of the restoration area and some patches of riparian habitat throughout the property were less intensely burned and are expected to recover.

Menifee HMU

Staff prepared for and facilitated the Pacific Mayfield Burrowing Owl translocation to the RCA El Sol property. Prior to the translocation, the site was surveyed for available existing artificial burrows that could be used for the translocation. The site was found to be occupied by 10 wild owls (a larger than expected population). To not disturb and displace the site's existing wild owls, staff constructed and installed nine new artificial burrows. Four hacking enclosures were then installed over four of the new burrows and the projects principal investigator translocated four pairs of owls to the site in May. Concerns quickly arose that the site's resident cattle could damage the hacking enclosures and compromise the translocation. Staff responded by installing electric fencing around each hacking enclosure. By quarter's end, all four pairs of owls were incubating eggs in their new homes.

Staff completed the invasive Tamarisk tree (*Tamarix ramosissima*) removal project at the Spencer's Crossing property. All individuals to the north Max Gillis Road were cut and stump treated with Rodeo herbicide. An additional 1.16 tons of Tamarisk were removed from the site. By quarters end, the property was clear of all Tamarisk individuals.

NRS Sawyer, NRS Kalee Koeslag and PMW Miller treated nonnative weeds on the Clinton Keith wildlife overcrossing with herbicide. The overcrossing contained significantly fewer nonnative weeds than in the previous year. Short-pod Mustard (*Hirschfeldia incana*), Stinknet (*Oncosiphon piluliferum*), and Tocalote (*Centaurea melitensis*) were targeted.

The Shiang and Benton properties' ephemeral pools, which were improved in previous years, were checked. The Shiang pool was found to be holding approximately one foot of water. Thousands of young Western Spadefoot (*Spea hammondi*) tadpoles, some of which were observed predated Western Toad (*Anaxyrus boreas*) tadpoles, were documented in the pool. This was the first documentation of Western Toads breeding in the pool. The Benton pool did not receive enough precipitation to inundate.

River HMU

NRS Sawyer conducted Burrowing Owl burrow monitoring at Hidden Valley Wildlife Area. Consistent with past years, no owls were observed utilizing the site.

Photo point monitoring stations were visited at the Teledyne property.

Sage HMU:

In order for the Unit's new Natural Resource Specialist to become familiar with the species, NRS Koeslag shadowed MSHCP Biological Monitoring staff once a week during Quino Checkerspot Butterfly (*Euphydryas editha quino*) surveys late in the quarter.

Ranger Fountain cleaned out the wildlife water guzzler at the Winchester 700 Reed Valley property.

Ranger Garcia refilled the water tanks at the Cordova property's wildlife water guzzler.

San Jacinto HMU:

In an effort to reverse the invasion of the highly invasive Stinknet into the sensitive habitat of the Hemet alkali vernal playa, several properties were once again targeted for its removal. At the Sey property the patch of Stinknet treated the previous year was found to be about half its former size. The 0.8-acre patch was treated early in the quarter with Roundup Pro Max© and Surflan AZ©. Although a decrease in Stinknet was noted at the Carlsbad property, following treatments the previous year, a 2.3-acre patch of the weed was treated with Rodeo© herbicide at the property by staff. Special care was taken to not kill the endangered San Jacinto Valley Crownscale (*Atriplex coronata*) that was growing amongst it.

NRS Sawyer, NRS Koeslag, and NRM Reinig mapped desired grazing areas at the EMWD Conservation Easement, Meadows at Lone Cone (SJRR), RCTC McAlister, and San Jacinto River Ranchos Meadows at Lone Cone properties. Care was taken to exclude Slender-horned Spineflower (*Dodecahema leptoceras*) from the grazing polygons. Existing and new photo point

monitoring stations were visited at the properties during the effort. The area was then toured with the Unit's shepherd contractor. Although the shepherd was amicable to the job, the project was postponed due to a shortage of shepherds caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

NRS Sawyer mapped the perimeter of the Warren fire at the Pico Thompson property.

NRS Sawyer visited quarterly photo point monitoring stations at the Carlsbad property.

Santa Ana Mountains HMU:

NRS Sawyer pulled nonnative annual grasses and Tocalote at the Saddleback Munz's Onion salvage site.

Acquisitions

Initial Site Inspections:

The following properties were inspected and/or re-inspected by staff prior to acquisition. All covered species were reported to the MSHCP Biological Monitoring Program and all outstanding issues were mapped and submitted to the RCTC/RCA Acquisition Manager so that they could be addressed during the acquisition phase.

Bush, Kevin - NRS Sawyer re-inspected the property for trash cleanup. All major trash had been removed.

Cohen - NRS Sawyer conducted a pre-acquisition survey of the property. The property had 11.36 acres of open coastal sage scrub with a high amount of non-native grass cover. A large portion of the property's boundary has been disked regularly. The northern portion of the property contained a small wash. The property to the west had active dry wheat farming that entered onto the Cohen boundary by 15 feet. A small amount of trash including a tire, carpeting, and an old bucket of oil was documented.

Girdhari - NRS Sawyer conducted a pre-acquisition survey of the property. The 322-acre property primarily consisted of Chamise (*Adenostoma fasciculatum*) chaparral with large boulder outcrops. A seasonal stream passed through the property in a narrow canyon which was dominated by Interior Live Oak (*Quercus wislizeni*). Several OHV trails entered into property from neighboring private parcels. No trash issues were located and all witness markers were present.

Mustang Lane- NRS Sawyer conducted a pre-acquisition survey of the property. The property was 260.3 acres of open chaparral and coastal sage scrub habitat. Good native plant diversity was observed. The property also contained a Cottonwood (*Populus fremontii*) - Coastal Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) dominated riparian area. California Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila californica californica*) and two Coyotes (*Canis latrans*) were observed. Some scattered trash and a dumping area were located. Trash consisted of green waste, T posts, barbed wire, building materials, pallets, carpet, tires, and miscellaneous trash. Several of the property's witness markers were missing. Two private property encroachments onto property were identified. The encroachments consisted of a large corral, fencing, and greenhouses. NRS Sawyer provided a cleanup cost estimate for the property.

R & G Intl - NRM Sawyer conducted a pre-acquisition review of the property. The property was 77.3 acres of open flat grassland, alkali playa, and part of a hillside dominated by coastal sage scrub. A Northern Harrier (*Circus hudsonius*) was observed. A small amount of dumped building materials was the only issue located.

Rodrigows – NRS Sawyer conducted a pre-acquisition survey of the property. The property consisted of 9.97 acres of hilly coastal sage scrub with large boulder outcrops. Old dirt roads through the property were overgrown and impassable. Several areas of trash including partially buried tires and car parts, a wood table, and wooden shed were reported. All witness markers were present.

Tajik - NRS Sawyer and NRS Koeslag conducted a pre-acquisition review of the property. The property was 24.65 of open flat grassland and alkali playa habitat with part of a hillside dominated by coastal sage scrub. California Gnatcatcher and Northern Harrier were observed. Vegetative Thread-leaved Brodiaea (*Brodiaea filifolia*) was also likely seen. A dirt road in the northern portion of property contained some small piles of trash.

TNC Stevenson - NRS Sawyer conducted a pre-acquisition survey of the property. The property was 19.9 acres of a north-facing slope of a plateau covered by dense, mature chaparral. Engelmann Oaks (*Quercus engelmannii*) were present on the property as was a Coast Live Oak dominated riparian area. An equestrian trail was noted passing through the property. No outstanding issues were observed.

AGENDA ITEM 6E

WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

DATE:	June 7, 2021
TO:	Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority
FROM:	Executive Committee Jose Mendoza, Procurement Manager Matt Wallace, Deputy Director of Financial Administration
THROUGH:	Anne Mayer, Executive Director
SUBJECT:	Recurring Contracts for Fiscal Year 2021/22

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for the Board of Directors to:

- 1) Approve the single-year recurring contracts in an amount not to exceed \$3,334,393, for FY 2021/22;
- 2) Approve the recurring contract for specialized services in an amount not to exceed \$250,000, in FY 2021/22 and \$1,000,000, in FYs 2022/23 – 2025/26; and
- 3) Authorize the Chair or Executive Director, pursuant to legal counsel review, to execute the agreements on behalf of RCA.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

As in previous years, RCA annually evaluates existing contracts for professional services due to expire within the next fiscal year. These contracts may be placed on the calendar for a new procurement solicitation, allowed to expire since these contracts are no longer required, or included in the annual recurring contracts list that is subject to Board approval. Most contracts for professional services are subject to a competitive process.

This year’s list of recurring contracts includes consultants that are providing unique or specialized services and working closely with staff on long-term projects. Staff desires to retain certain consultants on the recurring contracts list due to the consultant’s historical knowledge, unique experience, and understanding of RCA and specific RCA projects. Under limited circumstances in accordance with the Procurement Policies Manual adopted March 2021, staff believes it is more efficient and cost effective to retain the consultants on the recurring contracts list rather than rebidding the services at this time. Approval of the recurring contracts list will allow the RCA to continue work on existing projects without interruptions and to maintain consistency.

Below are the lists of proposed recurring contracts for FY 2021/22, followed by a summary for each consultant supporting inclusion as a recurring contract. Following Board approval, staff will develop appropriate agreements or amendments for these services. Accordingly, staff

recommends Board authorization for the Chair or Executive Director to execute the agreements on behalf of the RCA.

RECURRING CONTRACTS FOR FY 2021/22

These are single-year contracts with consultants. Staff recommends Board approval of these agreements with these consultants for the aggregate amount of \$3,334,393.

Consultant Name	Type of Service	FY 2020/21 Amount	FY 2021/22 Amount	Dollar Change
Brown Armstrong Accountancy Corporation	Annual financial statement audit.	\$ 99,800	\$ 34,000	\$ (65,800)
Hogan Lovells US, LLP (Hogan Lovells)	Federal funding, legislation, and policy efforts	150,000	150,000	0
Kadesh & Associates	Government relations services	75,000	75,000	0
Riverside County Parks and Open Space District (Parks)	Reserve management services for the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP)	1,430,390	1,473,759	43,369
Santa Ana Watershed Association (SAWA)	Monitoring program administration for the MSHCP	1,544,364	1,601,634	57,270
Total		\$ 3,299,554	\$ 3,334,393	\$ 34,839

Brown Armstrong Accountancy Corporation

After a competitive procurement process in 2017, Brown Armstrong Accountancy Corporation was awarded a professional services agreement to perform RCA’s annual audits and agreed-upon procedures for Member Agencies’ fee collections. The annual audits include the required financial statement audit and single audit. The agreed-upon procedures include review of the MSHCP fees collected and construction contracts awarded by each Member Agency. The term of the agreement was for a period of one-year, with the option to extend for four additional years through FY 2021/22. The FY 2021/22 contract amount reflects only the annual audit. As part of the consolidation of professional services agreements, the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) recently procured audit services for its funding recipients and claimants as well the Member Agency fee collections.

Hogan Lovells US, LLP

Hogan Lovells is a large international law firm with an environmental practice. Douglas P. Wheeler (Wheeler) is senior counsel at Hogan Lovells in its Washington, D.C. office

and has provided services to the RCA to develop and implement the MSHCP, first as a volunteer and then as a Washington-based attorney. Environmental law and policy have been a strong focus of Wheeler's career since he helped to write the Endangered Species Act (Act) in 1973. For 51 years, he has worked in the public, private, and non-profit sectors to achieve effective and equitable, administration of the Act, relying on tools like habitat conservation planning to integrate economic and environmental objectives. Wheeler's experience with the Act and credibility with decision-makers on Capitol Hill and at the Department of the Interior continue to benefit RCA in its successful implementation of the MSHCP. Wheeler has helped to secure additional federal assistance for habitat acquisition, including the enactment of a new U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) program, Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA), and increased appropriations under Section 6 of the Act. Most recently, Wheeler has been RCA's principal advocate in Washington for HR 2956, Congressman Ken Calvert's legislation to establish a new Western Riverside County National Wildlife Refuge. When established, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will assume financial responsibility for habitat acquisition within Western Riverside County National Wildlife Refuge boundaries, helping to meet a federal obligation for acquisition of habitat within the MSHCP.

Wheeler has informed RCA of his intent to retire on January 1, 2022. Wheeler's colleague, Hilary Tompkins, a former Solicitor of the Department of the Interior, is proposed to continue to provide services on behalf of Hogan Lovells with the same focus and expectations of Wheeler. Looking ahead, staff proposes the following priorities for Hogan Lovells in FY 2021/22:

- Advising and implementing politically strategic communications, messaging, public and media relations;
- Setting meetings with Members of Congress, Committees, their staffs, Administration officials, and any other stakeholders in federal policy making;
- Directly advocating and negotiating with Members of Congress, Committees, their staffs, and Administration officials;
- Enactment by the House and Senate, and initial appropriations to establish and administer the Western Riverside County National Wildlife Refuge;
- Enactment of a Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act counterpart to WIFIA in the surface transportation reauthorization bill that provides low-cost federal loans for habitat acquisition in conjunction with federally-funded highway projects;
- Continued attention to appropriations under Section 6 of the Act, including release of FY 2022 appropriations and substantial increases in subsequent years under a permanent, fully-funded Land and Water Conservation Fund account, as proposed;
- Assisting RCA and staff in identifying additional sources of revenue for habitat acquisition; and
- Successful implementation of the Administration's revised Act regulations to assure that habitat conservation plans are encouraged and supported in Washington, D.C. and Sacramento.

The Hogan Lovells monthly retainer remains unchanged with no increase in FY 2021/22. The retainer arrangement assures unlimited access to Hogan Lovells attorneys below the

standard hourly fee. Due to his long association with the MSHCP and commitment to its success, Wheeler will remain available to assist the RCA on a pro bono basis.

The proposed contract is for one-year. Pursuant to the Board's priority to evaluate consultant contracts under the new Managing Agency agreement, RCTC staff will use the next year to assess the RCA's current advocacy team in preparation for FY 2022/23. Staff does not believe it is prudent to make changes to RCA's advocacy services during the turnover in Presidential Administration and several front-and-center legislative matters such as an infrastructure bill, a new appropriations process, and implementation of the Great American Outdoors Act.

Kadesh & Associates

Kadesh & Associates was retained as RCA's government affairs consultant on November 1, 2016. Mark Kadesh, Chris Kierig, Ben Miller and Dave Ramey are RCA's representatives. Kadesh served as Senator Diane Feinstein's Chief of Staff; Kierig handled appropriations for Senator Feinstein; Miller worked for Congressman George Miller and then was Congressman Jared Huffman's Chief of Staff for eight years; and Ramey worked for Congressman Jerry Lewis for eight years and then Congressman Calvert for 24 years, 20 of those years as his Chief of Staff.

The ongoing focus of RCA's federal advocacy activities continues to be placed on robust funding of relevant habitat programs; engagement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Department of the Interior on regulations and practices; the successful expansion and operation of the WIFIA program by the EPA; legislative advancement of a Western Riverside County National Wildlife Refuge within the MSHCP. Ramey continues to lead, on behalf of the RCA, the government affairs efforts of the National Habitat Conservation Plans Coalition.

In the coming fiscal year, Kadesh & Associates will:

- Advise on and carry out implementation of politically strategic communications, messaging, public and media relations;
- Set and develop meetings with Members of Congress, Committees, their staffs, Administration officials, and other stakeholders in federal policy making;
- Directly advocate and negotiate with Members of Congress, Committees, their staffs, and Administration officials;
- Continue to pursue robust Section 6 funding and guard against new rules that threaten RCA's ability to use the program;
- Coordinate advocacy trips for Board Members and/or agency staff;
- Work toward securing additional overall appropriations for Section 6 from annual discretionary appropriations as well as the new funding stream from the Land and Water Conservation Fund as enabled by the Great American Outdoors Act [P.L. 116-152];
- Pursue Community Supported Projects (Member Directed Spending), as directed and developed with RCA leadership;
- Pursue and develop oversight opportunities with Congressional committees;

- Encourage use of habitat conservation plans in the surface transportation reauthorization bill as well as in infrastructure legislation generally;
- Support legislation that establishes the Western Riverside County National Wildlife Refuge; and
- Undertake unforeseen projects/initiatives on behalf of RCA. This work will include contacts with the region’s House and Senate delegation, the appropriations and authorizing Committees in each body, the Department of Interior, White House Office of Management and Budget, and others.

