

DATE: June 22, 2015

TO: RMC Governing Board

FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Item 10: Consideration of a resolution authorizing a grant to Antelope Valley Conservancy for Rift Zone Wetlands Complex Conceptual Area Preservation Plan (RMC15108)

PROGRAM AREA: Mountains and Foothills Program

PROJECT TYPE: Planning

JURISDICTION: City of Palmdale

PROJECT MANAGER: Luz Quinnell

Project:	Rift Zone Wetlands Complex Conceptual Area Preservation Plan (RMC15108)
Applicant:	Antelope Valley Conservancy
Program area:	Mountains and Foothills Program
Amount requested:	\$29,489
Amount recommended for funding:	\$29,489

PROJECT EVALUATION CRITERIA SUMMARY

Factor	Project Score	Total Possible Points
1. Access Value	10	10
2. Cultural or Historic Resource Value	0	3
3. Educational / Interpretive Value	5	5
4. Habitat Value	35	37
5. Matching Funds	0	10
6. Public Health Value	5	6
7. Recreational Resource Value	8	9
8. Restoration Resource Value	4	6
9. Scenic Resource Value	2	2
10. Stakeholders / Partners Resource Value	3	4
11. Stewardship and Management Plan Value	4	5
12. Sustainability Value	3	6
13. Trails / Multi-use Trails	5	5
14. Urban Land Value	1	14
15. Water Resource and Quality Value	9	25
TOTAL POINTS	94	147

RECOMMENDATION: That the RMC award a grant to the Antelope Valley Conservancy (AVC) in the amount of \$29,489 for Rift Zone Wetlands Complex Conceptual Area Preservation Plan (CAPP) (RMC15108)

PROJECT'S DESCRIPTION: The RMC will provide grant funds to the Antelope Valley Conservancy (AVC) for the development of the Rift Zone Wetlands Complex Conceptual Area Preservation Plan (CAPP) and successfully carry it for approval by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) which would position the land within the CAPP for possible acquisition funding from the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB).

BACKGROUND: The AVC is a local land trust that obtains and stewards lands that are important to the community for quality of life, scenic beauty, plant and animal habitat, connectivity for biodiversity, and watershed function. Their mission is acquisition and stewardship of native habitats and watershed resources with an acknowledgement of future generations' interests in land that maintains community character, ecological function, and scenic beauty. The RMC has historically committed funds to the AVC including funding for the acquisition of parcels within the Devils Punchbowl County Park and continues to support the proposed project for the completion of the CAPP. AVC is requesting grant funds for the completion of the CAPP, a CAPP is a parcel-based plan required by the State of California to expend funds for land acquisition. The Rift Zone Wetlands Complex CAPP is a nine mile long ecotone on the north slope of the San Gabriel Mountains, in the northernmost portion of RMC's Territory, in the City of Palmdale. The area extends from Una Lake to Littlerock Wash, and offers biologically diverse and unique habitats, springs, sag ponds, historic and cultural resources, trails, and connectivity to the Angeles National Forest, please see Exhibit A. Although some portions of the CAPP may fall outside of the RMC territory, if acquisition funding is requested from the RMC by the AVC, then Staff will ensure that all acquisitions are within the RMC territory.

AVC proposes to utilize the grant funds to contract with Kristeen Penrod, of Science & Collaboration for Connected Wildlands, whom is an expert in preparing the CAPP would prepare and finalize the CAPP; which would then be carried by the AVC for the approval process through CDFW and possible acquisition funding through the WCB. Kristeen Penrod has extensive experience in preparing CAPPs and will offer this project the highest probability of funding success at the WCB. In addition, once the CAPP is approved it will promote ongoing investments into acquisition and critical stewardship efforts along its nine mile stretch, including preservation of native habitats, water resources, cultural and historical resources, trails, and educational resources for the regional community. The proposed CAPP when approved would contribute significantly to linking the San Gabriel and Castaic Ranges of the Angeles National Forest which is an ecotone between the South Coast and Mojave Ecoregions. And in the development and initial discussion of this CAPP several partnerships have been developed including partnerships with CDFW, WCB, City of Palmdale, Palmdale Water District, Littlerock Creek Irrigation District, and several other partners which will manage different areas within the CAPP. CDFW and WCB process take approximately 18 months for completion and approval, and if acquisition funding is approved by WCB, over 220 acres will be acquired in fee title, plus 80 acres in conservation easements, comprised of the most critical wetland parcels at Una Lake and Barrel Springs.

