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*The Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority was established in 2004 as a joint powers authority to administer the 2003 Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan. Currently, the Authority consists of eighteen (18) cities and the county.*

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## **MEETING**

**Monday February 4, 2019**

**12:30 p.m.**

**Riverside County Administrative Center**

**Board Room, First Floor, 4080 Lemon Street, Riverside, CA 92501**

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## **OFFICERS**

**Jonathan Ingram, Chairperson**  
*City of Murrieta*

**vacant, Vice-Chairperson**

## **BOARD MEMBERS**

**Daniela Andrade**  
*City of Banning*

**Kevin Bash**  
*City of Norco*

**Julio Martinez**  
*City of Beaumont*

**David Starr Rabb**  
*City of Perris*

**Ed Clark**  
*City of Calimesa*

**Andy Melendrez**  
*City of Riverside*

**Larry Greene**  
*City of Canyon Lake*

**Crystal Ruiz**  
*City of San Jacinto*

**Jacque Casillas**  
*City of Corona*

**James Stewart**  
*City of Temecula*

**Jocelyn Yow**  
*City of Eastvale*

**Joseph Morabito**  
*City of Wildomar*

**Michael Perciful**  
*City of Hemet*

**Kevin Jeffries**  
*County of Riverside, District 1*

**Lorena Barajas**  
*City of Jurupa Valley*

**Karen Spiegel**  
*County of Riverside, District 2*

**Natasha Johnson**  
*City of Lake Elsinore*

**Chuck Washington**  
*County of Riverside, District 3*

**Lesia Sobek**  
*City of Menifee*

**V. Manuel Perez**  
*County of Riverside, District 4*

**David Marquez**  
*City of Moreno Valley*

**Jeff Hewitt**  
*County of Riverside, District 5*

**Charles Landry, Executive Director**



## **MEETING AGENDA\***

*\*Actions may be taken on any item listed on the agenda. Non-exempt materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the RCA Board after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the RCA Offices, 3403 Tenth Street, Suite 320, Riverside, California, during normal business hours. Such documents are also available on the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority website at [www.wrc-rca.org](http://www.wrc-rca.org) subject to staff's ability to post the documents before the meeting. Alternative formats are available upon request by contacting the Clerk of the Board at (951) 955-9700. Notification of at least 72 hours prior to meeting time will assist staff in accommodating such requests.*

**Monday, February 4, 2019  
12:30 p.m.  
Riverside County Administrative Center  
First Floor Annex – Board Hearing Room  
4080 Lemon Street  
Riverside, CA 92501**

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Government Code Section 54954.2, if special assistance is needed to participate in a Board meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Board at (951) 955-9700. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to meeting time will assist staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made to provide accessibility at the meeting.*

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

At this time members of the public can address the RCA Board of Directors regarding any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board that are not separately listed on this agenda. Members of the public will have an opportunity to speak on agenda items at the time the item is called for discussion. No action may be taken on items not listed on the agenda unless authorized by law. Each individual speaker is limited to speak three (3) continuous minutes or less. Any person wishing to address the Board on any matter, whether or not it appears on this agenda, is requested to complete a "Request to Speak" form from the Clerk of the Board. The completed form is to be submitted to the Clerk of the Board prior to an individual being heard. Whenever possible, lengthy testimony should be presented to the Board in writing and only pertinent points presented orally. Any written documents to be distributed or presented to the RCA Board of Directors shall be submitted to the Clerk of the Board.

- 5. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS** *(This item provides the opportunity for the Board Members to report on attended meetings/conferences and any other items related to RCA activities.)*

## RCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA

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February 4, 2019

6. **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 requires a unanimous vote. Added items will be placed for discussion at the end of the agenda.)*

7. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES — January 7, 2019**

8. **CONSENT CALENDAR** *(All matters listed under the Consent Calendar will be approved in a single motion unless a Board Member requests separate action on specific Consent Calendar item. The item will be pulled from the Consent Calendar and placed for discussion.)*

### 8.1 **WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY MSHCP FEE COLLECTION REPORTS FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2018**

#### Overview — **STAFF REPORT**

This item is for the RCA Board of Directors to receive and file the Western Riverside County MSHCP Fee Collection Reports for November and December 2018.

### 8.2 **FISCAL YEAR 2019 SECOND QUARTER CONSULTANT REPORTS**

#### Overview — **STAFF REPORT**

This item is for the RCA Board of Directors to receive and file the Fiscal Year 2019 Second Quarter Consultant Reports.

### 9. **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON AND POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT AND RATIFICATION OF THE CHAIRPERSON'S APPOINTMENTS TO THE 2019 RCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

#### Overview — **STAFF REPORT**

This item is for the RCA Board of Directors to:

- 1) Hold an Election for Vice Chairperson and, if necessary, that the Chairperson Appoint a new member to the 2019 RCA Executive Committee; and
- 2) Ratify the Chairperson's Appointment to 2019 RCA Executive Committee if necessary.

**RCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA**

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**February 4, 2019**

**10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

**10.1 Introduction of Tricia Campbell, Director of Reserve Management & Monitoring**

**11. LAND ACQUISITION UPDATE**

**12. FEATURED SPECIES OF THE MONTH**

**12.1 Species of the Month**

**12.2 Report Back Concerning Species Objectives – Palomar Monkey Flower**

**13. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Board Members are invited to suggest additional items to be brought forward for future discussion.

**14. CLOSED SESSION ITEMS:**

**14.1 CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR**

**Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8**

**Negotiating Parties:** RCA – Executive Director of Designee

**Under Negotiation:** Price/Terms

<b>Item</b>	<b>Assessor Parcel No(s).</b>	<b>Property Owner(s)/Agent</b>
1	538-120-080	Norma De Ortega/Tom Sicard
2	581-100-045, 581-100-046, 581-100-047, 581-100-048	Angela Sances, Charles Sances, Salvatore Sances

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Board of Directors is scheduled for Monday, March 4, 2019, at 12:30 p.m., at the County of Riverside Administrative Center, Board Room, 4080 Lemon Street, Riverside, California.

**ACRONYMS**

# **AGENDA ITEM NO. 7**

## **MINUTES JANUARY 7, 2019**



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## MEETING MINUTES

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority was called to order by Chairman Ingram at 12:38 p.m., Monday, January 7, 2019, in the Board Room of the Riverside County Administrative Center, 4080 Lemon Street, Riverside, California, 92501.

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Member Spiegel led the RCA Board Members and meeting attendees in a flag salute.

### 3. ROLL CALL

Member Agency	Board Member Name	Status
*City of Banning	Daniela Andrade	Present
City of Beaumont	Julio Martinez	Absent
City of Calimesa	Ed Clark	Present
City of Canyon Lake	Larry Greene	Present
*City of Corona	Wes Speake, <i>Alternate</i>	Present
City of Eastvale	Jocelyn Yow	Absent
City of Hemet	Michael Perciful	Present
City of Jurupa Valley	Lorena Barajas	Absent
City of Lake Elsinore	Natasha Johnson	Present
City of Menifee	Lesa Sobek	Present
City of Moreno Valley	Vacant	Absent
City of Murrieta	Jonathan Ingram, Chairman	Present
City of Norco	Kevin Bash	Present
City of Perris	David Starr Rabb	Present
City of Riverside	Andy Melendrez	Present
City of San Jacinto	Crystal Ruiz	Present
City of Temecula	Maryann Edwards	Absent
City of Wildomar	Joseph Morabito	Present
County District 1	Kevin Jeffries	Present
County District 2	Karen Spiegel	Present
County District 3	Chuck Washington	Present
County District 4	V. Manuel Perez	Absent
County District 5	Jeff Hewitt	Present

\*Arrived after roll call was taken.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

**5. BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS (This item provides the opportunity for the Board Members to report on attended meetings/conferences and any other items related to RCA activities.)**

Board Member Ruiz congratulated Board Members Karen Spiegel and Jeff Hewitt for being elected County Supervisors.