The monthly retainer remains unchanged for FY 2021/22. The retainer arrangement assures unlimited access to the Kadesh & Associates team members.

The proposed contract is for one-year. Pursuant to the Board’s priority to evaluate consultant contracts under the new Managing Agency agreement, RCTC staff will use the next year to assess the RCA’s current advocacy team in preparation for FY 2022/23. Staff does not believe it is prudent to make changes to RCA’s advocacy services during the turnover in Presidential Administration and several front-and-center legislative matters such as an infrastructure bill, a new appropriations process, and implementation of the Great American Outdoors Act.

Riverside County Parks and Open Space District

Section 5.2 of the MSHCP (Volume 1) indicates that management’s goal is to “establish and maintain a self-sustaining MSHCP Conservation Area that focuses on conserving habitats and species and is consistent with the conservation objectives for the Covered Species.” RCA has contracted with Riverside County Parks and Open Space District to be the Reserve Manager for the MSHCP since its inception. Management activities for the MSHCP occur at two levels: habitat/landscape and species-specific. The MSHCP management team focuses on the balance between managing the overall landscape of the future reserve and managing lands to support specific species requirements. As the MSHCP Reserve builds, and with feedback from Biological Monitoring Program (Monitoring Program) species occurrence data, MSHCP Reserve Managers develop and incorporate land management techniques to meet the needs of the lands now and into the future. Reserve Managers also review lands during the acquisition period to assist the right of way team. In addition to reserve management, the contract includes management of endowment properties and fire abatement services. The FY 2021/22 budget amount reflects a 3 percent increase primarily related to reserve management services that are reimbursable from deposit agreements or interest from endowments.

Santa Ana Watershed Association

Monitoring Program activities are implemented within the MSHCP Conservation Area on lands that are owned and managed by the various MSHCP participants. To ensure consistency in monitoring efforts throughout the Conservation Area, the Monitoring Program is overseen and implemented by a Monitoring Program Administrator. RCA contracts with SAWA as the Monitoring Program Administrator. The duties and responsibilities of the Monitoring Program

Administrator are described in Volume 1, (Part 2) Section 6.6.6 of the MSHCP. The Monitoring Program is responsible for monitoring the status and trend of the 146 Covered Species and associated vegetation communities and wildlife habitats over a 500,000-acre Conservation Area. Included in the duties are biological surveys, training, data management, and reporting; additional work is related to monitoring under the Clinton Keith overcrossing contract and Quino Butterfly work. The FY 2021/22 budget amount reflects a 3.7 percent increase primarily related to annual staff pay increases.

SPECIALIZED SERVICES FOR MULTI-YEAR CONTRACT

This is a multi-year contract with Dudek Corporation. Staff recommends Board approval for the aggregate amount of \$1,250,000 for a five-year agreement.

Consultant Name	Type of Service	FY 2020/21 Amount	FY 2021/22 Amount	5-Year Amount
Dudek Inc.	Project Compliance Support	\$ 338,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 1,250,000
Total		\$ 338,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 1,250,000

Dudek Corporation

In 2016, Dudek Corporation was awarded a professional services agreement to perform professional services required by the RCA for a five-year period beginning July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2021. Dudek Corporation authored the MSHCP, and RCA has contracted with Dudek Corporation since October 2004, related to MSHCP project compliance. Dudek Corporation has expertise with the MSHCP that is not easily duplicated elsewhere in the industry. Dudek Corporation services for the RCA include performing joint project reviews, participating special entity reviews, and determination of biologically equivalent or superior preservation reviews as well as communicating with permittees and consultants regarding MSHCP compliance questions. Staff recommends a professional services contract for the next five years beginning July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2026. The FY 2021/22 cost and annual cost thereafter reflects a reduction of \$88,000 from the FY 2020/21 budget, as RCTC staff is anticipated to assume some of the responsibilities.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Financial Information					
In Fiscal Year Budget:	Yes N/A	Year:	FY 2021/22 FY 2022/23+	Amount:	\$3,584,393 \$1,000,000
Source of Funds:	Tipping Fees, Reimbursement for Services, Local Development Mitigation Fees, Interest		Budget Adjustment:	No N/A	
GL/Project Accounting No.:	5163X-935XXX-524570		\$34,000		
	51633-935220-527980		\$225,000		
	520XX-935400-527980		\$47,061		
	5163X-9352X0-5400X0		\$30,000		
	51630-935310-527980		\$1,396,698		
	51630-9353X0-527980		\$1,601,634		
	5163X-935XXX-527980		\$250,000		
Fiscal Procedures Approved:	<i>Theresa Trevino</i>			Date:	May 5, 2021

Approved by the Executive Committee on May 19, 2021

In Favor: 5 Abstain: 0 No: 0

AGENDA ITEM 7

WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY	
DATE:	June 7, 2021
TO:	Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority
FROM:	Executive Committee Jennifer Fuller, Financial Administration Manager Matthew Wallace, Deputy Director of Financial Administration Tricia Campbell, Reserve Management/Monitoring Manager
THROUGH:	Anne Mayer, Executive Director
SUBJECT:	Adoption of Fiscal Year 2021/22 Budget and Approval of the Biological Monitoring Program Workplans

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for the Board of Directors to:

- 1) Adopt the FY 2021/22 Budget and related Resolution No. 2021-014, *“Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Adopting the Fiscal Year 2021/22 Operating and Capital Budget Including Budget Policies”*;
- 2) Approve the Biological Monitoring Program Work Plan and Cost Estimate included as Appendix B in the FY 2021/22 Budget; and
- 3) Approve the Clinton Keith Road Overcrossing Mitigation Monitoring Reimbursable Program Work Plan and Cost Estimate included as Appendix C in the FY 2021/22 Budget.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Staff completed the budget preparation process for the proposed FY 2021/22 Budget, and the budget document is included as Attachment 1. The budget document consists of an Executive Summary and appendices comprised of a glossary of terms and acronyms, the Biological Monitoring Program Work Plan and Cost Estimate for FY 2021/22, and the Clinton Keith Road Overcrossing Mitigation Monitoring Reimbursable Program Work Plan and Cost Estimate for FY 2021/22. The Executive Summary consists of the following sections:

- Mission
- Introduction
- Budget Policies
- Budget Goals and Objectives
- Budget Overview
- FY 2021/22 Program Initiatives
- Fund Balances

- Budget Summary

A requirement and key component of the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) is the Biological Monitoring Program (Monitoring Program), which collects data on the MSHCP's 146 Covered Species and their associated habitats. Monitoring results are used to assess the MSHCP's effectiveness at meeting conservation objectives and to provide information to the management team described in Section 5.0 of the MSHCP. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife provided staff and other support until June 30, 2012. Since that time, the RCA has provided all Monitoring Program funding with the exception of one full-time staff position and a vehicle which are funded by the State of California.

The MSHCP requires the Monitoring Program Administrator to submit an annual Work Plan and Cost Estimate for implementation of the Monitoring Program. The Work Plan and Cost Estimate are part of the annual RCA budget and must be approved by the RCA Board of Directors.

DISCUSSION:

FY 2021/22 Budget

RCA's budget consists of four primary programs – habitat acquisition, reserve management and monitoring, program administration, and endowments – that are accounted for in the general fund, capital projects funds, and endowment funds. The general fund and endowment funds comprise the operating budget, while the capital projects funds are the capital budget. The Budget Overview section in the Executive Summary provides an analysis of the budgeted sources and uses in the FY 2021/22 Budget.

The proposed FY 2021/22 Budget is a balanced budget that anticipates total sources will exceed total uses by approximately \$3 million. In the Executive Summary, Tables 9 and 10 provide a summary of budgeted sources and uses from two different perspectives (comparative and by fund and program). A summary of the proposed FY 2021/22 Budget is as follows:

FY 2021/22 Budget	
Revenues and other sources:	
Developer Mitigation	\$ 20,000,000
Federal and State Grants and Contributions	16,287,000
Capital Contributions and Donations	8,921,000
Tipping Fees	3,250,000
Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fees	750,000
Other Fee Revenues	559,000
Reimbursement for Services	258,200
Other Miscellaneous Revenue	151,600
Interest	60,300
Transfers in	3,091,900
Total revenues and other sources	53,329,000
Expenditures and other uses:	
Services and Supplies	9,915,600
Other Charges	1,090,000
Capital Outlay	36,271,600
Transfers out	3,091,900
Total expenditures and other financing uses	50,369,100
Excess of revenues and other sources over expenditures and other uses	2,959,900
Beginning fund balance (projected)	54,980,500
Ending fund balance (projected)	\$ 57,940,400

At the meeting, staff will present highlights of significant items included in the FY 2021/22 Budget.

Staff recommends adoption of the FY 2021/22 Budget and the related resolution (Attachment 2) to adopt the annual operating and capital budget. The resolution includes adoption of the budget policies listed in the Executive Summary. The inclusion of a summary of policies impacting the budget promotes fiduciary responsibility and organizational excellence.

Work Plans and Cost Estimates

The FY 2021/22 Work Plans, included as Appendices B and C to the Executive Summary, describe the monitoring activities planned and schedule for field work, and the Cost Estimate is for personnel and operations costs. The FY 2021/22 Budget and related Work Plans include the routine annual monitoring tasks and support a full-time Quino Checkerspot biologist for needed survey coverage as well as the tasks to perform Year 3 of the 5-Year Clinton Keith Road

Overcrossing Mitigation Monitoring Reimbursable Program. The Riverside County Transportation Department (RCTD) reimburses RCA for the Clinton Keith Road Overcrossing Mitigation Monitoring Reimbursable Program through use of banked RCTD fee credits. The cost estimates related to the work plans are as follows and are classified in Services and Supplies-Contracts in the FY 2021/22 Budget:

Biological Monitoring Program:	
Annual routine monitoring and COVID-19 additional mileage	\$ 1,506,400
Quino Checkerspot Butterfly monitoring (reimbursable)	30,000
Clinton Keith Road Overcrossing Mitigation Monitoring Reimbursable Program	65,300
Total Biological Monitoring Costs	\$ 1,601,700

FISCAL IMPACT:

Financial Information					
In Fiscal Year Budget:	Yes	Year:	FY 2021/22	Amount:	\$53,329,000 Sources \$50,369,100 Uses
Source of Funds:	Fees; grants, contributions, and donations; interest and other revenues			Budget Adjustment:	No
GL/Project Accounting No.:	Various funds and accounts				
Fiscal Procedures Approved:	<i>Theresa Trevino</i>			Date:	May 5, 2021

Attachments:

- 1) FY 2021/22 Budget
- 2) Resolution No. 2021-014

<i>Approved by the Executive Committee on May 19, 2021</i>					
In Favor:	6	Abstain:	0	No:	0

FY 2021/22 Budget Executive Summary

Mission

The Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (RCA) formed in 2004 as a joint powers authority to achieve one of America's most ambitious environmental efforts, the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP or Plan). The MSHCP is a comprehensive, multi-jurisdictional habitat conservation plan focusing on the permanent conservation of 500,000 acres and the protection of 146 covered species, including 33 that are currently listed as threatened or endangered. The 500,000-acre reserve is comprised of 347,000 acres of Public/Quasi-Public (PQP) lands and 153,000 acres of Additional Reserve Lands (ARL). RCA completed the PQP lands at the inception of the Plan and will assemble the ARL acres over the land acquisition period of the permits.

The MSHCP was developed in response to the need for future growth opportunities in western Riverside County while addressing the requirements of the state of California (State) and federal Endangered Species Acts. Working in partnership, local, state, and federal leaders developed the MSHCP under the authority of the California Natural Communities Conservation Planning Act of 2001 and Section 10 of the federal Endangered Species Act of 1973. The MSHCP streamlines environmental permitting processes by allowing the participating jurisdictions to authorize "take" of plant and wildlife species identified within the Plan area. Accordingly, under permits for critical wildlife areas, the MSHCP has expedited construction of more than 30 major freeway and road improvements in Riverside County valued at more than \$5 billion. At the same time, MSHCP implementation provides a coordinated MSHCP conservation area and implementation program to preserve biological diversity and maintain the region's quality of life.

Under the authority of the RCA Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) and the MSHCP Implementing Agreement (IA), RCA oversees and administers the MSHCP in support of its Member Agencies, which include the 18 cities in Western Riverside County and Riverside County (County). Other local, regional, state, and federal partner agencies work together with RCA to ensure the protection of the 146 species covered by the MSHCP. In accordance with the MSHCP, RCA's core responsibilities consist of:

- Habitat acquisition;
- Reserve management and monitoring; and
- Program administration.

As the nation's largest habitat conservation plan, the MSHCP strengthens the sustainability and quality of life in Western Riverside County by nurturing economic development opportunities, alleviating traffic congestion, protecting natural resources, and improving air quality.

Introduction

In November 2020, RCA and the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC) entered into an Implementation and Management Services Agreement (Management Agreement) effective January 1, 2021. Under the Management Agreement, RCTC administers, coordinates, and supervises the activities of RCA as set forth in the JPA and acts for RCA in accomplishing its purposes. Prior to January 1, 2021, the County served as RCA's managing agency and RCA staff were County employees.

The RCA budget for FY 2021/22 is presented to the Board of Directors (Board) and the citizens of Western Riverside County. The budget outlines the program administration, reserve management and monitoring, habitat acquisition, and endowment activities RCA plans to undertake during the year and appropriates expenditures to accomplish these tasks. The budget also shows the funding sources and fund balances for operations and these activities. This document serves as RCA's monetary guideline for the fiscal year. To provide the reader a better understanding of RCA's operations and activities, staff included descriptive information regarding each function in this Executive Summary.

In early March 2020, the federal government as well as the California Governor issued emergency declarations related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Further, on March 19, 2020, the Governor issued an executive stay at home order to protect the health and well-being of all Californians and to establish consistency across the State to slow the spread of COVID-19. The County also issued a directive to county residents supporting the Governor's executive order. Over the past year, the restrictions have been modified in response to the changing nature of the pandemic. The end of the COVID-19 pandemic appears to be in sight with vaccine distributions becoming widely available, more Californians returning to work or leisure activities with modified stay at home orders, and financial relief to families and businesses most impacted by the pandemic.

COVID-19 and the related government health orders have negatively impacted the local, regional, state, and federal economies; the magnitude and duration of these impacts remain uncertain. This budget is presented based on the best available economic information. The Board and staff will continuously monitor, assess, and adjust the budgeted revenue and expenditures as necessary throughout the crisis and duration of economic recovery.

Budget Policies

RCA maintains budget policies that promote fiduciary responsibility and organizational excellence.

ENDOWMENT	
Participating Special Entities Revenue	Ten percent of Participating Special Entities (PSE) revenue will be allocated to the endowment for future preservation.
Endowment Funding	Fifteen percent of Local Development Mitigation Fees (LDMF) collected will be allocated to the endowment for future preservation in alignment with the Recommended Fee Level – 15 Year Extension (Table 28) in the 2020 Nexus Study adopted by the Board in December 2020.
HABITAT ACQUISITION	
Non-Development HANS Funding Level	The MSHCP allows property owners who do not intend to file a development application to submit their properties for evaluation and possible acquisition under the Habitat Evaluation and Acquisition Negotiation Strategy (HANS) process. Section 6.1.1 of the MSHCP requires separate accounting and a priority list be established for properties that fall within this category. Land Acquisition Policy 1.13 requires that the level of funding to be set aside for the purchase of Non-Development HANS properties be reviewed annually and set by the Board. The set aside percentage has varied between 1 percent to 5 percent over the years. Since inception, RCA has set aside approximately \$3,295,400 in LDMF revenues into the Non-Development HANS fund. It has acquired five properties totaling 1,306 acres eligible for this program for about \$3,018,600 in costs. RCA has a balance of approximately \$276,800 in the fund for eligible properties. There are currently five properties on the list, and staff is in the process of negotiating various other Non-Development HANS properties. Five percent of LDMF collected will be allocated in FY 2021/22 for acquisition of Non-Development HANS lands.
PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION	
Economic Stability Policy	A minimum cash level of \$9 million will be maintained to continue operations for at least 18 months in accordance with Resolution No. 10-005 adopted by the Board in June 2010. If the balance declines below the minimum level, RCA will curtail new RCA-funded land acquisitions for that fiscal year until the minimum cash balance is restored. Multi-year purchase and sale agreements for which RCA is obligated to fund are exempt from the policy. RCA will continue to accept land donations, pursue opportunities for grant funding, and continue to negotiate purchases and sale agreements with closing dates extended to a future fiscal year in which the cash flow can adequately fund the purchase while preserving the minimum cash balance.

