

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) 2026/27 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 15 properties for over 1,178 acres of additional reserve lands and close on 7 land donations with an estimated value of \$10.6 million and nearly 311 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 2027 budgeted sources and uses and the projected fund balance across all funds at June 30, 2027.

	FY 2026/27
Estimated Beginning Fund Balance (7/1/2026) Agency-wide	\$ 99,060,677
Total Estimated Sources	39,760,000
Total Estimated Uses	(49,986,000)
Sources Less Uses	(10,226,000)
Estimated Ending Fund Balance (6/30/2027)	\$ 88,834,677
By Fund	
General Fund	\$ 19,836,886
Capital Projects Fund	31,281,642
Endowments Fund	37,716,149
Estimated Ending Fund Balance	\$ 88,834,677



Hadley Holdings Property

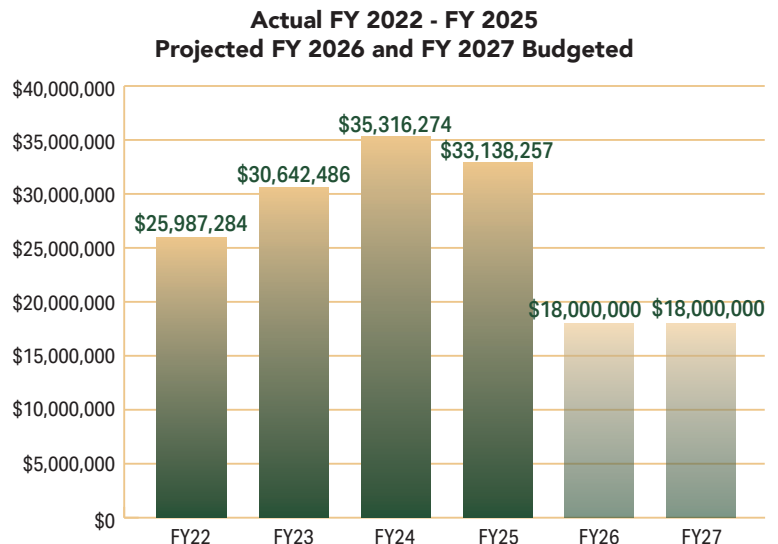
SOURCES

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



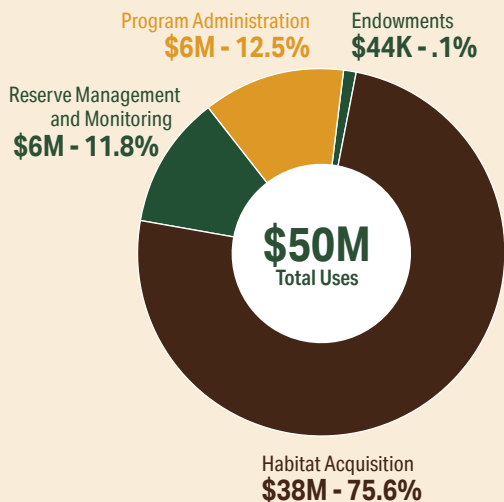
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT MITIGATION FEES (LDMF)

LDMF is RCA's largest revenue source. The table below shows actual collections from FY 22 through FY 25, projected collections for FY 2026, and budgeted collections for FY 2027.



USES BY PROGRAM

RCA has four core responsibilities or programs.

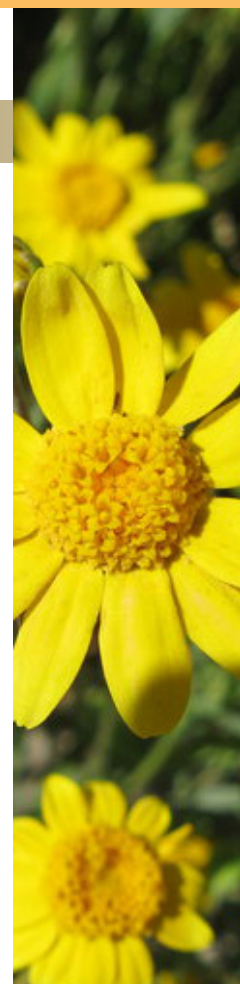


Amounts rounded for presentation purpose

USES BY PROGRAM

Highlights

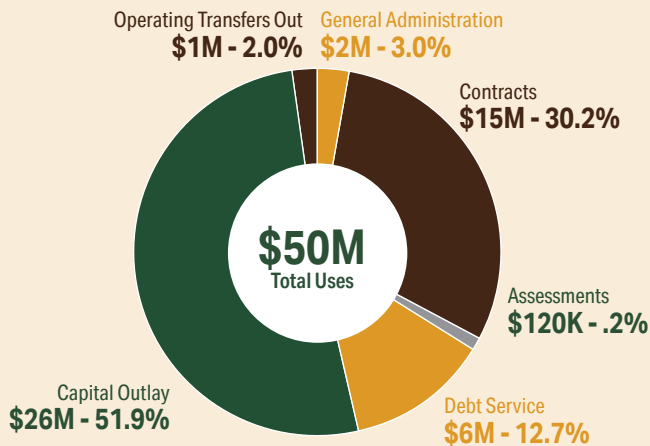
- **Habitat Acquisition** - includes all costs to acquire reserve lands including the land cost, appraisals, environmental reports, contracts, and debt service.
- **Reserve Management and Monitoring** - includes contract services with Riverside County Parks District to provide land management services 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 Review, 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.



Coulter's Goldfields

USES BY FUNCTION

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



Amounts rounded for presentation purpose

CAPITAL ACQUISITIONS HIGHLIGHTS

Habitat acquisition and maintenance budgeted expenditures of approximately \$26.0M reflect three different types of acquisitions.

Federal & State Grants

- \$1.5M of Habitat Acquisitions
- Caltrans cooperative agreement
- 1 property, 164 acres

Mitigation Fees and Fund Balance

- \$13.9M of Habitat Acquisitions
- 14 Properties, nearly 1,014 acres
- Includes all other costs of acquisition

Donations

- \$10.6M of Habitat Donations
- 7 Possible Properties, nearly 311 acres



Mountain Lion



Ruhlman Property