At the request of Chairman Ingram, Administrative Manager Rose Haro announced RCA's new Board Members: Ed Clark, City of Calimesa; Jacque Casillas, City of Corona; Jocelyn Yow, City of Eastvale; Lorena Barajas, City of Jurupa Valley; Lesa Sobek, City of Menifee; Joseph Morabito, City of Wildomar; Karen Spiegel, County District 2, and Jeff Hewitt, County District 5. Chairman Ingram welcomed the new Board Members.

**6. 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 requires a unanimous vote. Added items will be placed for discussion at the end of the agenda.)**

There were no additions or revisions.

**7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES — December 3, 2018, meeting of the RCA Board of Directors.**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED [12 TO 0]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	City of San Jacinto
<b>SECONDER:</b>	City of Hemet
<b>AYES:</b>	Canyon Lake, Hemet, Lake Elsinore, Murrieta, Norco, Perris, Riverside, San Jacinto, Wildomar, County District 1, County District 3, County District 5
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	City of Calimesa, City of Menifee, County District 2
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Banning, Beaumont, Corona, Eastvale, Jurupa Valley, Moreno Valley, Temecula, County District 4

**8. PRESENTATION BY JON CHRISTENSEN, TREASURER-TAX COLLECTOR, TREASURER'S POOLED INVESTMENT FUND UPDATE**

Jon Christensen, Riverside County's Treasurer-Tax Collector (TTC) presented the Treasurer's Pooled Investment Fund (TPIF). RCA has 20 funds invested in the pool, for a total of approximately \$45 million as of January 7, 2019. He introduced the TTC investment staff.

The highlights of the presentation included the following:

Current balance of \$7.3 billion

Rated AAA by two rating agencies  
 Over 53% invested in U.S. Treasuries and Agencies  
 60%+ of portfolio matures less than a year (7% overnight)  
 Yield to maturity 2.29% as of January 7, 2019, and Weighted Average Maturity (WAM) of 1.16 years  
 Funds are comprised of the County of Riverside, 23 school districts, 3 community college districts, special districts, and other discretionary depositors  
 \$15+ billion in annual receipts and disbursements

The primary objective of the Treasurer is to safeguard the principal of the funds under his control, meet the liquidity needs of depositors, and achieve a reasonable rate of return. He further stated that the Statement of Investment Policy is designed to meet objectives by defining Safety of Principal, Liquidity and Return, and explained each objective.

Jon Christensen also highlighted the contents of the monthly TPIF for November 2018, which was distributed to each Board Member.

The Treasurer summed up presentation with the following discussion points:

- Continue funding key cash flow dates: county payroll, school payroll, tax apportionments, vendor payments, debt service, etc.
- Continue to maintain a strong liquidity profile to meet unexpected cash needs in the current environment.
- Selectively invest in the 1 to 5 year area.

Upon concluding his presentation, Mr. Christensen invited questions and responded to questions from the Board Members. Chairman Ingram thanked Jon Christensen for taking the time to update the Board of Directors and expressed his appreciation for the fiscal responsibility shown on how the funds are invested and managed.

*Representatives from the City of Banning and the City of Corona arrived at the start of Agenda Item No. 8.*

**9. CONSENT CALENDAR (All matters listed under the Consent Calendar will be approved in a single motion unless a Board Member requests separate action on specific Consent Calendar item. The item will be pulled from the Consent Calendar and placed for discussion.)**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	City of Perris
<b>SECONDER:</b>	City of San Jacinto
<b>AYES:</b>	Banning, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Corona, Hemet, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Murrieta, Norco, Perris, Riverside, San Jacinto, Wildomar, County District 1, County District 2, County District 3, County District 5
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Beaumont, Eastvale, Jurupa Valley, Moreno Valley, Temecula, County District 4



**9.1 RESOLUTION NO. 2019-001, RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY ADOPTING A STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT POLICY**

Overview

This item is for the RCA Board of Directors to approve Resolution No. 2019-001, Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Adopting a Statement of Investment Policy.

**9.2 RESOLUTION NO. 2019-002, RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS FOR ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY**

Overview

This item is for the RCA Board of Directors to approve Resolution No. 2019-002 Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Authorizing the Acceptance of Grant Funds for Acquisition of Real Property.

**10. RATIFICATION OF THE CHAIRPERSON'S APPOINTMENTS TO THE 2019 RCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	City of Banning
<b>SECONDER:</b>	City of Canyon Lake
<b>AYES:</b>	Banning, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Corona, Hemet, Lake Elsinore, Menifee, Murrieta, Norco, Perris, Riverside, San Jacinto, Wildomar, County District 1, County District 2, County District 3, County District 5
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Beaumont, Eastvale, Jurupa Valley, Moreno Valley, Temecula, County District 4

At the request of Chairman Ingram, Administrative Manager Rose Haro announced the 2019 Executive Committee Members and Chairperson's appointments.

She stated that on December 3, 2018, the RCA Board of Directors elected Jonathan Ingram as Chairperson, City of Murrieta; Maryann Edwards as Vice Chair, City of Temecula; Natasha Johnson, City of Lake Elsinore, and Jeff Hewitt, County District 5. The Chairman's appointments to the Executive Committee are Crystal Ruiz City, San Jacinto; Larry Green, City of Canyon Lake, and Kevin Jeffries, County District 1.

Overview

This item is for the RCA Board of Directors to ratify the Chairperson's appointments to the 2019 RCA Executive Committee.

**11. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT****11.1 RCA Year in Review**

Charles Landry, Executive Director, gave an overview of RCA's accomplishments in 2018. Fifteen major accomplishments were highlighted and a map of the Reserve was presented.

Chairman Ingram thanked RCA staff for a job well done.

**12. LAND ACQUISITION UPDATE**

Executive Director Landry stated that at the last RCA Board of Directors' meeting, it was reported that RCA had acquired 59,801 acres. Escrow closed on six additional properties totaling approximately 543 acres, bringing the reserve total to approximately 60,344 acres. A map depicting where the newly acquired properties are located in the Reserve was shown.

**13. FEATURED SPECIES OF THE MONTH**

Elizabeth "Betsy" Dionne, Ecological Resources Specialist, stated that the featured species for the month of December is the Palomar Monkey Flower (*Mimulus diffuses*). She then gave an overview of the flower's characteristics, life history, disbursement, and how RCA manages for the species.

After her presentation, Betsy Dionne invited and responded to questions from the Board Members.

Chairman Ingram requested that staff report back, at a future meeting, on the survey objectives for Monkey Flower species within the MSHCP.

Chairman Ingram and Board Members thanked Betsy Dionne for a well-informed presentation.

**14. ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

No future agenda items were suggested.

**15. CLOSED SESSION ITEMS:****15.1 CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATOR**

**Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8**

**Agency Negotiator:** RCA – Executive Director or Designee

**Under Negotiation:** Price/Terms

Item	Assessor Parcel No(s).	Negotiating Party(ies)/Agent
1	384-260-064	John L. Chappell, successor trustee of the Roy C. Chappell 1991 Trust

After Closed Session, the meeting was reconvened. There were no announcements from Closed Session.

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other items before the RCA Board, Chairman Ingram adjourned the meeting at 1:15 p.m. The next meeting of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Board of Directors is scheduled for Monday, February 4, 2019, at 12:30 p.m., at the County of Riverside Administrative Center, Board Room, 4080 Lemon Street, Riverside, California.

Prepared by:



Rose Haro  
RCA Administrative Manager

Respectfully submitted:



Honey Bernas  
Director of Administrative Services

# **AGENDA ITEM NO. 8.1**

**WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY  
MSHCP FEE COLLECTION  
REPORTS FOR  
NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2018**

***Regional Conservation Authority***

**WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY  
MSHCP FEE COLLECTION REPORTS FOR  
NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2018**

**Staff Contact:**

**Honey Bernas  
Director of Administrative Services  
(951) 955-9700**

**Background:**

The RCA Executive Committee directed staff to report on Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP) Local Development Mitigation Fee (LDMF) Collection and Civic/Infrastructure Contribution on a monthly basis.