Funding Allocations	LDMF revenues will be allocated to program needs related to habitat acquisition, reserve monitoring and management, program administration, and endowment funding in accordance with the 2020 Nexus Study. Costs will be charged to the appropriate program, and LDMF revenues will be used to the extent that other funding sources are not sufficient to fund these programs.
LEGACY HOME REBATE PROGRAM	
Legacy Home Rebates	Beginning in FY 2022/23, RCA will set aside \$70,050 for refunds under the legacy home rebate program adopted by the Board in March 2021. Under the program, eligible homeowners may apply to RCA for a rebate in the amount of the difference between the LDMF at the time of payment and the LDMF as of June 30, 2021 adjusted according to changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the Riverside-San Bernardino metropolitan area.

Budget Goals and Objectives

To meet the RCA Board's expectations related to its approval of the Management Agreement, the FY 2021/22 budget is focused on three key priorities:

SUSTAINABILITY OF THE MSHCP	
Funding	RCA will work with Member Agencies to implement the revised fee ordinance and resolution and ensure the collection of fees to support RCA core functions.
Grants	RCA will focus on seeking and retaining state and federal grant funding to support habitat acquisition and compliance with grant requirements.
ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE	
Management	RCA will operate in an efficient, professional, and productive manner under the management of RCTC.
PARTNERSHIPS	
Communication	RCA will enhance communications with Member Agencies and stakeholders within Riverside County and at state and national levels.

Budget Overview

Riverside County has specific competitive advantages over nearby coastal counties (Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego), including housing that is more available and affordable as well as plentiful commercial real estate and land available for development at lower costs. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020, Riverside County's economy benefitted from employment gains due to the County's ability to attract businesses with lower commercial rents and a skilled labor force. Population migration to the Inland Empire (i.e., Riverside and San Bernardino counties) occurred due to these employment opportunities and a lower cost of living compared to the coastal counties.

Regardless of the current and future economic conditions, the RCA faces formidable ongoing challenges in terms of achieving the MSHCP goals. Fortunately, even during a worldwide pandemic, the foundation of the regional economy continues to retain many of the fundamental positive attributes that fueled its earlier growth, including more affordable real estate with proximity to coastal communities, a large pool of skilled workers, and increasing wealth and education levels.

On December 7, 2020, the Board adopted the 2020 Nexus Study which increased the LDMF fees for development in Western Riverside County using a phased-in approach. On July 1, 2021 the updated fee will include 50 percent of the fee increase with the full implementation of the fee occurring on January 1, 2022. This is the first increase outside of CPI increases since the MSHCP implementation. RCA informed the Member Agencies that prepayment of the LDMF fees was at their own discretion for applicants wishing to pay current fee levels prior to July 1, 2021.

RCA expects LDMF collections to increase in FY 2021/22 as a direct result of the fee increase. Since the fee increase will be phased in, the economy is still recovering from the effects of the pandemic, and the potential for LDMF prepayments is unknown, the projection for LDMF revenues is conservative. If revenues appear to be trending higher in FY 2021/22, staff will propose adjustments to the budget projections for Board approval.

The tables in this Executive Summary include actual amounts for FY 2019/20, the amended FY 2020/21 budget, projected amounts for FY 2020/21, and the budgeted amounts for FY 2021/22.

- RCA amended the FY 2020/21 budget for additional PSE revenue, costs related to the Management Agreement, and increased Santa Ana Watershed Association (SAWA) contract costs related to COVID-19. Additionally, an appropriations transfer was made to reflect staff costs under the Management Agreement as contract costs.
- The amended FY 2020/21 budget was compiled over one year ago. Projections for FY 2020/21 sources and uses are provided as a look ahead to the end of the current fiscal year and as a comparison point for determining FY 2021/22 sources and uses.

This Executive Summary provides comparisons of the FY 2021/22 budget sources and uses amounts to the FY 2019/20 actual, FY 2020/21 amended budget, and/or FY 2020/21 projected sources and uses amounts.

Sources

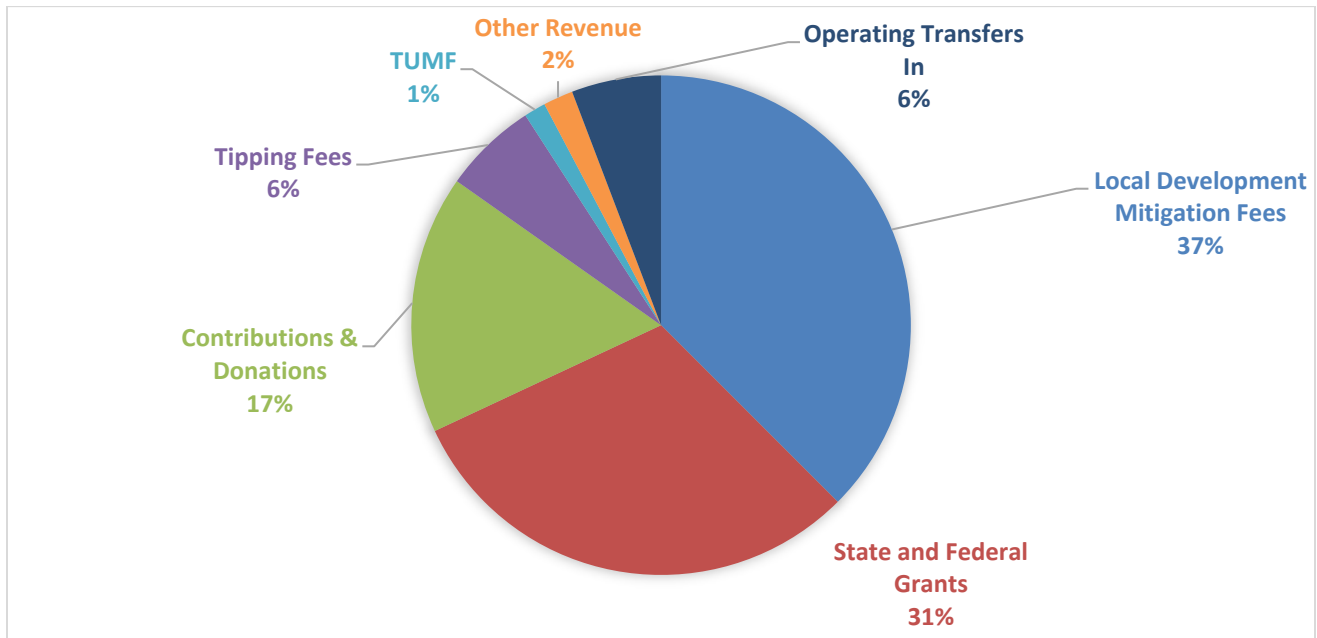
Sources are comprised of revenues and operating transfers in. Total sources (Table 1) are budgeted at \$53,329,000, an increase of 23% over FY 2020/21 projected sources and 20% increase over the FY 2020/21 amended budget.

Table 1 – Sources FY 2020-2022

	FY 2020 Actuals	FY 2021 Amended Budget	FY 2021 Projected	FY 2022 BUDGET	Dollar Change	Percentage Change
Local Development Mitigation Fees	\$ 16,145,300	\$ 10,500,000	\$ 17,000,000	\$ 20,000,000	\$ 9,500,000	90%
State and Federal Grants	691,200	17,167,700	8,310,000	16,287,000	(880,700)	-5%
Contributions & Donations	3,479,000	4,910,000	5,121,200	8,921,000	4,011,000	82%
Tipping Fees	3,872,400	3,250,000	3,400,000	3,250,000	-	0%
TUMF	2,000,700	1,300,000	1,950,000	750,000	(550,000)	-42%
Other Fee Revenue	3,579,900	6,422,700	7,048,500	559,000	(5,863,700)	-91%
Other Revenue	430,900	310,600	343,900	151,600	(159,000)	-51%
Reimbursement for Services	156,900	233,600	200,200	258,200	24,600	11%
Interest	920,900	272,400	12,200	60,300	(212,100)	-78%
Operating Transfers In	-	-	-	3,091,900	3,091,900	100%
Total	\$ 31,277,200	\$ 44,367,000	\$ 43,386,000	\$ 53,329,000	\$ 8,962,000	20%

RCA's projected sources by major categories for FY 2021/22 are illustrated in Chart 1.

Chart 1 – Major Sources Categories FY 2022



Local development mitigation fees are RCA's primary revenue source. The LDMF is required to be imposed and calculated, collected, and remitted by the Member Agencies to RCA in accordance with their obligations under the MSHCP. Since FY 2012/13, almost steady annual growth in residential and commercial development and related building permits has resulted in increased LDMF—even during COVID-19. Due to continued uncertainties related to the pandemic impacts and potential prepayments of LDMF prior to the fee increase, projected LDMF revenues for FY 2021/22 are \$20 million, an 18% increase compared to the FY 2020/21 projected revenues. Due to the fee increase from the 2020 Nexus Study, the annual CPI adjustment will not be made in July 2021. However, beginning in July 2022, RCA will provide the Member Agencies with an automatic annual LDMF adjustment in accordance with the Member Agency ordinances, resolutions, and the MSHCP Mitigation Fee Implementation Manual. In FY 2021/22, 15% of the LDMF revenues will be placed in an endowment fund for use for reserve management and monitoring and program administration after the land acquisition period. This is in accordance with the 2020 Nexus Study.

Using the Great Recession as a guide, RCA budgeted FY 2020/21 LDMF revenue at \$10.5 million. Development did continue during the pandemic, and staff projects that FY 2020/21 LDMF revenues will reach \$17 million, a 5% increase over the FY 2019/20 LDMF revenues of \$16.1 million.

State and federal grants and contributions revenues represent 31% of total revenues for FY 2021/22; such grants and contributions for habitat acquisition vary annually based on availability, amount, term, and eligible costs. Some grants require matching funds. Projected grants and contributions for FY 2021/22 are \$16,287,000, a 5% decrease from the FY 2020/21 amended budget and 96% increase over the FY 2020/21 projected grants and contributions revenue. Funding is anticipated from two grants:

- \$14.7 million related to the State of California Natural Resources Agency grant obtained through Assembly Member Sabrina Cervantes to acquire land in the Jurupa Mountains area of the MSHCP; and
- \$1.6 million related to the 2017 Section 6 grant obtained from the U.S. Department of the Interior and passed through the California Wildlife Conservation Board. Slightly more than \$1 million relates to the federal portion of the grant which remains. The remainder relates to the state matching funds. The grant requires a 35% match from non-federal funds, which is usually matched by state grant funds. RCA is pursuing an extension of time to expend these funds and anticipates expending the funds in the first half of FY 2021/22.

Contributions and donations arise from the donation of lands to the RCA. RCA works with multiple private developers and individuals to accept various reserve land donations. For FY 2021/22, RCA anticipates receiving up to 1,658.2 acres of ARL with an estimated value of \$8.9 million as capital contributions and donations.

Tipping fees are contributed to the RCA by the County on out-of-county waste tonnage collected at County landfills. For FY 2021/22, projected tipping fees for an estimated 2 million out-of-county waste tonnage are \$3.25 million, a 16% decrease over FY 2019/20 revenues for 2.34 million out-of-county waste tonnage.

Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) revenues are based on an amended Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG). RCA receives 1.47% of TUMF assessments on new residential and commercial development in Western Riverside County. RCA projects FY 2021/22 TUMF fees at \$750,000. The 42% decrease in projected TUMF revenues from FY 2020/21 amended budget revenues is primarily related to the completion of \$2 million in back payments owed to RCA by WRCOG and paid during FY 2019/20 and FY 2020/21.

Other fee revenue relates to governmental infrastructure mitigation contributions and PSE contributions that need take coverage for their projects. Revenues from these sources are traditionally hard to predict. Most of the proposed budget of \$559,000 is related to Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District projects. The proposed budget is a significant decrease from the FY 2020/21 revenues which included amounts related to a large PSE project and the purchase of Delhi Sands Flower-loving Fly conservation credits.

Reimbursement for services of \$258,200 represent 0.5% of the budgeted revenues and relate to reimbursements for work on joint project reviews and from deposit agreements related to work completed on reserve lands.

Other revenue of \$151,600 includes rental income and proceeds from the sale of equipment and vehicles to the Santa Ana Watershed Association (SAWA) over the life of its current contract.

Interest revenues from the County pool have decreased significantly since the beginning of the pandemic. RCA anticipates a 78% decrease in FY 2021/22 interest income compared to the FY 2020/21 amended budget due to extremely conservative investment yield projections resulting from lower interest rates in FY 2020/21, especially in response to COVID-19. The FY 2021/22 budget projects investment income at a 0.1% investment yield, compared to less than 0.5% in the prior year budget.

The 2020 Nexus Study permits the use of LDMF revenues for all RCA functions. **Operating transfers in** to the general fund relate to LDMF revenues to meet the needs for reserve management and monitoring and program administration. The operating transfers in are directly offset by the operating transfers out in the capital projects fund.

Uses

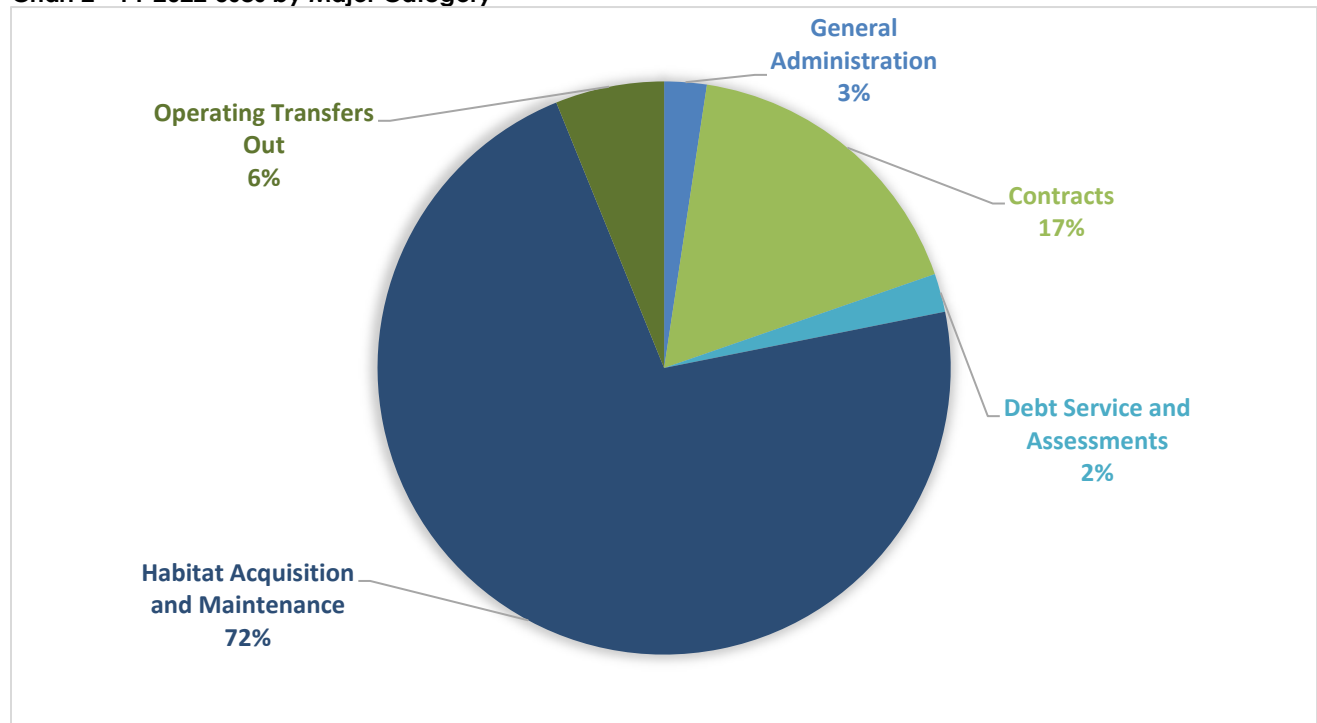
Uses consist of expenditures and operating transfers out. Total uses (Table 2) for RCA's programs are budgeted at \$50,369,100, an increase of 19% over FY 2020/21 projected uses and a 6% decrease from the FY 2020/21 amended budget. Habitat acquisition costs increased 29% from the FY 2020/21 projection due to the increase in projected LDMF revenues to be used for habitat acquisition and state and federal grants to be used to acquire reserve lands. General fund costs decreased 15% from the FY 2020/21 projection as staffing costs were higher than usual during the first half of FY 2020/21 due to the implementation of the new Management Agreement. FY 2020/21 staffing costs included a net pension liability payment to the County and accrued leave payouts to RCA staff whose employment with the County terminated.

