

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Directors:

This *Budget in Brief* presents a snapshot of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority's (RCA's) fiscal year (FY) 2025/26 budget. This budget advances the Board's and the MSHCP's direction to conserve habitat for threatened and endangered species in western Riverside County. Staff plan to purchase 13 properties for over 700 acres of additional reserve lands and close on 11 land donations with an estimated value of \$10.9 million and nearly 500 acres. The budget includes a planned use of fund balance to purchase reserve lands and continue necessary contract services. Local Development Mitigation Fees are a variable revenue source, and this budget continues to present a cautious revenue projection. Thank you for your continued leadership and support as we strive to complete the 500,000-acre reserve system for the protection of 146 species.

BUDGET SUMMARY

This budget summary shows FY 2026 budgeted sources and uses and the projected fund balance across all funds at June 30, 2026.

	FY 2025/26
Estimated Beginning Fund Balance (7/1/2025) Agency-wide	\$ 104,982,798
Total Estimated Sources	53,651,700
Total Estimated Uses	(75,857,900)
Sources Less Uses	(22,206,200)
Estimated Ending Fund Balance (6/30/2026)	\$ 82,776,598
By Fund	
General Fund	\$ 19,000,075
Capital Projects Fund	30,535,000
Endowments Fund	33,241,523
Estimated Ending Fund Balance	\$ 82,776,598



Walker Canyon

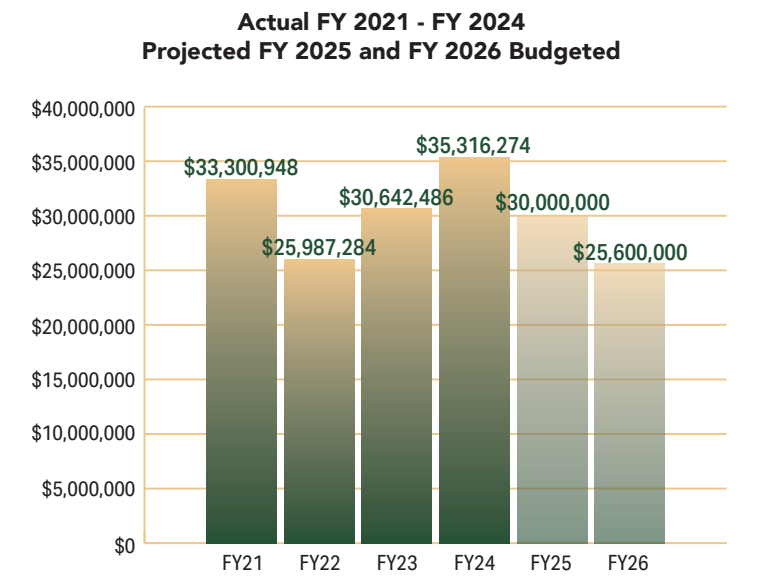
SOURCES

RCA receives funding from a number of sources as outlined below.



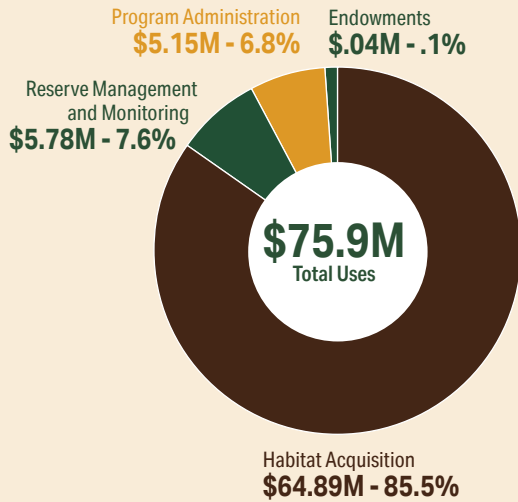
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT MITIGATION FEES (LDMF)

LDMF is RCA's largest revenue source. The table below shows actual collections from FY 21 through FY 24, projected collections for FY 2025, and budgeted collections for FY 2026.



