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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee, consisting of the RCA Board Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Past Chairman, and four members of the RCA Board, makes recommendations regarding personnel, administrative and financial matters, as well as provide guidance on a broad range of issues including target areas or types of habitats needed to remain in rough step. In addition, the Executive Committee may schedule Funding Coordination Committee workshops to discuss funding and acquisition strategy.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

September 20, 2017 – Wednesday, at 12:00 p.m.
Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority
Riverside Centre, RCA Conference Room
3403 Tenth Street, Suite 320
Riverside, California 92501

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Marion Ashley, Chairman
County of Riverside, District 5

Jonathan Ingram, Vice Chairman
City of Murrieta

Jeffrey Hewitt
City of Calimesa

Eugene Montanez
City of Corona

Natasha Johnson
City of Lake Elsinore

Maryann Edwards
City of Temecula

John Tavaglione
County of Riverside, District 2

Charles Landry, Executive Director



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AGENDA*

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**Action(s) may be taken on any item listed on the agenda. Non-exempt materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the RCA Executive Committee after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the RCA Offices, 3403 10th Street, Suite 320, Third Floor, Riverside, California, 92501, during normal business hours. Such documents are also available on the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority website at 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.*

**Wednesday, September 20, 2017
12:00 P.M.
Riverside Centre, RCA Conference Room
3403 Tenth Street, Suite 320
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 an Executive Committee 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. ROLL CALL**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT** *At this time, members of the public can address the Executive Committee regarding any items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the RCA that are not separately listed on this agenda. Members of the public will have the 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 Executive Committee on any matter, whether or not it appears on this agenda, is requested to complete a Request to Speak Form available 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 Executive Committee in writing and only pertinent points presented orally. Any written documents to be distributed or presented to the Executive Committee shall be submitted to the Clerk of the Board.*
- 4. COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- 5. ADDITIONS/REVISIONS** *(The Committee 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 Committee subsequent to the posting of the agenda. An action adding an item to the agenda requires 2/3 vote of the Committee. If there are less than 2/3 of the Committee Members present, adding an item requires a unanimous vote. Added items will be placed for discussion at the end of the agenda.)*

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - August 16, 2017

7. WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY MSHCP FEE COLLECTION REPORT FOR AUGUST 2017

Overview – STAFF REPORT

This item is for the RCA Executive Committee to:

- 1) Recommend that the RCA Board of Directors receive and file the Western Riverside County MSHCP Fee Collection Report for August 2017; and
- 2) Authorize staff to agendize this matter for the October 2, 2017 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors.

8. RESOLUTION NO. 2017-006, RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY DECLARING SUPPORT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY MULTIPLE SPECIES HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN

Overview – STAFF REPORT

This item is for the RCA Executive Committee to:

- 1) Recommend that the RCA Board of Directors adopt Resolution No. 2017-006, *Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Declaring Support for the Establishment of a National Wildlife Refuge within the Boundaries of the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan*; and
- 2) Authorize staff to agendize this matter for the October 2, 2017 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors.

9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

10.1 Introduction of new RCA Chief of Technical Information

10.2 Update Concerning Annual Certification of MSHCP Program Participation for Measure A

10.3 Update Concerning Status of Member Agency Agreed Upon Procedures

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: (Committee members are invited to suggest additional items to be brought forward for future discussion.)

11. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Executive Committee will be held on Wednesday, October 18, 2017, at 12:00 p.m., at the Riverside Centre, 3403 Tenth Street, Suite 320, Third Floor, RCA Conference Room, Riverside, California, 92501.

ACRONYMS

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

MINUTES

August 16, 2017



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Executive Committee was called to order by Chairman Ashley at 12:10 p.m., Wednesday, August 16, 2017, at the RCA Conference Room, 3403 Tenth Street, Suite 320, Riverside, California, 92501.