Table 2 – Uses FY 2020-2022

	FY 2020 Actuals	FY 2021 Amended Budget	FY 2021 Projected	FY 2022 BUDGET	Dollar Change	Percentage Change
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 2,557,000	\$ 5,996,200	\$ 5,994,200	\$ -	\$ (5,996,200)	-100%
General Administration	260,700	411,100	201,200	225,400	(185,700)	-45%
Contracts	3,423,700	6,447,100	5,111,000	8,711,900	2,264,800	35%
Legal Services	557,000	880,000	770,000	775,000	(105,000)	-12%
Rent/Lease Building	195,300	199,400	199,200	203,300	3,900	2%
Principal Payment	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	-	0%
Interest Payment	66,200	38,000	18,500	10,000	(28,000)	-74%
Assessments and Fees	58,300	70,000	62,000	80,000	10,000	14%
Habitat Acquisition and Maintenance	13,472,100	38,475,200	29,000,000	36,251,600	(2,223,600)	-6%
Other Capital Charges	5,900	20,000	20,000	20,000	-	0%
Operating Transfers Out	-	-	-	3,091,900	3,091,900	100%
Total	\$ 21,596,200	\$ 53,537,000	\$ 42,376,100	\$ 50,369,100	\$ (3,167,900)	-6%

RCA's projected uses by major category for FY 2021/22 are illustrated in Chart 2.

Chart 2 – FY 2022 Uses by Major Category



As a result of the Management Agreement with RCTC, RCA no longer has County employees as staff. RCTC staff, which includes some former RCA employees, provides the management services required by RCA. Accordingly, RCA did not budget any salaries and benefits in FY 2021/22.

General administration expenditures of \$225,400 in the FY 2021/22 budget reflect a 12% increase over FY 2020/21 projected expenditures and 45% decrease over the FY 2020/21 amended budget. General administration expenditures include insurance, communications, supplies, equipment, repairs and maintenance, travel and other office costs. Insurance costs are increasing 25% compared to the FY 2020/21 projection but only 8% compared to the FY 2020/21 amended budget. Many of the general administration costs previously budgeted are incurred by RCTC and reimbursed by RCA, effective January 1, 2021. These costs are now accounted for in contract costs.

Contract expenditures of \$8,711,900 in the FY 2021/22 budget reflect a 70% increase over FY 2020/21 projected expenditures and 35% increase over the FY 2020/21 amended budget. As a result of the Management Agreement, RCTC staff now supports RCA and RCA has no direct staff-related costs. Most of the increase in contract expenditures relates to a full year of RCTC management compared to the six months in FY 2020/21. Contract expenditure details are presented in Table 11; significant contracts are highlighted below.

- *Management services.* The FY 2021/22 Budget includes a full year of RCTC management services, whereas the FY 2020/21 amended budget included only six months of RCTC management services. Therefore, for FY 2021/22, RCTC management services costs are higher and are estimated at \$5,527,400 (Table 3), a 176% increase over FY 2020/21 projected expenditures and 142% increase over the FY 2020/21 amended budget. These management services include RCTC staff salaries and benefits of \$3,309,300; general administration costs of \$1,503,200 related to an estimated administrative cost allocation and Board stipend, facilities maintenance and capital outlay, legal services, and miscellaneous costs; real property services of \$500,000 related to habitat acquisition; public outreach costs of \$120,000; audit costs of \$85,000 for Member Agency attestation services; and legislative advocacy costs of \$9,900.

Table 3 – Management Services

	FY 2021		FY 2022		Percentage Change
	Amended Budget	FY 2021 Projected	BUDGET	Dollar Change	
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,344,700	\$ 3,309,300	\$ 1,809,300	121%
Administrative Allocation	449,200	400,000	1,413,900	964,700	215%
Land Acquisition	250,000	175,000	500,000	250,000	100%
Public Outreach	31,500	31,500	120,000	88,500	281%
Auditor Costs	-	-	85,000	85,000	100%
Board Stipends	17,000	17,000	34,000	17,000	100%
Facilities Costs	1,000	1,000	26,500	25,500	2550%
Legal Costs	25,000	25,000	10,000	(15,000)	-60%
Legislative Contracts	5,000	5,000	9,900	4,900	98%
Misc Costs	800	800	18,800	18,000	2250%
Total	\$ 2,279,500	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 5,527,400	\$ 3,247,900	142%

One of the RCA Board's priorities for the new Management Agreement with RCTC is to shepherd RCA through a period of change and bring about economies of scale, fiscal efficiencies, and a direct link between conservation and transportation infrastructure. As a result of the resources available through RCTC, some RCA contracts including real property services, public outreach and information technology were terminated in FY 2020/21. The FY 2020/21 amended budget for the terminated contracts or services was \$890,000, and the FY 2021/22 budget for management services includes these services.

- *Land management.* For FY 2021/22, land management costs are estimated at \$1,473,800, a 3% increase over the FY 2020/21 amended budget that related to annual staff pay increases. The Riverside County Regional Park and Open-Space District (Parks) provides land management services including, but not limited to, administering, coordinating, and supervising reserve management activities of the RCA reserve land. The FY 2021/22 contract anticipates \$1,272,000 for 10 Park's staff and other costs entirely dedicated to managing the RCA MSHCP reserve land and \$201,800 to complete tasks not part of the day-to-day operations of managing the reserve land. For the other tasks, \$151,800 can be reimbursed from deposit agreements or interest from endowments and \$50,000 relates to fire abatement work which Parks will complete in FY 2021/22. In FY 2020/21, Parks was short-staffed during a portion of the year resulting in contract savings. Work related to deposit agreements and endowment properties was budgeted in FY 2020/21 but will not be completed until FY 2021/22 resulting in additional contract savings.

Certain habitat donations from property owners require significant land management during the first few years after a mitigation site has been successfully restored, or uplifted. Accordingly, the property owners are required to pay an initial land management fee to maintain the habitat at a high-level until the habitat naturalizes. These non-traditional MSHCP maintenance activities include aggressive weeding, native seeding, and mowing. Additional resources will also provide management services at the Clinton Keith Overcrossing on behalf of the Riverside County Transportation Department (RCTD) and perform oversight duties at the Riverpark Mitigation Bank.

Since inception of the MSHCP, RCA received project-related mitigation reserve land from property owners required to contribute an endowment fee for long-term land management above the level of effort mandated by the MSHCP. The endowments are used to maintain the habitat in perpetuity above baseline conditions.

- Biological monitoring. For FY 2021/22, biological monitoring costs are estimated at \$1,601,700, a 4% increase over the FY 2020/21 amended budget. The increase in FY 2021/22 compared to the FY 2020/21 amended budget is related to annual staff pay increases. Under a five-year agreement with SAWA approved by the Board in June 2018, SAWA provides biological monitoring services to RCA with compensation approved annually.

In connection with the 5-Year Clinton Keith Road Overcrossing Mitigation Monitoring Reimbursable Program with RCTD, SAWA's Year 3 services estimated at \$65,300 for a full-time biologist will be reimbursed.

- Fire management. The FY 2021/22 budget includes \$50,000 to develop and implement a fire management plan due to recent fires in the MSHCP area.
- Super bloom. The FY 2021/22 budget includes \$70,000 to support critical and timely actions to be taken for an unanticipated super bloom phenomenon, such as the experience in spring 2019. Critical land management resources were redirected to a super bloom area to support the intense effort needed there. This amount remains unchanged from the FY 2020/21 amended budget. These funds were not used in FY 2020/21.
- County services. The RCA continues to receive some services from the County including use of the County's financial system and other information technology solutions. The County Auditor-Controller and Treasurer-Tax Collector continue to serve those roles for RCA. Costs related to continued County services are included in general administration expenditures. Habitat acquisition services are provided by RCTC's right of way team and as such RCA no longer uses County real property services.

Legal expenditures of \$775,000 in the FY 2021/22 budget reflect a 27% increase over FY 2020/21 projected expenditures and 12% decrease over the FY 2020/21 amended budget. Legal expenditures consist of general legal counsel services related to program administration, reserve management and monitoring, and other matters not directly attributable to habitat acquisition.

Rent/lease building expenditures of \$203,300 in the FY 2021/22 budget are comparable to FY 2020/21 and relate to RCA's office space in Riverside that is leased from the County.

Debt service consists of a \$1 million installment payment and estimated interest of \$10,000 related to a loan agreement. In December 2011, the RCA and County entered into a \$5 million loan agreement to acquire 226 acres of reserve land. The amount included in the FY 2021/22 budget represents the final installment.

Assessments and fees expenditures of \$80,000 represent special assessments, including homeowner association fees, for RCA-owned land subject to such fees.

The FY 2021/22 budget does not include a \$842,000 principal payment due to a developer in connection with a \$6.4 million promissory note secured by a deed of trust to acquire land from the developer. In a related lot line adjustment agreement, RCA granted the developer the right to retain a portion, not to exceed 49 acres or \$842,000, of the original land sold to RCA with a corresponding reduction in the promissory note upon written notification from the developer. If the developer provides formal notice to RCA in FY 2021/22, a budget adjustment will be required.

Habitat acquisition and maintenance expenditures of \$36,251,600 in the FY 2021/22 budget reflect a 25% increase over FY 2020/21 projected expenditures and 6% decrease over the FY 2020/21 amended budget. The FY 2021/22 budget includes state and federal grant funds that were not utilized in FY 2020/21 and anticipates greater land donations than FY 2020/21. As of April 2021, RCA acquired a total of 63,263 of the 153,000, or 41.3%, of the ARL acres to be acquired under the MSHCP. Of the total reserve of 500,000 acres, RCA has conserved 410,263 acres, or 82% of the total acres to be conserved. The FY 2021/22 capital outlay budget anticipates costs related to the acquisition and improvements of habitat acquired, including:

- \$5,800,000 for approximately 908 acres of possible ARL;
- \$8,921,000 related to donated lands; and
- \$21,530,600 in other potential acquisitions mostly related to state grant funds.

Such costs include the purchase price of property acquired, appraisals, title reports, real estate services, legal services, environmental reviews, surveying, and other costs associated with the acquisition of habitat. Of the 908 ARL acres to be acquired, the RCA Board previously approved the purchase of properties totaling 580 acres expected to close escrow in FY 2021/22. Staff is negotiating the purchase of approximately 2,600 acres and potential donations of approximately 1,658 acres. The FY 2021/22 budget anticipates federal and state grants of approximately \$16,287,000 to fund the habitat acquisitions. RCA anticipates using available cash of \$1,470,000 to advance matching funds that will be paid to RCA within six months after close of escrow.

The 2020 Nexus Study permits the use of LDMF revenues for all functions of the RCA. **Operating transfers out** relates to the transfer of LDMF revenues from the capital projects fund to the general fund to meet the budget needs for reserve management and monitoring and program administration.

FY 2021/22 Program Initiatives

Staff prepared each program's budget based on key assumptions, accomplishments in FY 2020/21, major initiatives for FY 2021/22, and program goals and related objectives. The key initiatives are listed and summary of expenditures for each program are presented in Tables 4-7.

Habitat Acquisition

The protection and enhancement of habitats and the conservation of the 146 covered species is the primary mission of the MSHCP. As a partner in the development process, RCA provides support in the betterment of the quality of life for Western Riverside County residents. Below are key efforts to continue RCA's investment in the conservation of habitat and species in Western Riverside County.

- Draw down and close out existing federal and state grants by closing escrows for eligible properties.
- Actively participate in the development of new federal and state grant funding opportunities, including the identification of properties with potential willing sellers.
- Pursue habitat donation opportunities based on inquiries from potential donors.
- Assess the existing habitat acquisition process framework for different types of acquisitions to determine process improvements that contribute to timely accomplishment of the MSHCP goal.
- Prioritize acquisition of properties located in pertinent rough steps.

- Strengthen partnerships with Member Agencies and key federal and state partners to successfully continue implementation and investment in the MSHCP.
- Review and update right of way policies and procedures for habitat acquisition.

Table 4 – Habitat Acquisition

	FY 2020 Actuals	FY 2021 Amended Budget	FY 2021 Projected	FY 2022 BUDGET	Dollar Change	Percentage Change
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 1,747,600	\$ 835,200	\$ 834,700	\$ -	\$ (835,200)	-100%
General Supplies and Services	906,400	1,277,800	1,060,800	590,000	(687,800)	-54%
Contracts	728,200	2,320,300	2,020,000	2,051,700	(268,600)	-12%
Debt Service	1,066,200	1,038,000	1,018,500	1,010,000	(28,000)	-3%
Habitat Acquisition and Maintenance	13,472,100	38,495,200	29,020,000	36,271,600	(2,223,600)	-6%
Operating Transfers Out	-	-	-	3,091,900	3,091,900	100%
Total	\$ 17,920,500	\$ 43,966,500	\$ 33,954,000	\$ 43,015,200	\$ (951,300)	-2%

Reserve Management and Monitoring

A requirement and key component of the MSHCP are the biological monitoring and management programs, which collect data on the MSHCP's 146 covered species and their associated habitats throughout the MSHCP reserve as well as protect and manage lands within the RCA portion of the reserve. Monitoring results are used to assess the MSHCP's effectiveness at meeting conservation objectives and to provide information to the management team described in Section 5.0 of the MSHCP. Below are the key reserve monitoring and management budget initiatives in FY 2021/22.

- Perform critical mammal and invertebrate monitoring of the Clinton Keith Overcrossing and undercrossing. A detailed workplan is included in Appendix C.
- Conduct carnivore surveys to detect bobcats, coyotes, mountain lions, and long-tailed weasels in linkages and corridors.
- Increase survey efforts for the rare Quino checkerspot butterfly and continue to perform surveys and land restoration at the County-owned Teledyne property for the Delhi sands flower-loving fly.
- Conduct avian surveys for birds including the burrowing owl, spotted owl, and yellow-billed cuckoo.
- Conduct breeding surveys for amphibians including the arroyo toad, coast range newt, and western pond turtle.
- Perform rare plant surveys including Englemann oak seedling/sapling.
- Protect RCA lands from illegal dumping, encroachment, marijuana grows, and trail creation by mountain bikers and off-highway vehicles.
- Prepare a Fire Management Plan.
- Conduct fire abatement and coordinate with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.
- Continue important collaboration with the Santa Ana Mountain to Palomar Mountain Linkage Coalition.