USES BY PROGRAM

RCA has four core responsibilities or programs.

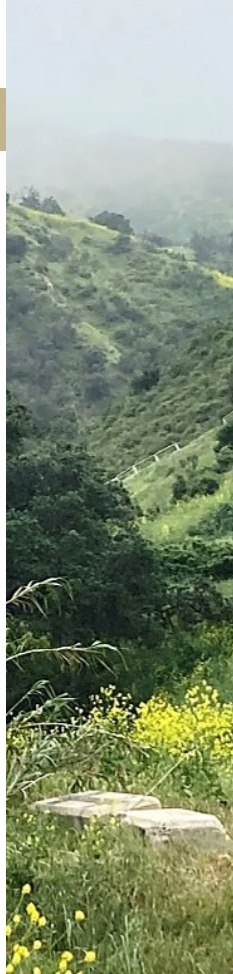


USES BY PROGRAM

Highlights

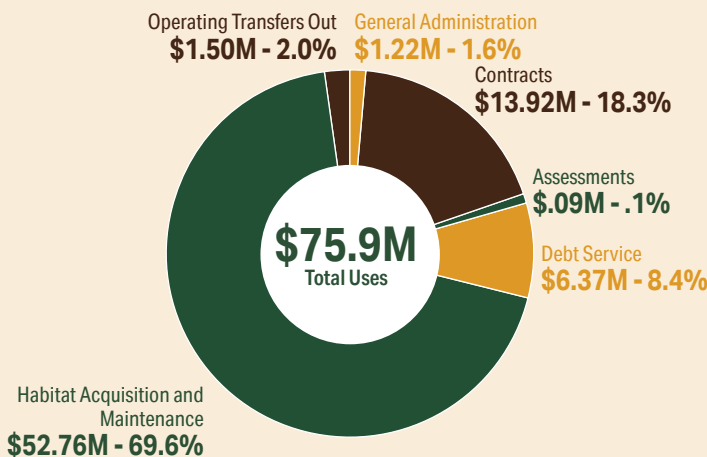
- **Habitat Acquisition** - includes all costs to acquire reserve lands including the land cost, appraisals, environmental reports, etc.
- **Reserve Management and Monitoring** - includes reserve land oversight including various contract services with Riverside County Parks District to provide land management services and Santa Ana Watershed Association to conduct species monitoring in accordance with the Plan.
- **Program Administration** - provides the administrative functions of the Plan including Clerk of the Board, External Affairs, Finance, GIS, Joint Project Reviews, Participating Special Entity Coordination, and Local Development Mitigation Fee Administration.
- **Endowments** - two types are maintained by RCA and invested in the Riverside County Treasurer's Investment Pool. RCA Endowments are set aside for reserve management and monitoring and program costs after the land acquisition period ends. Donor Endowments relate to specific properties.

B-Canyon



USES BY FUNCTION

While the graph above shows uses by program, this one shows uses by function.



CAPITAL ACQUISITIONS HIGHLIGHTS

Habitat acquisition and maintenance budgeted expenditures of \$52.8M reflect three different types of acquisitions.

Federal & State Grants

- **\$6.8M of Habitat Acquisitions**
- 2023 Section 6 Grants, 2 Properties, over 128 acres
- Caltrans cooperative agreement

LDMF

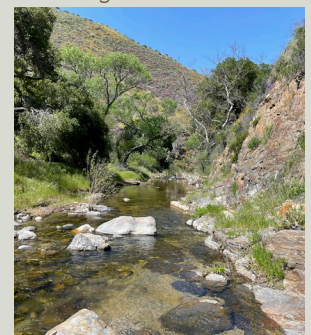
- **\$35.1M of Habitat Acquisitions**
- 11 Properties, nearly 600 acres
- Includes all other costs of acquisition

Donations

- **\$10.9M of Habitat Acquisition**
- 11 Possible Properties, nearly 500 acres



Burrowing Owl



Boonklun Property