2. ROLL CALL – was taken by Rose Haro, Administrative Manager.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT	COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT
<p>Marion Ashley, Chairman – County of Riverside District V</p> <p>Jonathan Ingram, Vice Chairman – City of Murrieta</p> <p>Jeffrey Hewitt – City of Calimesa</p> <p>Eugene Montanez – City of Corona</p> <p>Natasha Johnson, City of Lake Elsinore</p> <p>Maryann Edwards - City of Temecula</p>	<p>John Tavaglione, County of Riverside District II</p>

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Ashley called for public comments regarding items not listed on the agenda. There were no public comments.

4. COMMITTEE MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Ashley called for Committee Member announcements. There were no announcements from Committee Members.

5. ADDITIONS/REVISIONS

Chairman Ashley asked if there are any additions/revisions to the agenda. Rose Haro, Administrative Manager, reported that Agenda Item No. 10 is deleted from the agenda.

Chairman Ashley called for a motion to delete Agenda Item No. 10 from the agenda.

M/S/C (CITY OF MURRIETA/CITY OF TEMECULA) to delete Agenda Item No. 10 from the agenda.

(6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent)

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 21, 2017

M/S/C (CITY OF CALIMESA/CITY OF MURRIETA) to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2017 Meeting of the Executive Committee as submitted.

(6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent)

7. WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY MSHCP FEE COLLECTION REPORTS FOR JUNE and JULY 2017

Honey Bernas, Director of Administrative Services, presented the MSHCP Fee Collection Report for June 2017. The RCA received fees in the amount of \$1,761,436 for 482 residential permits and 120.39 commercial acres. There were 13 reported exemptions totaling \$25,842; five in the City of Lake Elsinore; seven in the City of Temecula and one in the County of Riverside. There was one reported civic/infrastructure project, Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District's Wildomar MDP Lateral C-1 Storm Drain, in the amount of \$49,033. For the month of June 2017, the total receipts were \$1,810,470.

Honey Bernas, also presented the MSHCP Fee Collections Report for July 2017. The RCA received fees in the amount of \$1,661,819 for 894 residential permits and 26.88 commercial acres. There were 18 reported exemptions totaling \$35,856; 17 in the City of Lake Elsinore; and one in the City of Temecula. There were no reported civic/infrastructure projects. For the month of July 2017, the total receipts were \$1,661,819.

M/S/C (CITY OF TEMECULA/CITY OF CORONA) to approve this item as recommended and authorize staff to agendize this matter to the September 11, 2017 meeting of RCA Board of Directors:

- 1) Recommend that that RCA Board of Directors receive and file the Western Riverside County MSHCP Fee Collection Reports for June and July 2017; and
- 2) Authorize staff to agendize this matter for the September 11, 2017 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors.

(6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent)

8. FISCAL YEAR 2017 FOURTH QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT (UNAUDITED)

Honey Bernas, Director of Administrative Services, presented an overview of the Fiscal Year 2017 Fourth Quarter Financial Report. RCA started the year with a beginning cash balance of \$34.7 million. Cash receipts totaled approximately \$28.9 million, and cash disbursements totaled approximately \$30.3 million. The cash balance year-end was \$33.4 million. As of August 15, 2017 RCA's cash balance was \$35 million, with an additional \$4.5 million set aside for the endowment for a total of \$39.5 million. In the Operations Program, revenues of \$1.2 million exceeded expenditures of \$350 thousand by \$864 thousand. The year-end net operating position was \$864 thousand. In the Land Management and Monitoring Program, total revenues of \$4.5 million exceeded expenditures of \$2.6 by \$1.9 million. Tipping fees of \$3.7 million for 2.2 million tons of out-of-county waste exceeded budgeted revenues by \$1.3 million, which represented the highest contribution to RCA since its inception. In the Land Acquisition Program, total expenditures of \$28.5 million exceeded revenues of \$26.3 million by \$2 million. During the year, the Board approved the early acquisition of phases 7 and 8 of the Anheuser Busch property, which was to draw on restricted fund balance. A significant increase in development mitigation fees collected during the fourth quarter of the year lessened the draw on fund balance. Development mitigation fee revenues collected by Member Agencies totaled approximately \$14 million for FY2017. This represents \$2.9 million more than the budgeted \$11 million. During FY2017, RCA acquired 20 properties totaling approximately 2,054 acres. Five properties were acquired with federal and state grant funds; Anheuser Busch Phases 6-8 were acquired with a combination of RCTC Measure A funds, TUMF, and mitigation fees; 14 properties were acquired with RCA funds. In addition, RCA received five land donations and one conservation easement with a combined acreage of 382 and an estimated value of \$1.1 million. An allocation of \$967 thousand Participating Special Entity revenue from Southern California Edison was also crucial to the program this year.