Table 5 – Reserve Management and Monitoring

	FY 2020 Actuals	FY 2021 Amended Budget	FY 2021 Projected	FY 2022 BUDGET	Dollar Change	Percentage Change
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 477,000	\$ 234,300	\$ 233,700	\$ -	\$ (234,300)	-100%
General Supplies and Services	146,100	212,900	125,800	89,200	(123,700)	-58%
Contracts	2,400,600	3,588,300	2,750,000	3,743,600	155,300	4%
Assessments and Fees	58,300	70,000	62,000	80,000	10,000	14%
Total	\$ 3,082,000	\$ 4,105,500	\$ 3,171,500	\$ 3,912,800	\$ (192,700)	-5%

Program Administration

Program administration provides the administrative, Clerk of the Board, geographic information system (GIS), external affairs, and financial services support to RCA. Staff administers the LDMF collection program and assists Member Agencies with questions regarding the fee. RCA maintains robust GIS capabilities and, under the Management Agreement, is improving its public outreach and external affairs capabilities. Clerk of the Board services have been streamlined and follow current RCTC practices. RCA continues to seek efficiencies and contract savings related to the Management Agreement.

- Build awareness and support for RCA and the implementation of the MSHCP.
- Provide high quality support services to the RCA Board, including timely communications.
- Maintain transparency and public accessibility to RCA business during COVID-19 crisis.
- Partner with Member Agencies to update the MSHCP Mitigation Fee Implementation Manual.
- Expand capabilities for acceptance of electronic payments.
- Explore other methods of fee collection.
- Continue to expand the GIS viewer and dashboard capabilities.
- Expand outreach efforts to Member Agencies, resource partners, news media, schools, outdoor recreation enthusiasts, and the public at large.
- Monitor and report quarterly progress toward public outreach plan goals.

Table 6 – Program Administration

	FY 2020 Actuals	FY 2021 Amended Budget	FY 2021 Projected	FY 2022 BUDGET	Dollar Change	Percentage Change
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 332,400	\$ 4,926,700	\$ 4,925,800	\$ -	\$ (4,926,700)	-100%
General Supplies and Services	57,200	119,600	69,800	558,500	438,900	367%
Contracts	198,200	376,700	249,500	2,835,500	2,458,800	653%
Equipment	5,900	-	-	-	-	0%
Total	\$ 593,700	\$ 5,423,000	\$ 5,245,100	\$ 3,394,000	\$ (2,029,000)	-37%

Endowment

RCA maintains two types of endowments – donor endowments and the RCA endowment. The donor endowments relate to funds set aside related to the monitoring and management of certain properties. The principal is permanently restricted, and work on the properties is funded by interest earnings. The RCA endowment consists of funds set aside by the RCA Board from PSE contributions and a one-time set aside of tipping fees. Beginning in FY 2021/22, funds will be set aside from LDMF revenues for the RCA endowment.

- Set up a separate fund to maintain the RCA LDMF Endowment.
- Set aside 15% of LDMF revenues into the RCA LDMF Endowment.

Table 7 – Endowment

	FY 2021 Amended Budget	FY 2021 Projected	FY 2022 BUDGET	Dollar Change	Percentage Change
Contracts	\$ 42,000	\$ 5,500	\$ 47,100	\$ 5,100	12%
Total	\$ 42,000	\$ 5,500	\$ 47,100	\$ 5,100	12%

Fund Balances

RCA maintains three types of funds: a general fund for program administration and reserve management and monitoring, capital projects funds for habitat acquisition, and endowment funds for donor endowments and the RCA endowment. The general fund and the endowment funds comprise the operating budget; the capital projects funds represent the capital budget.

The projected total fund balance as of June 30, 2021 is \$54,980,500. RCA expects the FY 2021/22 budgeted activities to result in a \$2,959,900 increase of total fund balance at June 30, 2022 to \$57,940,400. The primary cause of the increase is program activities in FY 2021/22 related to an increase in LDMF revenues. Table 8 presents the projected changes in fund balance by fund and classification as of June 30, 2022.

Table 8 – Projected Fund Balances by Fund and Classification at June 30, 2022

Fund Balance	General Fund	Capital Project Funds	Endowment Funds	Grand Total Agency Wide
Estimated Fund Balance June 30, 2021	\$ 25,391,600	\$ 22,282,900	\$ 7,306,000	\$ 54,980,500
Estimated Sources	7,306,800	43,015,200	3,007,000	53,329,000
Estimated Uses	(7,306,800)	(43,015,200)	(47,100)	(50,369,100)
Excess (Deficiency)	-	-	2,959,900	2,959,900
Estimated Ending Fund Balance:				
Nonspendable	-	-	4,807,800	4,807,800
Restricted	111,200	22,282,900	3,388,800	25,782,900
Committed	-	-	500,000	500,000
Assigned	-	-	1,569,300	1,569,300
Unassigned	25,280,400	-	-	25,280,400
Estimated Fund Balance June 30, 2022	\$ 25,391,600	\$ 22,282,900	\$ 10,265,900	\$ 57,940,400

RCA's Fund Balance Policy requires a minimum of 12 months of the next year's general fund annual budgeted expenditures in unrestricted fund balance. The projected general fund balance of \$25,391,600 as of June 30, 2021, exceeds the FY 2021/22 budgeted general fund expenditures of \$7,306,800. The capital project funds' projected fund balance of \$22,282,900 as of June 30, 2021, is restricted for habitat acquisition expenditures. The endowment funds' projected fund balance of \$10,265,900 as of June 30, 2021, is restricted for donor and RCA endowments.

Budget Summary

The overall budget for FY 2021/22 is presented in Table 9 by summarized line items and Table 10 by fund. RCA contracts by expenditures category are summarized in Table 11.

Table 9 – Budget Comparative Summary FY 2020 – FY 2022

SOURCES	FY 2021			FY 2022 BUDGET	DOLLAR CHANGE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
	FY 2020 ACTUAL	AMENDED BUDGET	FY 2021 PROJECTED			
Developer Mitigation	\$ 16,145,300	\$ 10,500,000	\$ 17,000,000	\$ 20,000,000	\$ 9,500,000	90%
Other Fee Revenue	3,579,900	6,422,700	7,048,500	559,000	(5,863,700)	-91%
Interest	920,900	272,400	12,200	60,300	(212,100)	-78%
Federal & State Grants and Contributions	691,200	17,167,700	8,310,000	16,287,000	(880,700)	-5%
TUMF Revenue	2,000,700	1,300,000	1,950,000	750,000	(550,000)	-42%
Capital Contributions and Donations	3,479,000	4,910,000	5,121,200	8,921,000	4,011,000	82%
Tipping Fees	3,872,400	3,250,000	3,400,000	3,250,000	-	0%
Reimbursement for Services	156,900	233,600	200,200	258,200	24,600	11%
Other Miscellaneous Revenue	430,900	310,600	343,900	151,600	(159,000)	-51%
Operating Transfers In	-	-	-	3,091,900	3,091,900	100%
TOTAL SOURCES	\$ 31,277,200	\$ 44,367,000	\$ 43,386,000	\$ 53,329,000	\$ 8,962,000	20%
USES						
Salaries and Benefits						
Salaries	\$ 1,632,600	\$ 810,000	\$ 810,000	\$ -	\$ (810,000)	-100%
Benefits	703,100	4,285,200	4,283,200	-	(4,285,200)	-100%
Retirement/Annual Leave Buydown	221,300	901,000	901,000	-	(901,000)	-100%
Total Salaries and Benefits	2,557,000	5,996,200	5,994,200	-	(5,996,200)	-100%
Services and Supplies						
General Administration	260,700	411,100	201,200	225,400	(185,700)	-45%
Legal Services	557,000	880,000	770,000	775,000	(105,000)	-12%
Rent-Lease Building	195,300	199,400	199,200	203,300	3,900	2%
Contracts	3,423,700	6,447,100	5,111,000	8,711,900	2,264,800	35%
Total Services and Supplies	4,436,700	7,937,600	6,281,400	9,915,600	1,978,000	25%
Other Charges						
Debt Service	1,066,200	1,038,000	1,018,500	1,010,000	(28,000)	-3%
Property Assessment and Fees	58,300	70,000	62,000	80,000	10,000	14%
Total Other Charges	1,124,500	1,108,000	1,080,500	1,090,000	(18,000)	-2%
Capital Outlay						
Habitat Acquisition and Maintenance	13,472,100	38,495,200	29,020,000	36,271,600	(2,223,600)	-6%
Equipment	5,900	-	-	-	-	0%
Total Capital Outlay	13,478,000	38,495,200	29,020,000	36,271,600	(2,223,600)	-6%
Other Financing Uses						
Operating Transfers Out	-	-	-	3,091,900	3,091,900	100%
Total Other Financing Uses	-	-	-	3,091,900	3,091,900	100%
TOTAL USES	\$ 21,596,200	\$ 53,537,000	\$ 42,376,100	\$ 50,369,100	\$ (3,167,900)	-6%
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY)	9,681,000	(9,170,000)	1,009,900	2,959,900		
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE	44,289,600	53,970,600	53,970,600	54,980,500		
ENDING FUND BALANCE	\$ 53,970,600	\$ 44,800,600	\$ 54,980,500	\$ 57,940,400		

Table 10 – FY 2021/22 Budget by Fund and Program

	General Fund			Capital Project Funds	Endowment Funds	BUDGET FY 2022
	Operations	Management & Monitoring	Total General Fund	Land Acquisition	Endowments	
SOURCES						
Developer Mitigation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,000,000	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 20,000,000
Other Fee Revenue	279,500	279,500	559,000	-	-	559,000
Interest	13,000	13,100	26,100	27,200	7,000	60,300
Federal & State Grants and Contributions	-	-	-	16,287,000	-	16,287,000
TUMF Revenue	-	-	-	750,000	-	750,000
Capital Contributions and Donations	-	-	-	8,921,000	-	8,921,000
Tipping Fees	200,000	3,050,000	3,250,000	-	-	3,250,000
Reimbursement for Services	100,000	158,200	258,200	-	-	258,200
Other Miscellaneous Revenue	-	121,600	121,600	30,000	-	151,600
Operating Transfers In	2,801,500	290,400	3,091,900	-	-	3,091,900
TOTAL SOURCES	\$3,394,000	\$ 3,912,800	\$ 7,306,800	\$ 43,015,200	\$ 3,007,000	\$ 53,329,000
USES						
Services and Supplies						
General Administration	\$ 101,200	\$ 4,200	\$ 105,400	\$ 120,000	\$ -	\$ 225,400
Legal Services	240,000	85,000	325,000	450,000	-	775,000
Rent-Lease Building	203,300	-	203,300	-	-	203,300
Contracts	2,849,500	3,743,600	6,593,100	2,071,700	47,100	8,711,900
Total Services and Supplies	3,394,000	3,832,800	7,226,800	2,641,700	47,100	9,915,600
Other Charges						
Debt Service	-	-	-	1,010,000	-	1,010,000
Property Assessment and Fees	-	80,000	80,000	-	-	80,000
Total Other Charges		80,000	80,000	1,010,000	-	1,090,000
Capital Outlay						
Habitat Acquisition and Maintenance	-	-	-	36,271,600	-	36,271,600
Total Capital Outlay	-	-	-	36,271,600	-	36,271,600
Other Financing Uses						
Operating Transfers Out	-	-	-	3,091,900	-	3,091,900
Total Other Financing Uses	-	-	-	3,091,900	-	3,091,900
TOTAL USES	\$3,394,000	\$ 3,912,800	\$ 7,306,800	\$ 43,015,200	\$ 47,100	\$ 50,369,100
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY)	-	-	-	-	2,959,900	2,959,900
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE			25,391,600	22,282,900	7,306,000	54,980,500
ENDING FUND BALANCE			\$ 25,391,600	\$ 22,282,900	\$ 10,265,900	\$ 57,940,400

Table 11 – FY 2022 Contracts by Expenditures Category

Description	FY 2021		DOLLAR CHANGE	PERCENTAGE CHANGE	Legal Services	Rent-Lease Building	Contract Services	Capital Outlay
	AMENDED BUDGET	FY 2022 BUDGET						
Management Services								
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 3,309,300	\$ 1,809,300	121%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,309,300	\$ -
Administrative Allocation	449,200	1,413,900	964,700	215%	-	-	1,413,900	-
Land Acquisition	250,000	500,000	250,000	100%	-	-	-	500,000
Public Outreach	31,500	120,000	88,500	281%	-	-	120,000	-
General Administration	43,800	89,300	45,500	104%	-	-	89,300	-
Government Affairs	5,000	9,900	4,900	98%	-	-	9,900	-
External Auditors	-	85,000	85,000	100%	-	-	85,000	-
Parks								
Land Management	1,266,900	1,272,000	5,100	0%	-	-	1,242,000	30,000
Land Management (Reimbursable)	71,500	104,700	33,200	46%	-	-	104,700	-
Land Management (Endowments)	42,000	47,100	5,100	12%	-	-	47,100	-
Land Management (Fire Abatement Services)	50,000	50,000	-	0%	-	-	50,000	-
SAWA								
Biological Monitoring Program	1,452,300	1,506,400	54,100	4%	-	-	1,506,400	-
Biological Monitoring (Reimbursable)	62,100	65,300	3,200	5%	-	-	65,300	-
Biological Monitoring (Quino Butterfly)	30,000	30,000	-	0%	-	-	30,000	-
Fire Management Services								
Fire Management Services	50,000	50,000	-	0%	-	-	50,000	-
Superbloom	70,000	70,000	-	0%	-	-	70,000	-
Legal Services								
Legal Services	1,070,000	965,000	(105,000)	-10%	775,000	-	-	190,000
RCA Office Space-Lease	199,400	203,300	3,900	2%	-	203,300	-	-
Plan Implementation	338,000	250,000	(88,000)	-26%	-	-	250,000	-
Other Professional Services	105,000	160,000	55,000	52%	-	-	10,000	150,000
Federal Funding & Policy Efforts	150,000	150,000	-	0%	-	-	150,000	-
Governmental Affairs	75,000	75,000	-	0%	-	-	75,000	-
External Auditors	99,800	34,000	(65,800)	-66%	-	-	34,000	-
Real Property Services	650,000	-	(650,000)	-100%	-	-	-	-
Information Technology	40,000	-	(40,000)	-100%	-	-	-	-
Public Outreach	150,000	-	(150,000)	-100%	-	-	-	-
Nexus Study Update	50,000	-	(50,000)	-100%	-	-	-	-
Structural Demolition	50,000	-	(50,000)	-100%	-	-	-	-
Total Contracts	\$ 8,351,500	\$ 10,560,200	\$ 2,208,700	26%	\$775,000	\$ 203,300	\$ 8,711,900	\$870,000

APPENDIX A

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS

ARL	– Additional Reserve Lands
Board	– Board of Directors for the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority
County	– County of Riverside
CPI	– Consumer Price Index
FY	– Fiscal Year
GIS	– Geographic Information System
HANS	– Habitat Evaluation and Acquisition Negotiation Strategy
IA	– Implementing Agreement for the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan, included as Volume 3 to the MSHCP
JPA	– Joint Powers Agreement
LDMF	– Local Development Mitigation Fee
Management Agreement	– Implementation and Management Services Agreement approved in November 2020 between the RCA and RCTC that became effective January 1, 2021
Member Agency	– 18 cities in Western Riverside County and Riverside County that a part of the JPA
MOU	– Memorandum of Understanding
MSHCP	– Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan
Non-Development HANS	– Process under the MSHCP that allows property owners who do not intend to file a development application to submit their properties for evaluation and possible acquisition under the HANS process; requires separate accounting and a priority list be established for properties that fall within this category
Parks	– Riverside County Regional Park and Open-Space District
Plan	– Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan
PQP	– Public/Quasi-Public
PSE	– Participating Special Entities
RCA	– Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority, a joint powers authority formed in 2004
RCTC	– Riverside County Transportation Commission, the managing agency for RCA
RCTD	– Riverside County Transportation Department
SAWA	– Santa Ana Watershed Association
State	– State of California
TUMF	– Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee
WRCOG	– Western Riverside Council of Governments
2020 Nexus Study	– The latest study adopted by the Board in December 2020 that updates the LDMF to reflect current costs and processes to implement and finance the MSHCP; the study is consistent with the requirements of California Government Code Section 66000 et seq. (Mitigation Fee Act) that requires specific findings as well as administration and implementation procedures for “any action establishing, increasing, or imposing a fee as a condition of approval of a development project by a local agency”

APPENDIX B

WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY MSHCP BIOLOGICAL MONITORING PROGRAM FY 2021/22 WORK PLAN AND COST ESTIMATE

1 INTRODUCTION

The overall goal of the Biological Monitoring Program (Monitoring Program) is to collect data on the 146 Covered Species and associated habitats for the purpose of assessing the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan's (MSHCP's) effectiveness at meeting conservation objectives and to provide information for adaptive management. The activities described in this work plan for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021/22 continue the activities commenced in the previous fiscal year and follow the framework outlined in Section 5.3 of the MSHCP.