Attached are the reports for November and December 2018. The reports were prepared on a cash basis and, therefore, reflects the cash received by RCA during that month.

**Executive Committee and Staff Recommendation:**

That the Board of Directors receive and file the Western Riverside County MSHCP Fee Collection Reports for November and December 2018.

**Attachment**

- 1) Western Riverside County MSHCP LDMF Collection and Civic/Infrastructure Contribution Report for November 2018
- 2) Western Riverside County MSHCP LDMF Collection and Civic/Infrastructure Contribution Report for December 2018

# **AGENDA ITEM NO. 8.1**

## **Attachment 1**

**Western Riverside County  
MSHCP LDMF Collection and  
Civic/Infrastructure Contribution  
Report for November 2018**

**WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY MSHCP LDMF COLLECTION AND  
CIVIC/INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRIBUTION REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2018  
CASH BASIS**

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT MITIGATION FEE COLLECTIONS						
		REMITTED			EXEMPTIONS & FEE CREDITS	
		Residential Permits	Commercial/Industrial Acres	Amount Remitted	Residential Permits	Amount
City/County	Month					
City of Banning	October-No Activity					
City of Beaumont	October	56	60.0	\$547,521		
City of Calimesa	October	3		\$6,312		
City of Canyon Lake	October-No Activity					
City of Corona	September	19	0.2	\$27,525		
City of Eastvale	October	8		\$10,776		
City of Hemet	October	16		\$33,685		
City of Jurupa Valley	October	33	5.5	\$108,834		
City of Lake Elsinore	October		5.4	\$38,542		
City of Menifee	October	106	0.6	\$227,179		
City of Moreno Valley	October	13		\$27,352		
City of Murrieta	October-No Activity					
City of Norco	October-Pending					
City of Perris	September	12	34.5	\$272,191		
	October		9.6	\$68,774		
City of Riverside	August	41	0.5	\$52,235		
City of San Jacinto	October	26		\$54,704		
City of Temecula	October	1		\$2,104		
City of Wildomar	October	3	5.9	\$48,221		
County of Riverside	November	52	9.2	\$175,388		
<b>Total LDMF Collections</b>		<b>389</b>	<b>131.3</b>	<b>\$1,701,345</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

CIVIC AND INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRIBUTIONS		
City of Menifee	Town Central Park- 5 acres	\$35,820
<b>Total Civic/Infrastructure Contributions</b>		<b>\$35,820</b>

TOTAL NOVEMBER 2018 **\$1,737,165**

# **AGENDA ITEM NO. 8.1**

## **Attachment 2**

**Western Riverside County  
MSHCP LDMF Collection and  
Civic/Infrastructure Contribution  
Report for December 2018**



**WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY MSHCP LDMF COLLECTION AND  
CIVIC/INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRIBUTION REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2018  
CASH BASIS**

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT MITIGATION FEE COLLECTIONS						
		REMITTED			EXEMPTIONS & FEE CREDITS	
		Residential Permits	Commercial/Industrial Acres	Amount Remitted	Residential Permits	Amount
City/County	Month					
City of Banning	November	1		\$2,104		
City of Beaumont	November	40		\$84,160		
City of Calimesa	November	18		\$37,872		
City of Canyon Lake	November	1		\$2,104		
City of Corona	October	22		\$29,677		
	November	117		\$130,020		
City of Eastvale	November	22		\$29,634		
City of Hemet	November		1.0	\$6,928		
City of Jurupa Valley	November	34	1.6	\$83,070		
City of Lake Elsinore	November	1	0.6	\$6,259		
City of Menifee	November	26		\$54,704		
City of Moreno Valley	November	20		\$42,080		
City of Murrieta	November-No Activity					
City of Norco	October		22.9	\$164,056		
	November-No Activity					
City of Perris	November	4		\$8,416		
City of Riverside	September-Pending					
City of San Jacinto	November-No Activity					
City of Temecula	November	5		\$10,520		
City of Wildomar	November-Pending					
County of Riverside	December	111	11.2	\$312,349		
<b>Total LDMF Collections</b>		<b>422</b>	<b>37.3</b>	<b>\$1,003,953</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

CIVIC AND INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRIBUTIONS	
No Activity	
<b>Total Civic/Infrastructure Contributions</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**TOTAL DECEMBER 2018    \$1,003,953**

# **AGENDA ITEM NO. 8.2**

**FISCAL YEAR 2019  
SECOND QUARTER  
CONSULTANT REPORTS**

***Regional Conservation Authority***

**FISCAL YEAR 2019 SECOND QUARTER  
CONSULTANT REPORTS**

**Staff Contact:**

**Charles Landry  
Executive Director  
(951) 955-9700**

**Background:**

Attached are the Fiscal Year 2019 Second Quarter Consultant Reports for Dudek, Kadesh and Associates, Riverside County Regional Parks and Open-Space District, Santa Ana Watershed Association, and Douglas P. Wheeler – Hogan Lovells, US LLP.

**Executive Committee and Staff Recommendation:**

That the RCA Board of Directors receive and file the Fiscal Year 2019 Second Quarter Consultant Reports.

**Attachments:**

Fiscal Year 2019 Second Quarter Consultant Reports

- Attachment 1 – Dudek
- Attachment 2 – Kadesh and Associates
- Attachment 3 – Riverside County Regional Parks and Open-Space District
- Attachment 4 – Santa Ana Watershed Association
- Attachment 5 – Douglas P. Wheeler, Hogan Lovells, US LLP

# **AGENDA ITEM NO. 8.2**

## **Attachment 1**

### **DUDEK**

**CONSULTANT REPORT  
DUDEK  
FISCAL YEAR 2019 SECOND QUARTER REPORT**

**Report Covers Period:** 10/01/18 to 12/31/18

**Services Provided During Current Work Period:**

**Joint Project Reviews**

As part of our ongoing duties related to MSHCP implementation for the RCA, Dudek continued to provide review of biological reports, analysis and submittals related to Joint Project Reviews (JPRs) submitted by Permittees. Dudek reviewed 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 or 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' role. Discussion of circumstances unique to each Permittee is also provided in the training. Prior training sessions were held for Permittees during the fourth quarter (Q4) of last fiscal year on April 9, 2018 and a special training for the City of Murrieta on June 12, 2018. The Biological Consultant Training was held on December 3, 2018, outside of their busiest time of year (i.e., outside of the biological survey season).

Monthly meetings with the Riverside County Environmental Programs Department (EPD) are ongoing. These meetings are a forum to discuss upcoming or ongoing County HANS/JPRs, conservation criteria, and other Permittee requirements to facilitate MSHCP consistency. RCA and EPD meetings this quarter were held October 3, November 7, and December 5, 2018.

Additional separate meetings/conference calls were held with RCA, Dudek, Permittees and/or applicants and their consultants, including but not limited to 1) Rick Nuegenbaur and the County of Riverside regarding a possible Criteria Refinement in Core 7, and 2) the Gilman Springs Mine applicant and County of Riverside regarding substantial impacts to the Reserve goals and function. One notable meeting on November 19 involved RCA, County of Riverside, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), and legal counsel for all agencies, to discuss the County's commitment to address their role and responsibility in the existing acreage and functional losses to the Reserve.

Dudek also directly has multiple meetings/conference calls each month with applicants/biologists on other projects regarding MSHCP implementation and compliance questions. Dudek fields questions on an ongoing basis related to either new projects or ongoing projects, both inside and out of the Criteria area.

Most recently, Dudek prepared templates for an MSHCP Consistency Analysis report and the Determination of Biologically Equivalent or Superior Preservation report to be posted on RCA's website. The purpose of these templates is to provide guidance for Permittees and applicant biologists with the expectation that information needed to demonstrate MSHCP consistency will be less likely to be left out of the JPR supporting documentation and thus, RCA comments on JPR supporting documentation may be reduced.

### **Wildlife Agency Coordination and Meetings**

Dudek attended three monthly meetings with USFWS and 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 October 18, November 15, and December 20, 2018.

### **Pre-Application Meetings**

Dudek also attended two 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 October 10, November 14, and December 12, 2018.