The Executive Committee thanked RCA staff for a job well done.

M/S/C (CITY OF LAKE ELSINORE/CITY OF TEMECULA) to approve this item as recommended and authorize staff to agendize this matter to the September 11, 2017 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors:

- 1) Recommend that the Board of Directors receive and file the Fiscal Year 2017 Fourth Quarter Financial Report; and
- 2) Authorize staff to agendize this matter for the September 11, 2017 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors.

(6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent)

9. FISCAL YEAR 2017 FOURTH QUARTER CONSULTANT REPORTS

Charles Landry, Executive Director, reported on the activities and services provided by Dudek, Geographics, Kadesh & Associates, LLP, Riverside County Regional Parks and Open-Space District, Santa Ana Watershed Association and Douglas P. Wheeler, Hogan Lovells, US LLP during the fourth quarter of Fiscal Year 2017.

Board Member Edwards asked if RCA has any homeless encampment problems on RCA property. Laurie Correa, Director of Reserve Management and Monitoring, answered that there was an issue on the Anheuser Busch Property, and the Parks Department issued a notification to the homeless to move their belongings within a certain timeframe. She further advised that Temecula Creek on the east side of the bridge within City of Temecula boundaries had a few homeless. A future clean up with Flood Control, RCA and the City of Temecula is being organized.

M/S/C (CITY OF MURRIETA/CITY OF CALIMESA) to approve this item as recommended and authorize staff to agendize this matter to the September 11, 2017 meeting of RCA Board of Directors:

- 1) Recommend that the RCA Board of Directors receive and file the Fiscal Year 2017 Fourth Quarter Consultant Reports; and
- 2) Authorize staff to agendize this matter for the September 11, 2017 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors

(6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent)

10. INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2017-XXX RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY AMENDING ARTICLE IV.E OF ITS BYLAWS WITH REGARD TO COMPENSATION

- 1) This item is for the RCA Executive Committee to review and provide staff direction concerning the Classification Specification; and

- 2) Authorize staff to agendaize this matter for the June 5, 2017 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors.

This item was deleted from the agenda during Agenda Item No. 5 Additions/Revisions.

11. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION CONCERNING ANNUAL CERTIFICATION OF MSHCP PROGRAM PARTICIPATION FOR MEASURE A

The Executive Committee discussed the status of Member Agency Agreed-Upon Procedures and the RCA's Certification of the MSCHP Program Participation by Member Agencies for Measure A.

Vice Chairman Ingram met with the Member Agency, and it was determined that legal counsel would continue in their efforts to negotiate with the Member Agency in question to try to resolve the issue.

Steve DeBaun, General Counsel, stopped the meeting and advised that the Executive Committee would proceed into Closed Session.

Overview

This item is for the RCA Executive Committee to discuss the status of Member Agency Agreed-Upon Procedures and provide staff direction concerning Certification of MSHCP Program Participation by Member Agencies.

12. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

12.1 Joint RCTC/RCA Workshop Reminder

After Closed Session, Charles Landry, Executive Director, reminded the Executive Committee of the Joint RCTC/RCA Workshop that will take place on August 28, 2017, from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the County Administrative Center, Board Chambers. He gave an outline of the workshop topics who would present.