2 RESPONSIBILITIES

Monitoring Program activities are implemented within the MSHCP Conservation Area on lands that are owned and managed by the various MSHCP participants. The Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (RCA) has primary responsibility for funding the Monitoring Program. To ensure consistency in monitoring efforts throughout the Conservation Area, the Monitoring Program is overseen and implemented by a Monitoring Program Administrator. The duties and responsibilities of the Monitoring Program Administrator are described in Volume 1, (Part 2) Section 6.6.6 of the MSHCP.

As per the MSHCP, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), formerly Department of Fish and Game, was to be the Monitoring Program Administrator for the first eight years of the permit (June 2004 – June 2012). In 2007 the CDFW received a federal State Wildlife Grant to support its role as the Monitoring Program Administrator and develop a long-term monitoring strategy. The grant expired in June 2012 with the primary deliverable being the long-term monitoring strategy document briefly described below. CDFW continues to provide resources to support the Monitoring Program in the form of one dedicated Monitoring staff member and vehicle. These resources are expected to continue moving forward.

The Monitoring Program Administrator works closely with the RCA to develop and implement the annual work plan and budget. The annual work plan is carried out by the Santa Ana Watershed Association (SAWA) under contract to the RCA and CDFW staff.

3 IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

The Monitoring Program is responsible for monitoring the status and trend of the 146 Covered Species and associated vegetation communities and wildlife habitats over a 500,000-acre Conservation Area. Because there was little existing scientifically-based data for the majority of Covered Species, the first eight years of the Monitoring Program were devoted to an Initial Inventory and Assessment Phase. The purpose of the Inventory Phase was to determine where Covered Species occur within the Conservation Area, to gather more information on their activity patterns, and to develop efficient protocols for detecting them. The development of protocols was necessary to standardize data collection, to test the reliability of survey methods, to determine feasible and useful monitoring metrics, and to provide a confidence level that unobserved species are truly absent at the survey location, rather than overlooked.

The gradual transition from Inventory Phase to Long-term Monitoring Phase has been underway since 2012. For species with short reporting requirements such as Quino Checkerspot Butterfly

(Quino) (annual) or Coastal California Gnatcatcher (every three years) long-term monitoring is already in place. Multiple surveys for species with short reporting requirements have been conducted, providing the initial data points for population trend assessment. For species with longer reporting requirements such as Los Angeles Pocket Mouse (every eight years) and with species-specific monitoring objectives requiring significant development and testing, the transition from Inventory Phase to Long-term Monitoring Phase is ongoing.

The transition into long-term monitoring involves developing monitoring metrics that are efficient to collect and robust measures of species status and population trend. The baseline monitoring objective for all Covered Species requires at least 75% of listed Core Areas or known locations to be documented as occupied at least once every eight years. As described in the Long-term Monitoring Strategy document developed by the Monitoring Program, monitoring protocols that provide additional information such as relative abundance of populations at occupied locations, reproductive success, or health of observed individuals will be employed whenever possible, to provide the most useful representations of species status.

One of the explicit goals of the Monitoring Program is to develop efficient long-term monitoring protocols that reduce redundancies by collecting information on multiple species where possible. For example, bird species co-occurring in similar habitat (e.g., riparian vegetation) during the breeding season can be detected using the same survey protocols. There will always be some Covered Species that occur in isolated pockets within the Conservation Area or that are difficult to detect using standard survey protocols; for these species a focused survey effort will be required.

The Long-term Monitoring Strategy describes a two-level design that gives priority to assessing the status of Covered Species as stated in the species-specific conservation objectives of the Plan, which emphasize the continued occupancy of MSHCP-defined Core Areas or other areas of known occurrence. For some species, the objectives require that reproduction and/or minimum densities of individuals within species Core Areas be verified. The second level extends sampling for terrestrial vertebrates to the entire Conservation Area in a cost-efficient manner. The Long-term Monitoring Strategy document also includes chapters describing monitoring goals and objectives, sample design considerations, proper protocol development, data and information management strategies, collaboration and communication with other organizations, and describes the organizational framework of the Monitoring Program.

4 STAFF COMPOSITION

Monitoring Program staff work as a team to coordinate, develop, and implement required monitoring activities for the MSHCP. The Monitoring Program is composed of the following staff positions, which are filled based on availability of funding:

- Monitoring Program Manager (Administrator)
- Biologist Supervisor
- Data Manager
- GIS Analyst
- Office Assistant
- Taxa Leads
- Field Biologists

Currently, the majority of staff are funded by the RCA through a contract with SAWA, a local non-profit agency. One Taxa Lead is currently provided by the CDFW, with endowment funding from Caltrans.

5 SPECIFIC TASKS OF THE MONITORING PROGRAM

5.1 Administration & Coordination

Administering and coordinating the Monitoring Program requires a significant amount of effort. Sufficient staff and resources must be acquired, field work must be scheduled, land access must be coordinated with other agencies, and survey activities must take place. The Monitoring Program Manager, Biologist Supervisor, and Office Assistant carry out the following tasks:

- Develop annual work plans and budgets
- Identify contract needs, write scopes of work, manage contracts
- Advertise, interview, and hire Monitoring Program staff; conduct performance reviews
- Develop and maintain training manuals and training programs for staff
- Direct and schedule staff activities
- Identify field supply and equipment needs
- Identify land access needs and coordinate with the RCA or agencies on access agreements
- Facilitate monthly reserve management/monitoring coordination meeting
- Attend monthly RCA team meetings and other agency meetings
- Give requested presentations to the RCA Board
- Coordinate with Wildlife Agencies (CDFW and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) on survey methodology and monitoring activities
- Develop and maintain Monitoring Program operations manual
- Oversee writing of annual survey reports
- Distribute Monitoring Program data as appropriate

5.2 Biological Surveys

Conducting biological surveys is the most visible part of the Monitoring Program. It is also the component that requires the most staff. Prior to collecting data, all aspects of a survey must be developed. This includes identifying the purpose of the survey, choosing the data collection methods and sampling locations, selecting data analysis methods, and determining what answers the data are expected to provide. The following tasks are carried out by the Monitoring Program Manager, Biologist Supervisor, GIS Analyst, Data Manager, Taxa Leads, and Field Biologists:

- Develop field survey protocols and sampling designs
- Conduct field surveys using multi-species protocols when possible, and specific species protocols when necessary
- Conduct vegetation condition analyses

5.3 Training

The Monitoring Program is required to have a training program approved by the Wildlife Agencies to ensure consistent data collection, uniform implementation of protocols, animal handling procedures, plant specimen collection, and appropriate experience with Covered Species (Vol. 1, Sec. 7.0). The type of species training needed in any given year is dependent on the types of survey activities planned. Training is provided both by experienced Monitoring Program staff and by qualified outside entities (e.g., U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service). Safety training (e.g., wilderness first aid, CPR) is provided to all incoming staff, and as often as needed to existing staff to keep American Red Cross certifications up-to-date. The following training is required of Monitoring Program field staff:

- Endangered species identification and handling if necessary

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- Local flora and fauna identification
- Wilderness first aid and CPR training
- Defensive driver training
- Sexual harassment training

5.4 Data Management & Reports

All of the data collected by the Monitoring Program must be carefully managed. Prior to field work, data forms are developed and survey locations are mapped. Field data are collected both on paper datasheets and on digital data collection devices. As data return from the field, they are entered into a database, checked for accuracy, and certified by the Data Manager. After data are certified, they are proofed by the taxa leads, analyzed and interpreted and a report is written describing survey results. The results of each year's monitoring efforts are provided in the Annual Report submitted to the RCA. The Monitoring Program Manager, Biologist Supervisor, Data Manager, and GIS Analyst support and oversee the Taxa Leads and Monitoring Program staff in the completion of the following tasks:

- Field form and protocol development
- GIS mapping to support surveys, analysis, and reports
- Database development and maintenance
- Data entry and quality control
- Data analysis using statistics where appropriate
- Annual survey report writing
- Maintaining computer equipment and digital data collection devices

The Monitoring Program has an internal database, developed and managed by the Data Manager. Monitoring Program datasets that have been thoroughly proofed and certified complete by the Data Manager are submitted to CDFW's Biogeographic Information and Observation System (BIOS), as well as to local partnering agencies and Reserve Managers at least once per year.

6 MONITORING EFFORTS IN FY 2021/22

Monitoring Program activities planned for FY 2021/22 are largely based on the requirements of the MSHCP species objectives found in Volume 2 of the MSHCP. Most species objectives specify time intervals for detecting and reporting on each of the Covered Species in the Conservation Area. When the species objectives do not specify a time interval, the status of the Covered Species must be reported at least once every eight years as per General Management Measure 7 (Vol. 1 Sec. 5.0). In addition to the species objectives, survey priorities are influenced by the quantity and quality of information available for each species (little or poor information means more survey effort sooner), whether another agency is already conducting surveys (less effort required by the Monitoring Program), relative ease of gathering information (e.g., Yellow Warbler surveys during Least Bell's Vireo surveys), and priority of the species to the RCA and Wildlife Agencies (e.g., Burrowing Owl is a high priority species). Funding availability and extent of effort required is also considered when determining monitoring activity priorities. Monitoring Program biologists help with ongoing MSHCP Management Program activities that benefit Covered Species (e.g., aquatic invasive species removal/control) to the fullest extent possible.

An overview of the monitoring efforts planned for FY 2021/22, along with a brief rationale for surveys, is provided below. Detailed survey methods can be found in the survey protocols available at the Biological Monitoring Program office in Riverside, CA. The Monitoring Program's ability to complete these tasks will be dependent upon continued funding from the RCA and the amount of support provided by the CDFW.

6.1 Invertebrates

Quino Checkerspot Butterfly Survey

The species objectives for Quino require annual documentation of its distribution. The Monitoring Program has surveyed for Quino in the Conservation Area during the last 17 biological years. In FY 2021/22, survey efforts will focus on monitoring locations in designated Core Areas and satellite Core Areas throughout the Conservation Area, in addition to other areas of potential occupancy that have not been surveyed in the past. Monitoring Program biologists will coordinate with Reserve Managers conducting surveys for Quino to avoid duplication of effort. For FY 2021/22 (as in FY 2020/21), additional funding is being provided for a full-time seasonal biologist to augment the Biological Monitoring Program Quino survey crew to ensure increased survey coverage.

Delhi Sands Flower-Loving Fly (Delhi Fly) Survey

The species objectives for Delhi Fly require documenting successful reproduction at all three Core Areas identified in the MSHCP annually for the first five years of the permit and then as determined to be appropriate. There is currently just one Core Area of conserved land within the Plan Area containing suitable habitat for the species. Because Delhi Fly is an endangered species with an extremely limited distribution within the Plan Area, Monitoring Program biologists have surveyed for Delhi Fly within the lone accessible Core Area during the last 16 biological years.

Surveys designed to collect data that could be used to calculate density estimates of Delhi Fly were conducted from 2005-2010. In 2011 these efforts were reduced to simply documenting successful reproduction, greatly reducing necessary resources. However, the Management Program has been conducting ongoing management actions to control the spread of non-native vegetation within occupied habitat and to create suitable habitat at the edges of the recently occupied area. In order to properly assess the effectiveness of these actions, the more intensive study design allowing a density estimate of Delhi Fly to be calculated was reestablished in FY 2014/15 and will continue in FY 2021/22.

Fairy Shrimp Survey

The species objectives for the three species of fairy shrimp (i.e., Santa Rosa Plateau, Riverside, and Vernal Pool) require the continued use of listed Core Areas at least once every eight years. Surveys on accessible lands within listed Core Areas for covered fairy shrimp were conducted by Monitoring Program biologists in several years during the Inventory Phase when precipitation was adequate to fill pools with water. The species-specific monitoring objective has been met for Santa Rosa Plateau Fairy Shrimp but Riverside Fairy Shrimp and Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp need to be found in additional Core Areas in order for their respective species objectives to be met. Ongoing fairy shrimp surveys may be conducted in vernal pools within necessary Core Areas if there is adequate rainfall in FY 2021/22 to create new pools in areas already surveyed, or if additional lands are acquired.

6.2 Birds

Burrowing Owl Burrow Monitoring and Pair Counts

The species objectives for Burrowing Owl require the conservation of five Core Areas plus interconnecting linkages, containing a total breeding population of at least 120 owls with no fewer than five pairs in any one Core Area. Several land managers within the Conservation Area have installed artificial burrows and are managing vegetation for Burrowing Owl. Monitoring Program biologists will coordinate with Reserve Managers to ensure that breeding pair counts are conducted at locations known to recently support owls, or where owls have been recently actively translocated.

In FY 2021/22, continued monitoring of artificial burrows installed across the Conservation Area will be conducted three times per year as according to the Western Riverside County MSHCP Burrowing Owl Management Plan. Additional surveys to obtain an accurate count of breeding pairs of burrowing owls within Core Areas will be conducted as needed by Monitoring Program biologists and with the use of trail cameras in FY 2021/22 to document distribution and reproduction of burrowing owl at artificial or natural burrow locations. Monitoring Program biologists will coordinate with Reserve Managers to avoid duplication of effort. Program biologists may also continue a Burrowing Owl habitat assessment project to collect habitat data at burrows used by breeding Burrowing Owls.

California Gnatcatcher Nest Monitoring

Objective 3 for California Gnatcatchers requires the documentation of successful reproduction by the species within at least 75% of the designated Core Areas at least once every three years. We last conducted this survey effort in 2018 and documented successful nesting in 100% of the species' Core Areas. We assisted the USGS in 2020 with its regional California Gnatcatcher survey effort, so we will not be conducting separate surveys in FY 2021/22; rather, searching for and monitoring nests within Core Areas will allow us to concurrently document whether the species is using the designated Core Areas.

California Spotted Owl Survey

The species objectives for California Spotted Owls require the conservation of habitat within the Santa Ana, San Bernardino, and San Jacinto Mountains that can be used by the species for breeding, foraging, wintering, and dispersal and the conservation of nesting locations within the same mountain ranges. There are not any specific monitoring objectives for California Spotted Owls, but our program will be continuing 2021 surveys and nest monitoring for the species in FY 2021/22 to determine whether they are using conserved land within any of the aforementioned mountain ranges in western Riverside County. Surveys by our program in 2013 indicated that California Spotted Owls were using only the San Jacinto Mountains.

Purple Martin Survey

The species objectives for Purple Martins require the conservation of nesting and foraging habitat for the species, including groups of large snags in which the species nests. Additionally, the Objectives mention two Core Areas, at Dripping Springs and Thomas

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Mountain. We conducted focused surveys at both locations in 2013 but did not detect the species. We will conduct surveys again in FY 2021/22, at the same locations.

Northern Goshawk Survey and Nest Searching

The species objectives for northern goshawk require the MSHCP to maintain the continued use and successful reproduction in high elevation habitat for this species in the San Jacinto Mountains every three years. This species was last surveyed in FY 2012/13. Surveys were planned for FY 2018/19 but were postponed due to mountain road closures. The survey effort for Northern Goshawk is physically challenging, but not biologically complex or difficult. These surveys are scheduled for FY 2021/22 and may only be conducted if grant funding is available to hire a contracted biologist. Using regular Monitoring Program Staff could preclude other planned bird surveys.

Turkey Vulture Survey and Nest Monitoring

The species objective for Turkey Vulture requires the continued use of and successful reproduction at two known nesting locations, and any subsequently documented nesting locations, every three years. Targeted surveys for Turkey Vulture were last conducted in 2008. Biologists will regularly visit known nest locations during the nesting season during FY 2021/22 pending staff availability, or if grant funding is secured to hire a contracted biologist.