Also 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), including conditions to finalize riparian/riverine mitigation, and replacement of Additional Reserve Lands (ARL) and Public/Quasi-Public (PQP) lands. Coordination between Dudek and SCE is ongoing to help with their questions regarding mitigation implementation during construction.

Another PSE for the Judson Water Tank proposed by Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) was submitted on July 18, 2018. This PSE process is currently on hold, pending the submittal of revised supporting documents.

SCE is also partnering with the City of Riverside regarding the Riverside Transmission Reliability Project (RTRP). Typically, SCE would seek PSE status. However, the JPR supporting documentation being prepared by the City of Riverside will cover SCE's portion of the project. Note that a part of SCE portion extends outside of the City of Riverside. For this part outside of the City, incidental take will be conveyed by RCA through a Certificate of Inclusion.

### **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 has also been involved in a discussion regarding JPR cost recovery, assisted with preparation of written internal procedures for JPR processing, and reviewed/revised to Reserve Assembly (Cell/Cell Group/Subunit) analysis standards.

# **AGENDA ITEM NO. 8.2**

## **Attachment 2**

### **KADESH AND ASSOCIATES**



**CONSULTANT REPORT  
KADESH & ASSOCIATES  
FISCAL YEAR 2019 SECOND QUARTER REPORT**

**Report Covers Period:** 10/1/18 – 12/31/18

**Services Provided During Current Work Period:**

1. Budget and Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19);
2. Execution for National HCP Coalition conference; and
3. Pursuit of Refuge legislation.

**Midterm Elections:**

On November 6, 2018, all 435 members of the House and 34 Members of the Senate stood for election. The House experienced a 40-seat swing shifting the majority from Republicans to Democrats making Nancy Pelosi Speaker for the second time. Democrats picked up seven seats in California making the 46 California Democrats 10.5% of the House and 19.6% of the Democratic majority. Additionally, California Democrats have secured four full committee chairmanship with even more subcommittee chairmanships not yet determined.

**Legislation and Issues:**

For the Second Quarter of WRCRCA's FY19, the progress previously made by the RCA and/or HCP Coalition accelerated on the Refuge issue and stalled on the funding side due to two Continuing Resolutions and the partial shutdown of the federal government.

1- The funding gains previously reported, that were achieved through "Regular order" in the House and Senate Appropriations process (see First Quarter Report), have been placed in jeopardy as the Interior Appropriations is part of the 25% of FY19 federal spending that has not been signed into law and was operating under Continuing Resolutions (CR), and is now part of the federal government shutdown.

2- The HCP National Coalition conducted its annual conference as a "road show" in Pensacola, Florida, and Kadesh & Associates Principal Dave Ramey made a successful presentation at the conference. He was asked to take on the volunteer role of leading the Government Affairs Committee and accepted. This is further evidence that the RCA's participation in the coalition is worthwhile, as it has developed into a successful and growing advocacy organization.

3- The Refuge language issue accelerated rapidly in the Second Quarter and was a candidate for inclusion in a land's package of bills being negotiated between the House and Senate. Ultimately, no such package moved in the 115th, but the process of advocating for the Refuge legislation's

inclusion yielded valuable information for pushing the issue in the 116<sup>th</sup> in the House and within the Interior department at the behest and guidance of Rep. Calvert and his staff.

#### October-

The House was adjourned for the month of October and the Senate was in session through October 11. Most federal agencies were funded only through Dec. 7 under a continuing resolution (CR) signed into law Sept. 28. The CR was attached to a minibus spending package (Public Law 115-245), thereby averting a partial government shutdown when the new fiscal year began Oct. 1. The package also included the full-year Defense and Labor-HHS-Education appropriations measures. With its enactment, work has been completed on five of the 12 annual spending bills accounting for approximately 75% of Federal discretionary spending. Though originally scheduled to be in session through October 12, the House adjourned as of September 30 and returned on November 13. The Senate was in session for part of October to complete judicial nominations and passing other legislation such as WRDA and the FAA bill. With the House departed until after the Nov. 6 midterm elections, completion of negotiations on a third minibus was put off until the lame-duck session. That package would contain the Agriculture-FDA, Financial Services, Interior-Environment, and Transportation-HUD bills. The Commerce-Justice-Science, Homeland Security, and State-Foreign Operations measures had not been taken up by either chamber.

#### November-

Following the elections, Congress returned to Washington for a lame duck session to pass the remaining FY19 appropriations bills and avert a government shutdown. The remaining appropriations bills were: Agriculture, CJS, Financial Services, Homeland Security, Interior, Foreign Operations, and Transportation/Housing (THUD). While each of the bills had its own issues that staff were working to resolve, funding for the border wall emerged as the single largest sticking point. The FY19 budget request sought \$1.6 billion for new fencing in the Rio Grande Valley. The Senate DHS bill provided that amount. The President, however, insisted on \$5 billion as a down payment for new construction and threatened a government shutdown over this issue. The CR was set to expire on December 7, and another, longer CR was crafted.

#### December -

Congress returned to Washington for a lame duck session to pass the remaining FY19 appropriations bills and avert a government shutdown. The remaining appropriations bills were (and still are): Agriculture, CJS, Financial Services, Homeland Security, Interior, Foreign Operations, and Transportation/Housing (THUD). Funding for the border wall quickly became the single largest sticking point. The House voted in favor (largely along party lines) for the President's request on December 20. The U.S. House passed a stopgap funding bill that included \$5 billion for a wall on the border with Mexico after President Trump said he would not sign a bill that did not have the extra money, setting up a conflict with the Senate. The House vote on the amended House version of H.R. 695 was 217-185. Ultimately, the 25% of the federal government (as measured by Appropriations spending) began shutting down after December 21, 2018.

## Outlook:

Leadership selections/elections for Congressional Committees and the funding (ultimately shutdown) of the federal government dominated December. Nancy Pelosi established sufficient support so that she would serve as Speaker for a second time with a formal floor vote to occur January 3, 2019. Several Members of the California delegation will assume full committee and subcommittee posts in addition to what spots the seven new members of the California delegation will be assigned. Announcements of Chairs and Ranking Minority Members of House Appropriations Subcommittee will not occur until mid-January.

### 116th Congress House Committee Leaders- (Blue indicates CA Democrat.)

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Ranking Republican</u>
Agriculture	Collin Peterson (Minn.)	Mike Conaway (Texas)
Appropriations	Nita Lowey (N.Y.)	Kay Granger (Texas)
Armed Services	Adam Smith (Wash.)	Mac Thornberry (Texas)
Budget	John Yarmuth (Ky.)	Steve Womack (Ark.)
Climate Crisis	Kathy Castor (Fla.)	
Education and Labor	Bobby Scott (Va.)	Virginia Foxx (N.C.)
Energy and Commerce	Frank Pallone (N.J.)	Greg Walden (Ore.)
Ethics	Kenny Marchant (Texas)	
Financial Services	<a href="#">Maxine Waters (Calif.)</a>	Patrick McHenry (N.C.)
Foreign Affairs	Eliot Engel (N.Y.)	Mike McCaul (Texas)
Homeland Security	Bennie Thompson (Miss.)	Mike Rogers (Ala.)
House Administration	<a href="#">Zoe Lofgren (Calif.)</a>	Rodney Davis (Ill.)
Intelligence	<a href="#">Adam Schiff (Calif.)</a>	Devin Nunes (Calif.)
Judiciary	Jerrold Nadler (N.Y.)	Doug Collins (Ga.)
Natural Resources	Raúl Grijalva (Ariz.)	Rob Bishop (Utah)
Oversight and Government Reform	Elijah Cummings (Md.)	Jim Jordan (Ohio)
Rules	Jim McGovern (Mass.)	Tom Cole (Okla.)
Science, Space & Technology	Eddie Bernice Johnson (Texas)	Frank Lucas (Okla.)
Small Business	Nydia Velázquez (N.Y.)	Steve Chabot (Ohio)
Transportation & Infrastructure	Peter DeFazio (Ore.)	Sam Graves (Mo.)
Veterans' Affairs	<a href="#">Mark Takano (Calif.)</a>	Phil Roe (Tenn.)
Ways and Means	Richard Neal (Mass.)	Kevin Brady (Texas)

### Questions and Comments –

It is the pleasure of Kadesh & Associates to serve the RCA. If this report generates any questions, please direct them to Dave Ramey at 202-549-1519 or [dave@kadeshdc.com](mailto:dave@kadeshdc.com)  
Thank you.