13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: *(Committee members are invited to suggest additional items to be brought forward for future discussion.)*

Chairman Ashley called for future agenda items. There were no requests from the Executive Committee.

14. CLOSED SESSION ITEMS:

14.1 CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph 2 of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9

Number of potential cases: One

After closed session, the meeting was reconvened. There were no announcements from closed session.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no other items before the Executive Committee, Chairman Ashley adjourned the meeting at 12:55 p.m. The next meeting of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Executive Committee will be held on Wednesday, September 20, 2017, at 12:00 p.m., at the Riverside Centre, 3403 Tenth Street, Suite 320, Third Floor, RCA Conference Room, Riverside, California, 92501.

Prepared by:



Rose Haro
Administrative Manager

Respectfully submitted:



Honey Bernas
Clerk of the Board

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7

**WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY
MSHCP FEE COLLECTION
REPORT FOR AUGUST 2017**

Regional Conservation Authority

**WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY
MSHCP FEE COLLECTION REPORT FOR
AUGUST 2017**

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 is the report for August 2017. The report was prepared on a cash basis and, therefore, reflects the cash received by RCA during that month.

Staff Recommendations:

That the RCA Executive Committee –

- 1) Recommend that the RCA Board of Directors receive and file the Western Riverside County MSHCP Fee Collection Report for August 2017; and
- 2) Authorize staff to agendize this matter for the October 2, 2017 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors.

Attachment

- 1) Western Riverside County MSHCP LDMF Collection and Civic/Infrastructure Contribution Report for August 2017

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7
Attachment

**WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY
MSHCP LDMF COLLECTION AND
CIVIC/INFRASTRUCTURE
CONTRIBUTION REPORT FOR
AUGUST 2017**

**WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY MSHCP LDMF COLLECTION AND
CIVIC/INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRIBUTION REPORT FOR AUGUST 2017
CASH BASIS**

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT MITIGATION FEE COLLECTIONS						
City/County	Month	REMITTED			EXEMPTIONS & FEE CREDITS	
		Residential Permits	Commercial/Industrial Acres	Amount Remitted	Residential Permits	Amount
City of Banning	July - No Activity					
City of Beaumont	July received in September					
City of Calimesa	July - No Activity					
City of Canyon Lake	July - No Activity					
City of Corona	July received in September					
City of Eastvale	July - No Activity					
City of Hemet	July	3		\$5,935		
City of Jurupa Valley	July	26		\$52,806		
City of Lake Elsinore	July	13		\$26,403		
	Summerly Project ¹				28	\$56,868
City of Menifee	June	90	17.4	\$297,184		
	July	15	11.6	\$110,355		
City of Moreno Valley	July	31		\$63,546		
City of Murrieta	July received in September					
City of Norco	June		1.02	\$6,916		
	July - No Activity					
City of Perris	June	104	68.99	\$674,920		
	July - No Activity					
City of Riverside	June	9	5.7	\$56,617		
City of San Jacinto	July	23		\$46,713		
City of Temecula	July	5	6.52	\$51,579		
City of Wildomar	July - No Activity					
County of Riverside	August	73	2.57	\$166,032		
Total LDMF Collections		392	113.80	\$ 1,559,007	28	\$56,868

CIVIC AND INFRASTRUCTURE CONTRIBUTIONS		
Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District	Norco MDP Line N-1F Storm Drain	\$15,020
	Monroe Channel, Stage 4	\$74,672
Total Civic/Infrastructure Contributions		\$89,692

TOTAL AUGUST 2017 \$ 1,648,699

1) Summerly Project - Development agreement dated 8/24/04. Expiration date 9/23/14. Under review.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8

**RESOLUTION NO. 2017-006,
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS OF THE
WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY
REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
DECLARING SUPPORT FOR THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF A
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE WITHIN
THE BOUNDARIES OF THE
WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY
MULTIPLE SPECIES HABITAT
CONSERVATION PLAN**