Tricolored Blackbird Survey

Due to a precipitous population decline and widespread habitat loss, the Tricolored Blackbird was listed as a Threatened Species by the California Fish and Game Commission in April 2018. The species objectives for Tricolored Blackbird require documenting the continued use and successful reproduction in at least one of five Core Areas every five years. Targeted surveys in 2015 confirmed that the objective as written is currently minimally achieved. However, populations in Riverside County, southern California, and statewide remain near historic lows. Management actions and public outreach activities are underway to enhance breeding and foraging habitat on conserved land and to avoid take of the species on private land. Tricolored Blackbirds concentrate their breeding effort at only a few sites in any given year, making each colony critical and relatively easy to monitor. Surveys to document population and reproduction status at sites with Tricolored Blackbird in FY 2021/22 will be conducted pending staff availability to continue providing updated information for adaptive management.

Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo Survey

The species objectives for Yellow-billed Cuckoo require the MSHCP to maintain continued use and successful reproduction within at least 75% of Core Areas once every five years. Surveys for three riparian bird species, including Cuckoo, occurred in FY 2016/17, but Cuckoo was not detected. In the past, seven Cuckoo territories were documented in western Riverside County, occurring in the Prado Basin or adjacent Riverside County reach of the Santa Ana River. In 2001, they were found in Mill Creek, Chino Creek, and the El Prado Golf Course. Only a limited number of migrants have been detected since then. Survey efforts targeting Western Yellow-billed Cuckoo were conducted in FY 2017/18, and continued until the end of the 2017 breeding season. Acoustic equipment will be used during FY 2021/22 within Prado Basin to increase possible detection and minimize staff time. Nest searching to demonstrate successful reproduction of Cuckoos will occur in conjunction with the detection survey if we detect individuals that may be breeding.

6.3 Amphibians and Reptiles

Terrestrial Herpetofauna Survey

San Diego Mountain Kingsnake, Red Diamond Rattlesnake, and San Diego Banded Gecko have proven difficult to detect with current survey methods. Belding's Orange-throated Whiptail has not been found in two Core Areas at the eastern edge of its known range. The species objectives for these species require documentation of the continued use of 75% of their respective Core Areas at least once every eight years. Survey efforts for covered species in FY 2019/20 included deploying arrays of snake traps coupled with drift fencing for these target species. This effort will continue in FY 2021/22.

Ultimately, there may be no truly efficient means to reliably detect these species as they are highly secretive and not typically found in high numbers. Collection of incidental observations from Monitoring Program biologists and partnering agencies will continue to be essential. Because surveys conducted to date are insufficient to determine that target species are truly absent from Core Areas where they have not been documented to occur, Monitoring Program biologists will also opportunistically search suitable habitat within Core Areas for these species when personnel are available. These targeted surveys will be significantly less labor-intensive than previous survey methods and may also result in detections of the following Covered Species: Belding's Orange-throated Whiptail, Coastal Western Whiptail, Granite Spiny Lizard, San Diego Banded Gecko, Red Diamond Rattlesnake, and Blainville's Horned Lizard.

Amphibian Stream Survey

After conclusion of the Inventory Phase, species objectives for Arroyo Toad, Mountain Yellow-legged Frog, California Red-legged Frog, and Coast Range Newt require documentation of successful breeding populations within the Conservation Area at least every five or eight years. California Red-legged Frog may be extirpated from the Plan Area as no individuals have been observed by Monitoring Program biologists or reliably reported to the Monitoring Program since 2004. Ongoing efforts carried out by the U.S. Forest Service and USGS largely account for Mountain Yellow-legged Frog survey needs. Therefore, recent survey priority has been given to streams with appropriate habitat for Arroyo Toad (species objective was not met during Inventory Phase) and Coast Range Newt (objective met in 2020). Surveys for stream-dependent Arroyo Toads are expected to begin in FY 2021/22 and are expected to take more than one year to complete. Ongoing Monitoring Program surveys will be conducted in coordination with efforts carried out by the U.S. Forest Service and USGS.

Western Pond Turtle Trapping

The species objectives for Western Pond Turtle require the continued use of at least 75% of conserved Core Areas as measured once every three years. Surveys for western pond turtle in 2013-2015 confirmed that the objective was met in the last reporting period; pond turtles have been detected in 7 of 8 (87.5%) Core Areas. Surveys in FYs 2014/15, 2015/16, and 2016/17 have targeted large populations at the Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve and Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve. The USGS surveyed most of the available habitat in the Santa Ana Watershed in 2020. Surveys in FY 2021/22 will focus on those areas outside of the Santa Ana River watershed. The Monitoring Program will concentrate on those areas not surveyed in the last three years, i.e. San Mateo Creek, Temecula Creek in Long Canyon, and the San Jacinto River.

6.4 Mammals

Clinton Keith Wildlife Use Camera Survey

In FY 2021/22, surveys using motion-triggered cameras will be conducted in Proposed Core 2 at the wildlife overcrossing that spans Clinton Keith Road, and adjacent undercrossing, as part of a five-year monitoring effort. These surveys will document use of the over- and undercrossing by large- and medium-bodied mammals, human activity, and will potentially identify use by birds, herpetofauna and small mammals. Additionally, we will survey for Quino a total of three times in the flight season. We will also temporarily deploy motion-triggered cameras on the overcrossing, while nectaring flowers are in bloom, to passively document use by Quino. Habitat surveys, designed to document changes in Quino habitat over time, will proceed in springs before the flight season. Wildlife use motion-triggered camera surveys will take place for the entire FY 2021/22, while Quino related surveys will take place in the spring of 2022.

Los Angeles Pocket Mouse Survey

The species objectives for Los Angeles Pocket Mouse require demonstrating that populations are stable or increasing in seven Core Areas and at least 4,200 acres are occupied every eight years. Because this species objective requires both distribution and population trend information, it will take more than one year's survey effort to determine whether the objective is being met. The FY 2020/21 efforts were focused on documenting distribution and habitat association. This work will continue in FY 2021/22. Monitoring Program biologists will conduct surveys using baited Sherman live-capture traps, which could result in significant detections of other co-occurring small mammal species.

Long-tailed Weasel Survey

Long-tailed weasel is a species with typically low densities, broad geographic distribution, and a life history pattern that makes it difficult for biologists to detect. While motion-triggered cameras and incidental observations provide regular data points for bobcat, coyote and mountain lion, previous analysis of survey techniques has shown that passive track plate surveys are the most effective means to document long-tailed weasel presence. However, this method has not given the desired results. We intend to research and apply new methodologies to meet the objective. The species objectives for Long-tailed weasel require demonstrating use in 75% of 18 Core Areas.

Carnivore Survey

Species objectives for bobcat, coyote, long-tailed weasel, and mountain lion require the conservation of contiguous habitat blocks and the maintenance of corridors that provide an effective means for dispersal. Surveys to detect the above listed mammals in contiguous habitat blocks, linkages, and movement corridors identified by the MSHCP have been ongoing since 2007 but have not taken place in recent years. Surveys in the linkages will recommence in FY 2021/22, primarily using motion-triggered cameras to record images of target species. In addition to, or in place of, motion-triggered cameras, we will visit habitat blocks, linkages, and corridors and conduct area search surveys focusing on documenting use through sign (discernible tracks and scat) of these Covered carnivore species.

6.5 Plants

Rare Plant Survey

There are 63 covered plant species with species objectives that require conserving and monitoring known populations within the Conservation Area. Surveys for rare plants in FY 2021/22 will continue efforts to update the current status of Covered Species on conserved lands. The focal species in any given year are dependent on weather conditions and accessibility of survey sites. Nearly all historic locations of covered plant species within the Conservation Area have been visited in previous years. Thus, rare plant monitoring efforts in FY 2021/22 will focus on conducting surveys for covered plant species at recently acquired properties, documenting required localities for species not adequately conserved, and revisiting locations previously determined to be occupied by covered plant species in a long-term monitoring context.

Brand's Phacelia Study

A habitat management study of Brand's Phacelia, a narrowly endemic Covered Species, will continue in FY 2021/22 in an area along the Santa Ana River near Rancho Jurupa. Monitoring Program biologists will coordinate with Riverside County Parks and Open Space District staff to develop a management plan for the site based on information obtained from this multi-year effort.

Engelmann Oak Study

The species objectives for Engelmann Oak require maintaining recruitment of seedling and sapling oaks within conserved populations as measured across any consecutive five-year period. The large majority of Engelmann Oaks within the Plan Area are found at the Santa Rosa Plateau Ecological Reserve and neighboring Tenaja Corridor. The last cycle of recruitment surveys took place from FY 2015/16 through FY 2017/18. Recruitment surveys for Engelmann Oaks were conducted at the Santa Rosa Plateau in FY 2020/21. The remaining populations at the Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve, the Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve, and small remnant populations will be surveyed in FY 2021/22 to complete the current five-year sampling cycle.

Vegetation Community Monitoring

In addition to monitoring-focused conservation objectives for each Covered Species, the MSCHP requires the Monitoring Program to assess the condition of vegetation communities within the Conservation Area (Vol. 1, Sec. 5.3.2). A CDFW grant-funded update to the existing GIS-based vegetation community map was delivered in March 2015. This product will be extremely useful in comparing acreage, distribution and broad-scale vegetation condition changes in communities throughout the Plan Area.

On-the-ground vegetation community monitoring efforts targeted coastal sage scrub (CSS) and CSS-grassland and CSS-chaparral transition areas from 2008 – 2012. We began collecting baseline data for the Playas and Vernal Pools vegetation community (MSHCP Volume I, Section 3.0, Table 3-1) in the Hemet, Nuevo and San Jacinto Valley areas in FY 2019/20, and will continue in FY 2021/22. Monitoring Program biologists will coordinate with

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Riverside County Parks and Open Space District staff to develop a management plan for these properties based on information obtained from this multi-year effort.

Habitat Surveys

Habitat surveys for targeted species are conducted by trained botanists in conjunction with wildlife survey efforts as practicable and appropriate. The purpose of these surveys is to describe the wildlife habitat within survey areas to gain a better understanding of potential drivers for observed species distributions.

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7 SCHEDULE OF MONITORING EFFORTS FOR FY 2021/22

Below is a tentative calendar of when surveys are planned for FY 2021/22. The "biological year" or "survey season" does not match the fiscal year, thus the calendar represents two different survey seasons. The first half of the calendar continues many of the activities commenced in FY 2020/21.

Survey Plans FY 2021/2022													
Program	Survey	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Birds	NOGO surveys/nests*												
	TUVU surveys/nests*												
	CSOW surveys												
	PUMA surveys												
	YBCU surveys*												
	TRBL surveys												
	BUOW pair counts												
BUOW burrow assesments													
Mammals	Los Angeles pocket mouse												
	Long-tailed weasel*												
	Carnivore cameras												
Clinton Keith	QCB cameras												
	QCB surveys												
	QCB habitat												
	Overcrossing Camera												
Herps	Arroyo toad												
	Terrestrial Herps - arrays												
	Western Pond Turtle												
	Vernal Pools**												
Plants	Engelmann Oaks												
	Brand's Phacelia												
	Rare plants												
	Vegetation Communities												
Quino	Quino												
Fly	Fly survey												
	Habitat survey												

* Will only occur if staff are available **Will only occur if environmental conditions allow

8 BIOLOGICAL MONITORING PROGRAM COST ESTIMATE FOR FY 2020/21

The RCA has primary responsibility for funding the MSHCP Monitoring Program. However, the CDFW funds a small portion of the MSHCP Monitoring Program based on the availability of the State's budget. The proposed FY 2021/22 Biological Monitoring Program budget is similar to previous budgets submitted to and approved by the RCA Board of Directors. The majority of funding is allocated to a contract with the Santa Ana Watershed Association for staff.

ALLOCATION	COST
CDFW Funded Labor & Supplies	
Biologist	\$151,800
Vehicle Usage (Fuel & Maintenance)	\$2,000
Subtotal CDFW Funded Labor & Vehicles	\$153,800
SAWA Labor & Supplies	
Routine Biological Monitoring Tasks	\$1,431,900
Quino Checkerspot FY 2021/22 Augment	\$30,000
COVID-19 Additional Mileage Cost	\$74,500
Subtotal SAWA Labor & Supplies	\$1,536,400
Total Program Cost	\$1,690,200
Minus Total CDFW Cost	-\$153,800
Total RCA Cost	\$1,536,400

9 CONTACT INFO

The FY 2021/22 Work Plan and Cost Estimate was prepared by the Monitoring Program Administrator and was submitted to the Regional Conservation Authority for approval. For more information, contact:

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APPENDIX C

CLINTON KEITH ROAD OVERCROSSING MITIGATION MONITORING REIMBURSABLE PROGRAM FY 2021/22 WORK PLAN AND COST ESTIMATE

1 INTRODUCTION

As part of the approvals for the Clinton Keith Road project, Riverside County Transportation Department (RCTD) agreed to perform mitigation monitoring at the newly constructed wildlife overcrossing facility. The mitigation monitoring is to occur for a five-year period and this monitoring work is facilitated through the RCA Biological Monitoring Program, with all work reimbursed to the RCA through the use of banked RCTD fee credits. Fiscal (FY) 2021/22 is the third year of monitoring for this location.

2 SCOPE

Monitoring will entail surveying for Quino Checkerspot Butterfly (Quino) following an established species-specific protocol that includes data collection on habitat attributes and wildlife use of the overcrossing structure via motion-triggered camera traps. Other Covered Species observed during site visits will also be documented. This work is expected to be completed over a five-year period.

Trained biologists will conduct this work under the federal and state MSHCP permits to survey for Covered Species. Detection surveys for Quino will be conducted over three repeat visits to the site during the Quino flight season, approximately early February through mid-May beginning in 2022. Timing of survey commencement is determined by emergence of Quino larvae or adults at a nearby sentinel site located within the Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve. We used ArcGIS to overlay a grid with adjacent 250 m × 250 m grid squares across the survey area to delineate the sampling stations where we will conduct focused area searches. Five sampling stations will be targeted, one centered on the overcrossing and two on either side of the overcrossing to the north and south. Concurrent with Quino surveys, the surveyor will record predominant habitat type and the species of dominant shrubs, condition of Quino host plants, presence of flowering nectar sources, presence of specific habitat attributes that indicate suitability for Quino and note any habitat disturbance. GPS coordinates will be recorded for any adult Quino or larvae observed, as well as approximate counts of individuals. Also, motion-triggered cameras will be temporarily deployed on the overcrossing, while nectaring flowers are in bloom, to passively document use by Quino. Habitat surveys, designed to document changes in Quino habitat over time, will proceed in springs before the flight season.

Continued use of passive infra-red motion-triggered cameras will occur to document the use of the overcrossing structure by wildlife, as well as monitoring visits throughout FY 2021-22. One camera will be positioned at each overcrossing approach, oriented in a roughly north-south direction to minimize solar glare. Cameras are ideal for confirming the occurrence of large- and medium-bodied mammals and human activity, however birds, herpetofauna and small mammals may also trigger the camera. When triggered, the cameras will be programmed to take a burst of three photos followed by a one minute delay. For each positive image, species identification (taxonomic group and species name), date, and time will be recorded. A second biologist will check a random subset of the photos and compare the images to the data that has been entered in the database for quality assurance. We will determine the rate of species occurrence by dividing the number of detections of a species by the number of days the camera was active.

APPENDIX C

In the event of multiple occurrences of the same species, only one occurrence will be recorded per half hour. If a distinction cannot be made between individuals of the same species based on pelage or other characteristics, then each individual will be recorded once. Because individuals cannot be identified in most photographs, these data will document occurrence rather than abundance of the species present.

Data entry will follow the standard protocol established by the Monitoring Program. The Program Administrator will coordinate with the GIS Analyst to prepare a report map and will incorporate the resulting information into Section 7.0 of the annual report, which will be delivered to RCA on or before April 1 unless an alternate date is agreed upon. The 2021 annual report will summarize the results of Quino monitoring efforts and the 12 months of camera trap monitoring conducted during the calendar year.