###

# **AGENDA ITEM NO. 8.2**

## **Attachment 3**

### **RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL PARKS AND OPEN-SPACE DISTRICT**

**CONSULTANT REPORT  
RIVERSIDE COUNTY PARKS AND OPEN-SPACE DISTRICT  
FISCAL YEAR 2019 SECOND QUARTER REPORT**

**Report Covers Period:** 10/01/2018 – 12/31/2018

**Services Provided During Current Work Period:**

200 Work Release Program hours were utilized during the First Quarter of FY2019

**Patrol/Access Control/Maintenance**

**General Administration**

Natural Reserve Manager (NRM) Jonathan Reinig and Ranger Supervisor (RS) Ruben Rodriguez attended a meeting with Riverside County Sheriff and County Code Enforcement Officers regarding large homeless encampments in the San Jacinto River. The camps are located on a Riverside County Flood Control parcel immediately adjacent to Regional Conservation Authority (RCA) conserved lands. The Sheriff's Department was interested in removing the camps. However, the supervising Sheriff decided to not evict the homeless camps and instead continue their outreach campaign.

Andrea Souther, with the Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program, was escorted to the Agua Tibia Donation and Hanson/Layton properties. The Navy holds conservation easements over these properties and is required to conduct annual inspections.

Communications occurred with Ron Bray and Mathew Douglas (County Agricultural Commission) and Scott Jaynes (beekeeper) regarding bees on RCA conserved lands. Mr. Jaynes had several thousand bee hives on the Wolfskill-Driscoll property. His bees were inundating a nearby dairy feed lot looking for forage, and the County Ag Commissioner was looking to remedy the situation. Mr. Jaynes was very cooperative in attempting to mitigate the issue using sugar water, a pollen substitute, a protein supplement, and moving a large portion of his hives from the RCA-owned property. Despite these actions, the problem persisted through the end of the second quarter. RCA will consider further action to ensure this problem is fully resolved.

An electronic means of documenting Management Action Data Sheets (MADS) was rolled out within the MSHCP Management Unit. Staff was trained on using smart phones and ArcCollector to document management activities. NRM Reinig spent time becoming familiar with ArcCollector and building maps in the backend of the program to be used for this and other mapping purposes. This effort will help streamline data acquisition and analysis.

An annual cost estimate for western pond turtle management was created for the future RCA Adobe Springs Ranch property. The purpose of the cost estimate was to delineate monetary requirements for management of the property's turtles for which an endowment fund is being created.

A summary of work completed by the MSHCP Management Unit at the Soboba Donation properties was prepared and submitted to the Soboba Tribe for their annual report.

NRM Reinig and Natural Resource Specialist (NRS) Joseph Sherrock manned a booth at the annual Thompson Middle School Eco Fair in Murrieta.

All staff members attended Wildland Fire Safety Training.

Maintenance and Specialist staff attended the first annual Pesticide Safety Training held by Robert Williams (Parks Open Space).

Time was spent by staff moving all office items so that the Parks District office building could be carpeted. The opportunity was used to thoroughly clean and organize office contents.

Appropriate staff attended monthly Western Riverside County Management and Monitoring, San Diego Management and Monitoring, RCA Management and Monitoring Coordination, and MSHCP Unit Staff meetings.

## **Patrol/Enforcement**

### **Badlands HMU**

Properties patrolled with no issues to report included CALMAT, Schmeling, and Wolfskill-Driscoll.

### **Cactus Valley HMU**

Trespass activity continued on the Tax Sale 2012 property. The gate on the road entering the property is holding. However, all-terrain two-wheelers are creating a trail around it. Placement of a fence segment and rocks are planned to block all-terrain vehicle access. An attempt was made by Ranger Robert Fountain to contact a deer hunter parked on the western boundary of the property. However, the hunter quickly left the area prior to contact.

### **Gavilan HMU**

The Toscana Donation Phase 1 property was patrolled, and the riparian restoration areas on the property were checked. The restoration areas looked good, containing dense, native growth. A combination of fencing and native landscaping surrounds the conservation areas and should serve to help protect the restoration vegetation from unhindered access by the public.

While on patrol at the White Rock Phase 2 property, an abandoned vehicle was located in a hard-to-access canyon. A method of removing the vehicle is currently being determined.

Additional properties patrolled with no issues to report included: Bolton, Tax Sale #5, and Helmand.

## **Menifee HMU**

Off-highway vehicle (OHV) activity was seen on the Anheuser Busch property. Upon inspection, a cut fence access point was located and repaired.

A closed trail fence was found cut at Winchester 700 Murrieta with signs of mountain bike trespassing going through the property. The cut was repaired.

Additional properties patrolled with no issues to report included the Scheer and Roe properties.

## **San Jacinto HMU**

At the EMWD San Jacinto River Conservation Easement, neighboring mobile home park residents were concerned about a rash of burglaries suspected as being caused by homeless in the river wash. After a thorough inspection, no encampments were found on the Conservation Easement parcels adjacent to Mountain View Mobile Home Park. Evidence of living quarters under the Bethlam road culverts off the property was found. Five bags of trash were removed from the property that had washed into it from the camp. Attempts to locate the camp's inhabitant were unsuccessful.

Additional properties patrolled with no issues to report included RCTC C Avenue, Pico Thompson, Riverdale, KB River, KB Homes, Hemet Donation, Pico Thompson, Wilhelm Ranch, Kaelin, and Warren Road Partners.

## **Sage HMU**

Three separate repairs were made to the new Brian Bush property fencing. While a subcontractor of Anza Electric was responsible for one of these cuts (the subcontractor has an ongoing hazardous materials power pole cleanup project on the property), the remaining two cuts were OHV related. Due to the area's former role as an OHV hotspot, it may be some time before the riders give up on accessing the property.

Ranger staff responded to several issues reported by neighbor Joe Gonzales at the Odegaard and Terra Investors properties. A fence cut was located and repaired, and a stolen vehicle with equipment trailer was recovered by the Sheriff's Department. Joe Gonzales assured staff that trespass issues on the conserved lands have improved with the installation and upkeep of the property's gates and fencing.

During patrol, Ranger Fountain found all three gates cut open at the Bell-Weigel Properties. On each gate, the RCA, BLM, and Fire Lox Box locks were all cut. The gates were resecured and BLM was notified of their cut locks. On a separate occasion, Ranger Fountain's patrolling caused two dirt bike riders to quickly leave the property, going north on Via del Oro, using the horse step over access.

Ranger staff made multiple visits to the Temecula Creek Conservation Easement to check on the homeless encampment status. One camp was posted for eviction and subsequently cleaned up. Later, another camp was also posted for eviction. The camp appeared to be inactive, and plans for the removal of its contents are in place. Foot trails leading into the camps were blocked off with downed vegetation.

The Agua Tibia Donation was patrolled with no issues to report.

### **Santa Ana Mountains HMU**

Following reports of a neighbor's heavy equipment entering the Maddock Conservation Easement, the property was checked and a motion activated camera was placed in the property's previously illegally cleared oak habitat. No visible, recent clearing or access was observed.

Additional properties patrolled with no issues to report included: Guzman, Skorpanich, Trans Clark, Santa Rosa TNC, Berger, Stockdale Phases 1 and 2, Tax Sale Parcels 2012, Cachia, Damietta Ranch, and Hong #2

### **San Timoteo HMU**

Ranger Richard Chagolla made contacted with two separate private citizens whose contact information was found in piles of illegally dumped trash at the Oak Valley property. The two separate individuals were persuaded to return to the property to remove their trash piles.