Regional Conservation Authority

**RESOLUTION NO. 2017-006,
RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
DECLARING SUPPORT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE
WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY MULTIPLE SPECIES HABITAT
CONSERVATION PLAN**

Staff Contact:

**Charles V. Landry, Executive Director
Executive Director
(951) 955-9700**

Background:

The MSHCP funding plan for acquisitions obligates the federal and state governments to provide funding to acquire one-third and local government to acquire two-thirds of the total acres required to assemble the MSHCP reserve. Currently, the only federal funding available to the MSHCP is through the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund Section 6 grant program. The level of funding for Section 6 has been less than \$20 million per year nationwide for the past few years. This small amount of funding also has a cap of \$2 million per year, per grantee. RCA has been successful in gaining \$2 million in federal grant funds annually for the past five years. In addition, RCA staff has been exploring other federal programs which may provide additional grant funding. The one program which staff and RCA loan program and government affairs consultants have identified that provides acquisition funding is the National Wildlife Refuge System. The National Wildlife Refuge System administers a national network of lands and waters for conservation, management, and when appropriate, restoration of the fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats within the United States. Many of the other Habitat Conservation Plans in California and throughout the U.S. have National Wildlife Refuges within their plan boundaries.

Establishing a federal Wildlife Refuge could provide significant additional federal funding. The Refuge would be established within the MSHCP boundaries and incorporate existing Additional Reserve Lands (ARL). The MSHCP would be used to add areas which are already described for conservation. The Refuge would not increase the size or the footprint of the MSHCP or the MSHCP reserve. The Refuge would be located within the eastern portion of the Plan Area. There would still be access for hiking and other trails consistent with the MSHCP. There is an added benefit of establishing the Refuge in that the USFWS would maintain the property within the Refuge boundaries, moving the management burden from the RCA to the federal government, which would result in significant long-term savings.

Agenda Item No. 8 Staff Report

Page 2

September 20, 2017

The acquisition of the MSHCP Additional Reserve Land which will be incorporated into the Refuge will continue to be performed by the RCA. The process to establish a Refuge by the USFWS will include a study to determine which area or areas would best fulfill the Refuge criteria. The study and final approval and funding of the Refuge will take a few years and will include public outreach and comment.

On June 5, 2017, the RCA Board of Directors considered this matter and expressed concerns with regard to the possible imposition of land use restrictions that could affect firefighting, fire roads, use of air tankers and access to trails, and protecting private property rights within and adjacent to the boundaries of the proposed Refuge.

The public also raised concerns with regard to private property rights and requested that RCA include language which assures that private property will not be included within the boundaries of the National Wildlife Refuge without the permission of the property owner.

Staff was directed to address the Board's concerns and bring the matter back for reconsideration. Staff has revised the resolution to address the concerns raised by the Board and the public. Attached for the Executive Committee's consideration is a revised resolution supporting the establishment of a Wildlife Refuge within the existing boundaries of the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan. Staff will regularly report to the Board on the ongoing negotiations with the USFWS and the status of the Refuge planning process. Final terms and conditions will be brought before the Board for consideration and approval prior to execution of any agreement.

Staff Recommendation:

That the RCA Executive Committee:

- 1) Recommend that the RCA Board of Directors adopt Resolution No. 2017-006, *Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Declaring Support for the Establishment of a National Wildlife Refuge within the Boundaries of the Western Riverside County MSHCP*; and
- 2) Authorize staff to agendize this matter for the October 2, 2017 meeting of the RCA Board of Directors.