3 MITIGATION MONITORING REIMBURSABLE PROGRAM COST ESTIMATE FOR FY 2021/22

The mitigation monitoring of the Clinton Keith Overcrossing Fiscal Year 2021/22 cost estimate is provided below and is a separate reimbursable budget item from the MSHCP annual Biological Monitoring Program with reimbursement provided through the use of banked RCTD fee credits.

ALLOCATION	COST
SAWA Labor & Supplies	\$65,300
Grand Total Reimbursable RCA Cost	\$65,300

4 CONTACT INFO

The FY 2021/22 Mitigation Monitoring Reimbursable Work Plan and Cost Estimate was prepared by the Monitoring Program Administrator and was submitted to the Regional Conservation Authority for approval. For more information, contact:

Western Riverside County MSHCP
Monitoring Program Manager (Administrator)
Melody Aimar
1835 Chicago Avenue, Suite C
Riverside, CA 92507
maimar@sawatershed.org

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-014
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
ADOPTING THE FISCAL YEAR 2021/22 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET
INCLUDING BUDGET POLICIES

WHEREAS, an annual budget shall be adopted by the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Board of Directors, heretofore called as “RCA Board of Directors”; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021/22 was prepared for submission and adoption by the RCA Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget for FY 2021/22 includes a summary of budget policies that promote fiduciary responsibility and organizational excellence; and

WHEREAS, the proposed budget for FY 2021/22 was presented to the RCA Board of Directors for review and adoption in a regular session assembled on June 7, 2021.

NOW, THEREFORE, the RCA Board of Directors does hereby resolve as follows:

Section 1. That the budget document, on file with the Clerk of the Board and attached hereto as Exhibit A is approved and adopted as the operating and capital budget for the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority for FY 2021/22. The budget consists of Appropriations by objects of expenditures within each Budget Program (Habitat Acquisition, Reserve Management and Monitoring, Program Administration, and Endowments). The details within the objects of Services and Supplies, Other Charges, and Capital Outlay are listed for information only and shall not restrict expenditures within the limits of the total appropriations for the specified Budget Program.

Section 2. That the amounts designated in the final FY 2021/22 operating and capital budget are hereby appropriated and may be expended as designated in the budget document in Exhibit A, and the total appropriations for each Budget Program shall neither be increased nor decreased without further action of the RCA Board of Directors.

Section 3. That the budget policies related to Endowment (Participating Special Entities Revenue and Endowment Funding), Habitat Acquisition (Non-Development HANS Funding Level), Program Administration (Economic Stability Policy and Funding Allocations), and Legacy Home Rebate Program are hereby adopted.

**SIGNATURE PAGE
TO
RESOLUTION NO. 2021-014**

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority this 7th day of June, 2021.

Natasha Johnson, Chair
Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority

ATTEST:

Lisa Mobley, Clerk of the Board
Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority

AGENDA ITEM 8

WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY	
DATE:	June 7, 2021
TO:	Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority
FROM:	Executive Committee David Knudsen, Interim External Affairs Director
THROUGH:	Anne Mayer, Executive Director
SUBJECT:	Legislative Update

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for the Board of Directors to receive and file an update on state and federal legislation.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

State Update

On April 20, 2021, Assembly Budget Committee Chair Assemblymember Phil Ting sent a memo to Assembly colleagues stating that there will be more opportunities to invest in member priorities with the improved budget situation. This means members may request some district-level, project-specific funding, depending on the budget negotiation process. This is an opportunity for the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (RCA) to continue to seek state funding for land acquisition that will meet the goals of the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP).

Legislative Affairs staff has been working diligently to prepare budget requests that will assist with implementing the MSHCP. The legislative affairs staff held meetings with the staff representing Assemblymembers Medina, Seyarto, and Mayes to determine if each of the offices would be interested in submitting a request for state funds to invest in RCA’s land acquisition.

In particular, RCA submitted a request for a one-time state budget allocation of \$3 million to acquire properties in the Lake Elsinore Back Basin. Completing the conservation goals for the Back Basin is a critical hurdle for further economic development in the area and has been a long-standing focus of Lake Elsinore, the RCA, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

RCA also submitted a programmatic one-time state budget request of \$50 million of funding to the Wildlife Conservation Board to fund land acquisitions by Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) and Natural Community Conservation Planning (NCCP) programs across the state to implement the Governor’s 30x30 conservation goal.

State's 30 by 30 Conservation Goal

On October 7, 2020, Governor Newsom launched strategies to use California land to fight climate change, conserve biodiversity, and boost climate resilience by signing Executive Order N-82-20. The order also sets a first-in-the-nation goal to conserve 30 percent of the state's land and coastal water by 2030 to fight species loss and ecosystem destruction.

Specifically, state agencies are directed to pursue innovative actions, strategies, and partnerships to maximize the full climate benefits of our natural and working land, through:

- Healthy soils management, including planting cover crops, hedgerows, and compost applications;
- Wetlands restoration to protect coastal areas;
- Active forest management to reduce catastrophic risk and restore forest health; and
- Boosting green infrastructure in urban areas like trees and parks.

According to the Executive Order, California is considered one of the world's 36 "biodiversity hotspots" because of its high concentration of unique species that are also experiencing unprecedented threats. Of the estimated 5,500 plant species found in California, 40 percent are "endemic," found nowhere else on Earth.

Federal Update

Community Project Funding

Staff submitted Community Project Funding (CPF) requests to Representatives Calvert, Takano, and Ruiz seeking land acquisition funds. RCA asked for a total of \$9 million to leverage local funds to acquire prioritized lands.

After submitting the applications, staff became aware that RCA was not successful in getting on the final submission list from Representative Ruiz and Calvert. The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), the agency account from which RCA requested CPF funding, is intended to fund land acquisition for habitat and species protection included in the LWCF acquisition list that the Biden Administration sends to Congress through the budget process. It is not expected, therefore, that the parcels submitted by the RCA will be on that list.

LWCF Land Acquisition CPFs are designed for a federal land management agency, such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), to acquire and manage land. The USFWS does not manage lands within the MSHCP and would not be interested in using CPFs to purchase and manage one-off acreage in western Riverside County. This is why the establishment of the Western Riverside County Wildlife Refuge, as introduced by Representative Calvert in H.R. 972, is critically important, because it offers a mechanism for federal agencies to acquire land within the MSHCP using LWCF.

The legislative affairs team will continue to work with RCA's federal lobbyist to support H.R. 972, so that the MSHCP is eligible for future funding opportunities.

As of the writing of this report, the legislative affairs team continue to work with staff from the office of Representative Takano to explore modifications to the CPF request to make it eligible for funding.

More than 150 House members, including Representatives Ruiz and Takano signed letters to House appropriators requesting increased funding in Fiscal Year 2022 for several federal programs to protect threatened and endangered species from extinction. One letter focused on programs at the Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service, while another request addressed programs at the Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service.

The letter requested the following funding increases for FWS endangered species conservation:

- \$27.3 million for recovery
- \$8 million for planning and consultation
- \$8.7 million for Endangered Species Act listing
- \$16.6 million for the Cooperative Endangered Species Fund

The legislative affairs staff, along with RCA federal lobbyist worked to secure Representatives Ruiz and Takano's signature to the letter.

Attachment:

- 1) Legislative Matrix
- 2) 2021 Assemblymember Budget Requests
- 3) Budget Request Letter to Assemblymember Seyarto Lake Elsinore Back Basin
- 4) Budget Request Letter to Assemblymember Medina Wildlife Conservation Board Programmatic Funding

WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY POSITIONS ON STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATION – MAY 2021

Legislation/ Author	Description	Bill Status	Position	Date of Board Adoption
SB 45 (Portantino)	Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022. This bill would enact the Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$5,595,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for a wildfire prevention, safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection program.	Senate Appropriations Committee May 3, 2021	<i>Support, if amended</i> <i>(based on platform)</i>	April 8, 2021
AB 1500 (Garcia)	Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2022. This bill, which if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$6,955,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, and workforce development programs.	Assembly Natural Resources Committee May 3, 2021	<i>Support, if amended</i> <i>(based on platform)</i>	March 30, 2021
H.R. 972 (Calvert)	A bill to establish the Western Riverside County Wildlife Refuge. This legislation creates the federal government's framework to meet its obligations under the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) Implementing agreement.	Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources February 11, 2021	<i>Support</i>	April 5, 2021

STATE CAPITOL
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SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0892
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Assembly
California Legislature



ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON BUDGET

PHILIP Y. TING, CHAIR
ASSEMBLY MEMBER, NINETEENTH DISTRICT

CHIEF CONSULTANT
CHRISTIAN GRIFFITH
DEPUTY CHIEF CONSULTANT
NICOLE VAZQUEZ
COMMITTEE SECRETARIES
IRENE VILLARROZ
MARC RODRIGUEZ
JUAN CERVANTES
CONSULTANTS
SUSAN CHAN
JESSICA DUONG
ERIN GABEL
JENNIFER KIM
ANDREA MARGOLIS
MARK MARTIN
GENEVIEVE MORELOS

April 20, 2021

In January, we gave directions on member priorities that reflected the cautious state's fiscal position at the time. With the improved budget situation, we expect to have ambitious investments in the 2021-22 budget that will allow more opportunities to invest in member priorities. Members have sent over 300 letters on state budget priorities and can continue to do so. There is no deadline on letters related to statewide priorities.

We may also have the ability to fund some district-level requests, depending on the outcome of budget negotiations. We do not want to have the 2021-22 budget act defined by a litany of small local projects, but we recognize that in many cases there are distinct district needs that do not fit within existing state funding opportunities.

We will also accept requests to fund one-time district-level requests, with the following conditions:

- Must be one-time in nature;
- Must identify a local government fiscal agent to oversee the project if the grantee does not have a long standing relationship with the State of California (Red Cross, Food Banks);
- Due on Friday, May 7th (we will not have staff time to process late submissions); and
- If your office submits more than one request, please include a prioritization of these requests with your submission.

As the discussions with the Senate and the Administration progress, we will use this list of district requests if an opportunity for such investments occurs in the budget process.

Please note the following:

- We only recognize letters on the letterhead of a Member of the Assembly or a Caucus. We will not consider letters on California Legislature letterhead or letters on Senate letterhead, even if these are signed by Assemblymembers; and
- If requested, Assembly budget staff will meet with you or your staff regarding requests. However, staff have been directed to not take meetings with lobbyists or advocates on member requests.

Thank you for your attention to this letter. We look forward to working with your office over the next eight weeks to build the 2021-22 budget.



4080 Lemon St. 3rd Fl. Riverside, CA 92502
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 12008 Riverside, CA 92502-2208
951.787.7141 • wrc-rca.org

April 29, 2021

The Honorable Kelly Seyarto
California Assembly
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: FY 2021-22 Budget Request for Lake Elsinore Back Basin Habitat Conservation Land Acquisition Funding

Dear Assemblyman Seyarto:

On behalf of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (RCA), I respectfully request a one-time state budget allocation of \$3 million for the acquisition of land in the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) area for purposes of habitat conservation.

If funded, RCA would identify willing sellers to acquire habitat in the Lake Elsinore Back Basin within your district. Completing the conservation goals for the Back Basin is a critical hurdle for further economic development in the area and has been a long-standing focus of the City, RCA, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Funding to complete habitat acquisition in the Back Basin could be a breakthrough opportunity for conservation, the local economy, and the state's housing shortage.

As you know from your distinguished tenure on the Murrieta City Council, RCA administers the MSHCP, a locally developed and state-approved plan which calls for the acquisition and conservation of 500,000 acres of habitat in western Riverside County for the protection of 146 species, 33 of which are listed as threatened or endangered. The City of Lake Elsinore has a significant quantity of resources covered by the MSHCP as well as opportunities for recreation and business related to open space and the environment. The MSHCP provides coverage for crucial transportation and economic development projects under the state and federal Endangered Species Acts, creating a streamlined and consistent review and approval process.

The state is a participant in the MSHCP and is an integral partner in its success. Our region's MSHCP is one of fourteen approved Natural Community Conservation Plans (NCCPs) in California under the Natural Community Conservation Planning Act (Fish and Game Code Section 2800). And, in addition to providing the MSHCP's permit under the California Endangered Species Act, the state has committed to assist in acquiring reserve lands. Thanks to local-state-federal partnership, 410,034 acres of land have been conserved since the MSHCP's inception in 2004, accounting for 82% of the reserve goal. Now under the management of the Riverside County Transportation Commission (RCTC), the RCA is laser-focused on completing the remaining acquisitions needed to fulfill the requirements of the MSHCP.

Finally, our funding request is instrumental to the success of the Endangered Species Act, the Governor's Executive Order N-82-20 to conserve 30% of public lands by 2030, as well as California's goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 40% of 1990 levels by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2045. Not only does habitat conservation bolster biodiversity for a healthy ecosystem, it preserves and expands natural carbon sequestration to combat climate change and improve the quality of life for all.

The Honorable Kelly Seyarto

April 29, 2021


Page 2

This request is ideal for FY 2021-22 Budget funding because of the long-term positive effect it will have on the wellbeing and prosperity of the state, our community's residents, protected species, and land that we call home. The MSHCP represents a local-state partnership that achieves our mutual goals and will succeed with greater financial participation from the State.

Thank you for your leadership and representation of Riverside County's local needs in the Legislature. I appreciate your full consideration of this request.

Please contact me at (951) 787-7141, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anne E. Mayer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Anne Mayer

Executive Director



4080 Lemon St. 3rd Fl. Riverside, CA 92502
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 12008 Riverside, CA 92502-2208
 951.787.7141 • wrc-rca.org

April 29, 2021

The Honorable Jose Medina
 California Assembly
 State Capitol
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: FY 2021-22 Budget Request for One-Time \$50 Million Programmatic Funding to the Wildlife Conservation Board

Dear Assemblyman Medina:

On behalf of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (RCA), I request a one-time allocation of \$50 million from the FY 2021-22 Budget for programmatic funding to be allocated to the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) to fund land acquisitions by Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) and Natural Community Conservation Planning (NCCP) programs across the state to implement the Governor's 30x30 conservation goal.

HCPs and NCCPs are, respectively, federal- and state-approved programs that facilitate the mitigation of impacts to the habitats of protected species by public and private developments under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). HCPs are critical economic development tools that allow for developers to mitigate under the ESA quickly and cheaply, as opposed to negotiating mitigation for each individual project with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. HCPs and NCCPs enjoy strong support and participation from the State of California and the WCB, in particular.

RCA administers the Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP), which calls for the acquisition and conservation of 500,000 acres of habitat reserves in western Riverside County for the protection of 146 species, 33 of which are listed as threatened or endangered. The federal and state governments are each responsible for acquiring one-sixth of the land, and the RCA is to acquire the remaining two-thirds. Thanks to this partnership, 410,034 acres of land have been conserved since the MSHCP's inception in 2004, accounting for 82% of the reserve goal.

This program is instrumental to the success of the Endangered Species Act, Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-82-20 to conserve 30% of public lands by 2030, as well as California's goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 40% of 1990 levels by 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality by 2045. Not only does habitat conservation bolster biodiversity for a healthy ecosystem, it preserves and expands natural carbon sequestration to combat climate change and improve the quality of life for all.

However, Riverside County continues to rapidly develop as its population is expected to grow to 3.2 million by 2040. As the real estate market becomes more competitive the value of land left to be acquired and conserved will only rise.

The Honorable Jose Medina

April 29, 2021

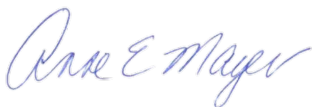
Page 2

To minimize taxpayer burden in our community and maximize benefit for the residents and protected species of western Riverside County, it is critical that RCA maintain momentum to acquire prioritized lands before they further appreciate in value. If funded, this program would constitute a leap in progress toward fully implementing the MSHCP.

This program is ideal for FY 2021-22 Budget funding because of the long-term positive effect it will have on the wellbeing and prosperity of the state, our community's residents, protected species, and land that we call home. RCA values the state government as an integral partner, and I encourage you to give it full and fair consideration.

For questions regarding this letter of support, please contact me at (951) 787-7141.

Sincerely,



Anne Mayer

Executive Director

AGENDA ITEM 9

PRESENTATION