While on patrol at the Chandlee property, several issues were noted. There was evidence of OHV trespass, some of the property's eucalyptus trees had been trimmed back or completely removed, and the newly installed RCA "Vacarro Ranch" sign had been destroyed. Vacarro Ranch is the historic name of the Chandlee property. The Foreman from the adjacent Spring Mountain Ranch construction site informed staff that a temporary gate across Pigeon Pass Road, from which the unwanted activity was originating, was to be installed.

Additional properties patrolled with no issues to report included Henry, Morrow, Lin, and Kramer.

### **Maintenance/ Fencing**

#### **General**

Time was spent by maintenance staff outfitting the new maintenance truck. An air compressor was purchased and installed, and an existing generator/welder was also permanently installed.

#### **Cactus Valley HMU**

The Park District's manlift was utilized so that maintenance staff could remove several dead pine trees that were located around the Goodhart shop.

#### **Gavilan HMU**

Staff worked to maintain site security at the properties off of El Toro Cutoff Road. A stolen car and dumped trash were removed from the Adams property. Staff scrambled to close three OHV trails that lead into this newly acquired property using trench work and rock blockades. At the North Peak 2 El Toro Road property, staff permanently closed the road entering the property at the southwest corner to prevent further dumping. Lastly, 42 trash bags were filled with dumped refuse and removed from El Toro Cutoff Road on the North Peak #2 property.



A one-quarter acre inactive marijuana grow was cleared from the White Rock 1 property. Staff had to regrade a trail into the northeast corner of the property in order to access the area. Two dump truck loads of material were removed from the grow area and deposited at the landfill. In addition, a metal plant nursery frame was dismantled and removed from the property. A 100-foot section of fence that was removed by the growers along the property boundary was reinstalled and signed.

The cleared area was then seeded with local buckwheat and black sage seeds and raked. A large number of non-native plants, including mustard, bassia and star thistle, were present in the disturbed area. These were treated with herbicide. One patch of arundo in the adjacent riparian area was cut, sprayed, and removed from the property, as well.

The gate at the Reynolds property was completely destroyed by a vehicle. Plans to replace the gate are underway, but due to a new gate installed by Elsinore Public Works further down the access road, this is a low priority issue.

A 150-foot fence segment was added at the Ordonez property along Gavilan Road to improve an existing OHV barricade.

### **Meniffee HMU**

With permission from the private land owner, staff constructed and installed a new gate and fence segment along Lost Road at the easement right-of-way to the Nelson property. This gate should help discourage OHV riders from entering the Nelson and TET Sedco Hills properties, as well as private parcels.

The gate protecting the Evandel-Wilson and Evandel-Bergstein properties near the water tower on Keller road was reported as being damaged. Maintenance staff made on-site weld repairs to the gate.

Maintenance staff made repairs to the steel storage building at the Scheer property. These repairs included reinforcing the broken ridge beam and improving the steel door track and roller setup.

### **Sage HMU**

Staff installed a new gate at the Bergman property. This solid gate replaced a cable gate that wasn't effective with OHV riders. The gate was fabricated with used metal material salvaged from the White Rocks property marijuana grow.

Staff repaired a 100-foot fence segment on the United Five Star Capital 2 property that had been damaged by a vehicle accident.

### **San Jacinto HMU**

The San Jacinto River Ranchos and pre-escrow RCTC McAlister properties were fenced along Highway 74. Existing fence posts and old, downed wire were used for the project.

Two disbanded vehicles were removed from the Soboba Donation Phase 2 property. A dirt berm was installed on the property boundary along Soboba Road to discourage future vehicles from entering the river channel on the property.

In response to an uptick in OHV activity in the area, a 300-foot section of fencing was added to the existing fence line along the eastern boundary at the Higgins Nuevo property.

### **San Timoteo HMU**

In order to improve an OHV barricade, staff installed 100 feet of ridgeline fencing and cable at the Pecuniary property.

A fallen cypress tree was used to barricade an OHV trail, and fence repairs were made along San Timoteo Canyon Road at the Oak Valley property.

### **Santa Ana Mountains HMU**

Post-Holy fire, there has been a large uptick in vehicles and OHVs entering the Bishop property. With the thick vegetation no longer standing, natural barriers no longer exclude these unauthorized activities. A 100-foot section of fence was installed in the wash along the eastern boundary of the property to cut off a newly created road entering the property. An additional 800-1,000 feet of T-post fencing will be required to resecure the remainder of property

Staff evicted two homeless camps, removed their abandoned belongings, and cleared several small areas of trash as part of the pre-escrow process for the soon-to-be acquired Kamyar property.

A cut cable gate at the Ranch Road Escarpment property was repaired.

## **Habitat/Species Management**

### **General**

Quarterly photo monitoring stations were completed at the CALMAT, Carlsbad, KB Homes, Warren Road Partners, and Wilhelm Ranch properties.

### **Gavilan HMU**

Several moderate-sized castor beans and several tamarisk seedlings and saplings were hand pulled from the pond area on the Bolton property.

### **Meniffee HMU**

Staff spent two days at the Shaing property completing a vernal pool improvement project. For several years, this non-natural pool would regularly inundate with rainwater and western spadefoots would attempt to breed in it. Each year the pool would desiccate long before the frogs' tadpoles could metamorph, and entire cohorts were repeatedly lost as a result. To correct the issue, a small tractor was used to deepen (by 24 inches) a 30-foot x 20-foot area at the center of the existing pool. A rubber aquatic safe pond liner was then installed, buried, and compacted.

NRS Sherrock conducted maintenance of the El Sol property's burrowing owl artificial burrows. Measures were taken to reduce flooding that was witnessed in the nest chambers of five burrows during the previous spring. An additional 10 burrows were cleared of soil that had been deposited by rodents.

The mountain bike restoration area at Winchester 700 Murrieta was seeded and raked with 3:1 buckwheat/black sage seed mix.

### **San Jacinto HMU**

Management staff and Elizabeth Dionne of the RCA conducted a site visit at the Warren Road Partners Property in order to identify and map areas of high non-native vegetation cover that can become part of upcoming mitigation restoration projects.

#### **Lakeview burrowing owl translocation**

A meeting with Thomas McGill (consultant for Lewis), as well as Eddy Kono, Scott Sewell, Tom Trakes, and Nick Peterson all from California Department of Fish and Wildlife, was attended by NRS Reinig. The San Jacinto Wildlife Area staff spoke of their plans to plant winter crops in large portions of the area recently mowed for burrowing owl habitat. After concerns were raised by MSHCP Management and Nick Peterson regarding a loss of foraging habitat for breeding owls, the Wildlife Area staff agreed to reduce their crop land footprint. Discussions with Thomas McGill focused on various options with the Nuevo donation restoration. While the time to seed with native vegetation was soon, it was agreed that without the non-native Bassia on the property being controlled, the seeding could be a failure. Mr. McGill was hopeful that Lewis would fund a round of herbicide-irrigation-herbicide on the fields next spring and summer in an attempt to control the Bassia before seeding next fall.

The Nuevo Donation property continues to appear to be suitable burrowing owl habitat. Very sporadic Bassia regrowth was apparent across the property following the most recent herbicide application. These were hand weeded with the help of Work Release Program workers. At the end of the quarter, at least three burrowing owls were known to be utilizing the property.

### **River HMU**

At the Teledyne property, all paths were harrowed for the first time of the season to maintain created Delhi Sands flower-loving fly habitat. The monthly photo stations were also visited.

### **Sage HMU**

At the Bell-Wiegel property, the scrub oaks that were planted on a decommissioned, unauthorized mountain bike trail were watered.

The wildlife guzzler at the Winchester 700 Reed Valley property was cleaned and refilled. A trail camera that was placed on the guzzler captured quail, mule deer, woodrat, bobcat, barn owl, Cooper's hawk, and western gray squirrel utilizing the water source in the first month of deployment.

### **San Jacinto HMU**

A site visit was conducted at the SJRR property with Elizabeth Dionne of the RCA to assess the property's suitability as a reimbursement mitigation sight for Los Angeles pocket mouse.