Attachment:

Resolution No. 2017-006, *Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Declaring Support for the Establishment of a National Wildlife Refuge within the Boundaries of the Western Riverside County MSHCP*

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8
Attachment

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-006

RESOLUTION NO. 2017-006

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY DECLARING SUPPORT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE MSHCP

WHEREAS, the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (“RCA”) is a public agency of the State of California formed by a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement (“JPA”); and

WHEREAS, the RCA is composed of the County of Riverside and the 18 cities in western Riverside County (“Member Agencies”); and

WHEREAS, the Member Agencies are all Permittees under the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (“MSHCP”) and parties to the MSHCP Implementing Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the MSHCP is to establish habitat reserves for the conservation and protection of species while expediting the construction of infrastructure and other projects; and

WHEREAS, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (“USFWS”) is an agency of the United States Department of the Interior and has jurisdiction over the conservation, protection, restoration, enhancement and management of fish, wildlife, native plants and habitat necessary for biologically sustainable populations of those species to the extent set forth in the Federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1531 et seq.) (“FESA”) and other relevant federal laws; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the USFWS is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people; and

WHEREAS, the National Wildlife Refuge System is a program operated and implemented under the auspices of the USFWS; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System is to administer a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and where appropriate, restoration of the fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats within the United States for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans; and

WHEREAS, the USFWS is considering establishing a National Wildlife Refuge (the “Proposed Refuge”) that would be located entirely within the

existing boundaries of the MSHCP Conservation Area in order to secure additional federal funding for the MSHCP; and

WHEREAS, designating a portion of the MSHCP Conservation Area as the Proposed Refuge would allow for an additional source of federal funding from the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund; and

WHEREAS, no additional conservation land beyond what is currently required by the MSHCP would be required for the Proposed Refuge; and

WHEREAS, private property will not be included within the boundaries of the National Wildlife Refuge without the permission of the property owner. Private properties where the owners desire to be included after the initial National Wildlife Refuge boundaries have been defined, as well as new public or RCA acquisitions which appropriately should be included in the National Wildlife Refuge, can be part of regular amendments to the boundaries by Congress or the United States Fish and Wildlife Service through administrative action; and

WHEREAS, the Proposed Refuge would continue to provide public access on trails and roads consistent with the MSHCP; and

WHEREAS, the RCA has the power to adopt such policies as the Board may deem necessary for the conduct of the RCA's affairs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority Board of Directors ("Board") declares that the mission and purpose of the MSHCP is consistent with the mission and goals of the National Wildlife Refuge System, and also hereby resolves to support the establishment of a National Wildlife Refuge within the existing boundaries of the MSHCP. The Board directs staff to work with USFWS to negotiate the terms and conditions of a Proposed Refuge to be approved by the RCA Board of Directors and ensure that: (1) the Refuge would have no adverse impacts on existing trails, roads and fire roads located within the Refuge boundaries; (2) private property rights within and adjacent to the boundaries of the Proposed Refuge would be fully protected; (3) any issues associated with fire and/or police protection services are fully addressed to ensure that no additional burdens or risks are placed on the RCA Member Agencies; and (4) USFWS will utilize RCA to acquire the property to assemble the Refuge. The Board directs staff to regularly report on the ongoing negotiations with USFWS and the status of the Refuge planning process. Final terms and conditions will be brought before the Board for approval prior to execution of any agreement.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority held this 2nd day of October, 2017.

By: _____
Marion Ashley, Chairman
Western Riverside County
Regional Conservation Authority

ATTEST:

By: _____
Honey Bernas, Clerk of the Board
Western Riverside County
Regional Conservation Authority

2017 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
EMWD	Eastern Municipal Water District
EPD	Environmental Programs Department (<i>Riverside County</i>)
ERP	Expedited Review Process
FY	Fiscal Year
HANS	Habitat Evaluation and Acquisition Negotiation Strategy
HMU	Habitat Management Unit
IC	Interchange
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
RCRCD	Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District
RCOE	Riverside County Office of Education
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
WIFIA	Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act
WIIN	Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation
WA	Wildlife Agencies (<i>USFWS & CDFW</i>)
WCB	Wildlife Conservation Board
WPT	Western Pond Turtle
WRDA	Water Resources Development Act