## **Santa Ana Mountains HMU**

In response to the Holy Fire, several ground and aerial photo points were established and revisited at the La Laguna, Bishop, Hannon, and Deetz properties. These photo points will be used to document post-fire habitat changes, as well as to monitor changes to the properties resulting from associated flooding, particularly in La Laguna's Rice Canyon.

NRS Sherrock hand weeded seedling Russian thistles across the Saddleback Munz's onion salvation site monthly. As a result, the site is clear of the noxious weed.

## **Fire Management/Weed Abatement**

Weed abatement was completed at the Rindahl property.

Staff cleared vegetation around the Roe house as a fire preventive measure.

## **Acquisitions**

### **Initial Site Inspections**

Anheuser Busch Phase 9 – The property is typified by rolling hills with grasslands and patches of black sage dominated coastal sage scrub (CSS). An active, flowing spring was found to be present on the east side of the property. No issues were found upon inspection.

Chappel – The property is dominated by recently disked fields. The property supports patches of healthy coastal sage scrub and a large/mature eucalyptus riparian strip. Several structures on the property were assessed to determine if they could be serviceable or would necessitate demolition. The 90-year old house, work shed, and two bunk houses are of simple construction and near the end of their lifespan. The large barn, which appears to be older, is also in a state of disrepair. The property has electricity and well water.

Chun – A preliminary pre-acquisition review was done on the property to assess access suitability pending acquisition. An appropriate access easement was found approaching the property from the north and will likely be granted by the current, adjacent property owner.

De Ortega – The property contains cottonwood riparian habitat and is adjacent to the western border of Geller Phase 2 and the northern border of Tax Sale Property 2010 in Temecula Creek. Some trash and dumping issues were found on the property and were reported.

Devcal – This large property contains 723 acres of healthy chaparral habitat dominated by chamise and redshank, with sugarbush, buckwheat, black sage, and several coast live oaks. A few road ruts were observed that appeared to provide marginal vernal pool habitat. An established OHV trail bisects the property leading into adjacent National Forest lands.

Nichols Donation – The property is composed of Riversidian sage scrub habitat dominated by brittlebush and buckwheat with prevalent non-native forbs (mustards, star thistle, and Russian thistle). Some small dumping issues and an approximately 1,000-gallon water tank were found on the property and were reported. In addition to the standard pre-acquisition review of the property, the site was visited with Elizabeth Dionne (RCA) to assess potential access points. Currently,

only foot access is possible from the east through a private parcel off of Lindell Road. An access easement will be required.

RCTC Dilworth #2 – Several shallow vernal swells were found to be present on the property, as well as a high level of rare and native plants. These features combine to make this property a great addition to the alkali vernal pool habitat east of Hemet. No issues were found upon inspection.

Tinkham – The property (in the hills east of Lake Skinner) is covered in healthy coastal sage scrub/chaparral mix with few non-natives. An active graffiti area was found and reported.

Toscana Donation Phase 3 –The property is dominated by sycamore/cottonwood riparian habitat. Evidence of frequent OHV activity was present across the property and will require access controls upon acquisition. Several small piles of trash were found and reported.

Tuscany Hills Phase 2 – The property is covered in nice coastal sage scrub habitat. Coastal California gnatcatcher was observed on the property during the pre-acquisition review. No issues were found upon inspection.

# **AGENDA ITEM NO. 8.2**

## **Attachment 4**

**SANTA ANA  
WATERSHED ASSOCIATION**

**CONSULTANT REPORT**  
**SAWA – BIOLOGICAL MONITORING PROGRAM**  
**FISCAL YEAR 2018/2019 SECOND QUARTER REPORT**

**Report Covers Period:** 10/01/18 – 12/31/18

**Services provided during current work period:**

**Biological monitoring surveys conducted:**

- Burrowing Owl artificial burrow condition assessment surveys (for management purposes).
- Tricolored Blackbird monitoring and habitat use at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area (SJWA).
- Tricolored Blackbird winter survey to locate flocks of wintering birds.
- Arroyo chub via electroshocking along 50-m stream transects in Core Areas.
- Stephens' kangaroo rat surveys via trapping grids on RCA property managed by Center for Natural Lands Management (CNLM) in Wilson Valley.
- Long-tailed weasel surveys via track plate boxes in the Banning Bench area, San Jacinto River and Wilson Valley.
- Rare plants via area-constrained visual encounter surveys at conserved locations known or suspected to support covered rare plant species.
- Engelmann oak recruitment surveys via sample plots in the Bautista area (Santa Rosa Hills); monitoring surveys at Wilson Valley, Estelle and Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve.

**Collaboration:**

- Collaborated with UC Cooperative Extension to plan upcoming Brand's phacelia habitat enhancement study.
- Participated in the annual Santa Ana Riverwalk to collect data on Santa Ana sucker habitat, coordinated by the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority and other organizations and agencies on October 25.
- Collaborated with other organizations and agencies at the Brand's Phacelia Candidate Conservation Agreement (CCA) Meeting on October 30 at the Carlsbad FWS office.
- Collaborated with CNLM to plan Stephens' kangaroo rat monitoring efforts in Wilson Valley.
- Participated in the annual Sunnyslope clean-up effort in the Santa Ana River on December 5, coordinated by the Santa Ana Watershed Association.
- Avian Taxa Lead attended a Cactus Wren Conservation Strategy meeting in Carlsbad on December 10.
- Collaborated with the Inland Empire Resource Conservation District to install a soil moisture sensor at Teledyne, an occupied Delhi Sand Flower-loving fly site
- Several biologist participated in the annual San Jacinto Valley Christmas Bird Count on December 18; occurrence data were collected for 17 Covered Species during this one-day effort.
- Collaboration continuing with CNLM, SJWA, and Multi-Species Reserve on Burrowing Owl burrow check surveys.
- Coordination continuing with CA Department of Fish and Wildlife staff at SJWA regarding management of the Tricolored Blackbird breeding and foraging habitat, along with some discussion on Burrowing Owl.
- Collaboration continuing with the state-wide Tricolored Blackbird Working Group.

## **Accomplishments:**

- Gathered useful data for Burrowing Owl; Tricolored Blackbird; arroyo chub; and rare plants, including Engelmann oak, graceful tarplant, and Brand's phacelia.
- Hosted three monthly monitoring/management coordination meetings with local land managers and wildlife agency representatives.
- Taxa and Survey Leads presented monitoring results for surveys conducted during the 2018 calendar year at the December monitoring/management coordination meeting.

## **Training**

- All Hands Meeting occurred on December 13: cleaned and checked vehicles, discussed survey and report status.
- Engelmann oak survey training provided by the Taxa Lead on October 3.
- Delhi Sands flower loving fly post-survey meeting provided by the Survey Lead on October 3 to share monitoring results with staff.
- Long-tailed weasel survey training provided by the Taxa Lead on October 12.
- Several staff attended a regional Burrowing Owl coordination workshop on October 17.
- Several staff attended a wildlife camera trapping workshop, coordinated by USGS, on October 30.
- Program botanists attended the Southern California Botanist Symposium on November 3.
- Tricolored Blackbird winter survey training provided by the Project Lead on November 12.

## **Status of Deliverables**

2015

- Species Occurrence Dataset: completed and submitted
- Survey Reports: completed and submitted
- Annual Report: completed and submitted

2016

- Species Occurrence Dataset: completed and submitted
- Survey Reports: completed and submitted
- Annual Report: completed and submitted

2017

- Species Occurrence Dataset: completed and submitted
- Survey Reports: completed and submitted
- Annual Report: completed and submitted

2018

- Species Occurrence Dataset: in progress
- Survey Reports: in progress
- Annual Report: in progress



# **AGENDA ITEM NO. 8.2**

## **Attachment 5**

**DOUGLAS P. WHEELER  
HOGAN LOVELLS, US LLP**

**QUARTERLY CONTRACT REPORT****WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

October-December, 2018

Year-end activity, at the close of the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress, was robust but ultimately unproductive. While a continuing resolution (CR) remained effective through December 21, the Congress and the President continued negotiations toward adoption of an FY 2019 budget, already long overdue. Among those agencies whose funding had lapsed is the Department of the Interior (DOI), which provides on-going support of the Authority's MSHCP. Although funding and other programs of interest had continued at FY 2018 levels until expiration of the CR, a **partial government shutdown** became inevitable upon the failure of negotiations, largely due to a stalemate over funding for a physical barrier at the United States-Mexico border. Thus—at this writing—the shutdown continues at DOI, with no activity on programs of interest to the Authority, and no funding for support of the MSHCP, including land acquisition grants under section 6 of the Endangered Species Act. Unfortunately, the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress was unable to authorize **appropriations for DOI and related agencies for FY 2019**, even though the Senate and House conferees had agreed on an appropriations bill under "regular order". It now falls to the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress to complete this unfinished business, but the stalemate continues. Observers suggest that the new Congress will eventually adopt and the President will sign an "omnibus" appropriations bill, covering all agencies, including DOI, which don't yet have an FY 2019 budget, or another continuing resolution to provide funding through September 30, the end of the fiscal year.

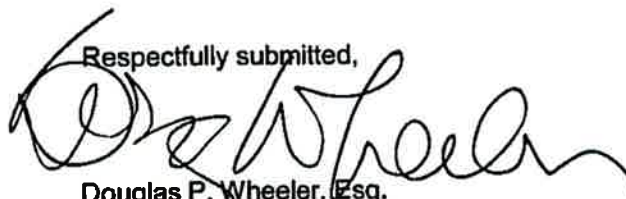
One important casualty of the budget stalemate was the Authority's proposal for the establishment of the **Western Riverside County National Wildlife Refuge**. Authority staff and consultants had worked closely with Congressional offices and their legislative counsel, notably including Representative Calvert and Senator Feinstein, to draft a bill which reflects the Board's criteria for a new Refuge on land that has already been identified and acquired for inclusion in the MSHCP. As drafted, the bill would provide for transfer of this habitat to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for administration as a National Wildlife Refuge. In addition, the Service would be authorized to acquire from willing sellers and public agencies land within the plan area whose habitat values are worthy of inclusion in the Refuge. It had been expected that the refuge bill would be included in a "lands package" of related bills that could be enacted as part of an omnibus budget bill. Because—as noted above—the omnibus budget bill did not materialize, there was no year-end legislative "vehicle" for the lands package, including the Authority's refuge proposal. It is expected that **the bill will now be introduced in the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress**, possibly after hearings have been held in the House and Senate. Although Mr. Calvert is no longer a member of the Majority, he remains an influential member of the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee. The new Chair of the House Natural Resources Committee, Rep. Grijalva of Arizona, is expected to be sympathetic. In the Senate, Senators Feinstein and Harris, and staff of the Environment and Public Works Committee are familiar with the proposal, and are also expected to be supportive of the Authority's proposal. While the Administration has been generally averse to the establishment of new parks and refuges, the **Fish and Wildlife Service in California and Washington has expressed informal support for the Authority's proposal.**

The Authority's consultants have also explored other ways in which to finance habitat acquisition, and to adapt to changing circumstances in administration of the MSHCP. The undersigned provided a memorandum during this Quarter on pathways toward amendment of the Implementing Agreement (IA) to extend its term, perhaps indefinitely, and coverage, to include unanticipated infrastructure development. As written, the Agreement and the MSHCP provide for amendments to accommodate changed circumstances over time, but only with the approval of parties to the Agreement, including the state and federal wildlife agencies. Because the approval process and accompanying environmental review would thus be arduous, time consuming and possibly contentious, we recommend that the Authority give consideration to a legislative alternative.

The possibility of legislation to effect a plan amendment, along with concerns about delayed release of section 6 funding and the refuge proposal (above) were all topics of frequent discussion with members of the Congressional delegation and representatives of the Administration, including the Fish and Wildlife Service. At meetings with Congressional staff and their principals, the Authority's consultants stressed the need for continued financial and political support of the MSHCP, which has come to be recognized as the most successful of its kind. Consultants and staff have also met with organizations, including The Nature Conservancy, whose expertise and capital resources might be available to help meet the Authority's land acquisition goals.

Authority staff, including Executive Director Landry, and consultants also continued to provide leadership of the National Habitat Conservation Planning Coalition (NHCP). At the Coalition's annual meeting in October, Landry led discussions of issues which arise in the development and implementation of MSHCPs, and shared insight from his experience in administering the Western Riverside program. Staff and consultants also participated in the range of regular NHCP activities, including membership in its Government Relations, Resource Development and By-Laws committees, and review of proposed revisions of ESA regulations which could affect the implementation of the Western Riverside MSHCP.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas P. Wheeler, Esq.

Washington, D.C.

January 3, 2019

# **AGENDA ITEM NO. 9**

**ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON AND  
POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT AND  
RATIFICATION OF THE CHAIRPERSON'S  
APPOINTMENT TO THE  
2019 RCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

***Regional Conservation Authority***

**ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON AND POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT  
AND RATIFICATION OF THE CHAIRPERSON'S APPOINTMENT TO THE  
2019 RCA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Staff Contact:**

**Steve DeBaun, General Counsel  
(951) 686-1450**

**Background:**

The RCA has a vacancy in the Vice Chairperson position. Staff requests that the RCA Board of Directors hold an election to select a new Vice Chairperson. Please note that the RCA Bylaws provide that "at least once every three years, the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson shall be a regular member of the Board who is a member of the Board of Supervisors." Therefore, next year a member of the Board of Supervisor must hold the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson position.

In addition, if the Board Member selected as the new Vice Chairperson is already a member of the Executive Committee it will be necessary for the Chairperson to appoint a new Executive Committee member and for the Board to consider ratifying said appointment.

**Executive Committee and Staff Recommendation:**

This item is for the RCA Board of Directors to:

- 1) Hold an Election for Vice Chairperson and, if necessary, that the Chairperson appoint a new member to the 2019 RCA Executive Committee; and
- 2) Ratify the Chairperson's Appointment to 2019 RCA Executive Committee if necessary.

## 2019 RCA - Commonly Used Acronyms

ARL	Additional Reserve Lands
BUOW	Burrowing Owl
CALFIRE	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
CALTRANS	California Department of Transportation
CD	Consistency Determination
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife ( <i>formerly CDFG</i> )
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CETAP	Community and Environmental Transportation Acceptability Process
CHD	Critical Habitat Designation
CIP	Capital Improvement Program
CNLM	Center for Natural Lands Management
DBESP	Determination of Biologically Equivalent or Superior Preservation
EMWD	Eastern Municipal Water District
EPD	Environmental Programs Department ( <i>Riverside County</i> )
ERP	Expedited Review Process
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FAST	Fixing America's Surface Transportation
FY	Fiscal Year
HANS	Habitat Evaluation and Acquisition Negotiation Strategy
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
HMU	Habitat Management Unit
IC	Interchange
IMER	Initial Management Evaluation Report
JPR	Joint Project Review
LDMF	Local Development Mitigation Fee
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSHCP	Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan
OHV	Off-Highway Vehicle
PCL	Proposed Constrained Linkage
PQP	Public/Quasi-Public
PSE	Participating Special Entities
RCA	Regional Conservation Authority
RCD	Resource Conservation Districts
RCOE	Riverside County Office of Education
RCRCD	Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District
RCTC	Riverside County Transportation Commission
RCTD	Riverside County Transportation Department
RMOC	Reserve Management Oversight Committee
ROVE	Recreation Off-Highway Vehicle Enforcement
SAWA	Santa Ana Watershed Association
SB	San Bernardino
SR	State Route
SWG	State Wildlife Grant
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
TIFIA	Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act
TUMF	Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
UTM Nad 83 Zone 11	Meter Coordinate System for Maps
WA	Wildlife Agencies ( <i>USFWS &amp; CDFW</i> )
WCB	Wildlife Conservation Board
WIFIA	Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act
WIIN	Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation
WPT	Western Pond Turtle
WRDA	Water Resources Development Act