The potential acquisitions from the CAPP will involve multiple funding partners and utilize various tools such as conservation easements, mitigation credits, fee title and several other options. Although the CAPP is not very wide in places, the preservation corridor is a functioning, high quality watershed resource and wildlife area, which comprises a portion of the wildlife corridors linking Angeles Forest to Los Padres Forest.

Once preserved, the CAPP may also greatly enhance the recreation assets in the area, connecting trails, enhancing access to trails for the community, creating new trails, and creating passive and active recreation, such as sledding when snow falls.

The CAPP area offers proximity to the Angeles National Forest, Bureau of Land Management lands, Los Angeles County Parks lands, City of Palmdale park lands, and other preserved lands, park lands, and existing trails and trailhead facilities.

This project was submitted by the AVC under the RMC's Mountains and Foothills Program Area. It received a total score of 94 out of a possible of 147 points. Staff is recommending funding for Rift Zone Wetlands Complex Conceptual Area Preservation Plan given it meets the RMC's mission to preserve open space and habitat in order to provide for low-impact recreation and educational uses, wildlife habitat restoration and protection, and watershed improvements within the RMC's jurisdiction.

In addition the proposed project also meets the following RMC's Guiding Principles:

Improve Access to Open Space and Recreation for All Communities

- Accommodate active and passive recreational uses
- Incorporate passive and low-impact recreational facilities in habitat areas
- Accumulate and record the needs for active recreation facilities

Improve Habitat Quality, Quantity, and Connectivity

- Protect existing high-quality habitat and ecologically significant areas
- Restore and enhance aquatic and terrestrial riparian and upland habitat
- Coordinate regional efforts to remove invasive species
- Maintain and enhance wildlife corridors as continuous linkages
- Identify indicator species, develop standards and monitoring programs

Connect Open Space with a Network of Trails

- Develop continuous bike trail, equestrian, and public access systems along riverfronts and within the watershed
- Connect River trails to mountain trails, urban trails, local parks, open spaces, and beaches
- Connect open spaces to transit access points
- Provide for public safety and security along waterways and trails

Promote Stewardship of the Landscape

- Use drought-tolerant, native, and regionally-adapted plant materials
- Identify, preserve, and restore historic sites and cultural landscapes

Involve the Public Through Education and Outreach Programs

- Conduct public educational and outreach programs to promote watershed restoration
- Establish a process for project participation by stakeholder representatives and the public
- Present plans and programs in reader-friendly print and electronic versions
- Involve stakeholders and the public in project implementation and maintenance
- Recognize the significance and uniqueness of individual properties for watershed planning

FISCAL INFORMATION: The total estimated cost of implementation is \$29,489 and upon evaluation of the application, staff recommends funding in the amount not to exceed \$29,489 with a project completion date of June 30, 2016, see Exhibit B: Budget and Exhibit C: Tasklist and Timeline.

Funding for this project will be allocated from Propositions 40, 50 and/or 84:

75050. The sum of nine hundred twenty eight million dollars (\$928,000,000) shall be available for the protection and restoration of rivers, lakes and streams, their watersheds and associated land, water, and other natural resources in accordance with the following schedule:... (g) The sum of seventy two million dollars (\$72,000,000) shall be available for projects within the watersheds of the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers according to the following schedule:

(1) \$36,000,000 to the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy pursuant to Division 22.8 (commencing with Section 32600).....

75060. The sum of five hundred forty million dollars (\$540,000,000) shall be available for the protection of beaches, bays and coastal waters and watersheds, including projects to prevent contamination and degradation of coastal waters and watersheds, projects to protect and restore the natural habitat values of coastal waters and lands, and projects and expenditures to promote access to and enjoyment of the coastal resources of the state, in accordance with the following schedule:... (3) To the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy.....\$15,000,000.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY AND RMC ADOPTED POLICIES/AUTHORITIES: Section 32602:

There is in the Resources Agency, the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, which is created as a state agency for the following purposes:

- (a) To acquire and manage public lands within the Lower Los Angeles River and San Gabriel River watersheds, and to provide open-space, low-impact recreational and educational uses, water conservation, watershed improvement, wildlife and habitat restoration and protection, and watershed improvement within the territory.
- (b) To preserve the San Gabriel River and the Lower Los Angeles River consistent with existing and adopted river and flood control projects for the protection of life and property.
- (c) To acquire open-space lands within the territory of the conservancy.

Section 32604: The conservancy shall do all of the following:

- (a) Establish policies and priorities for the conservancy regarding the San Gabriel River and the Lower Los Angeles River, and their watersheds, and conduct any necessary planning activities, in accordance with the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (c) Approve conservancy funded projects that advance the policies and priorities set forth in Section 32602.

Section 32614.5:

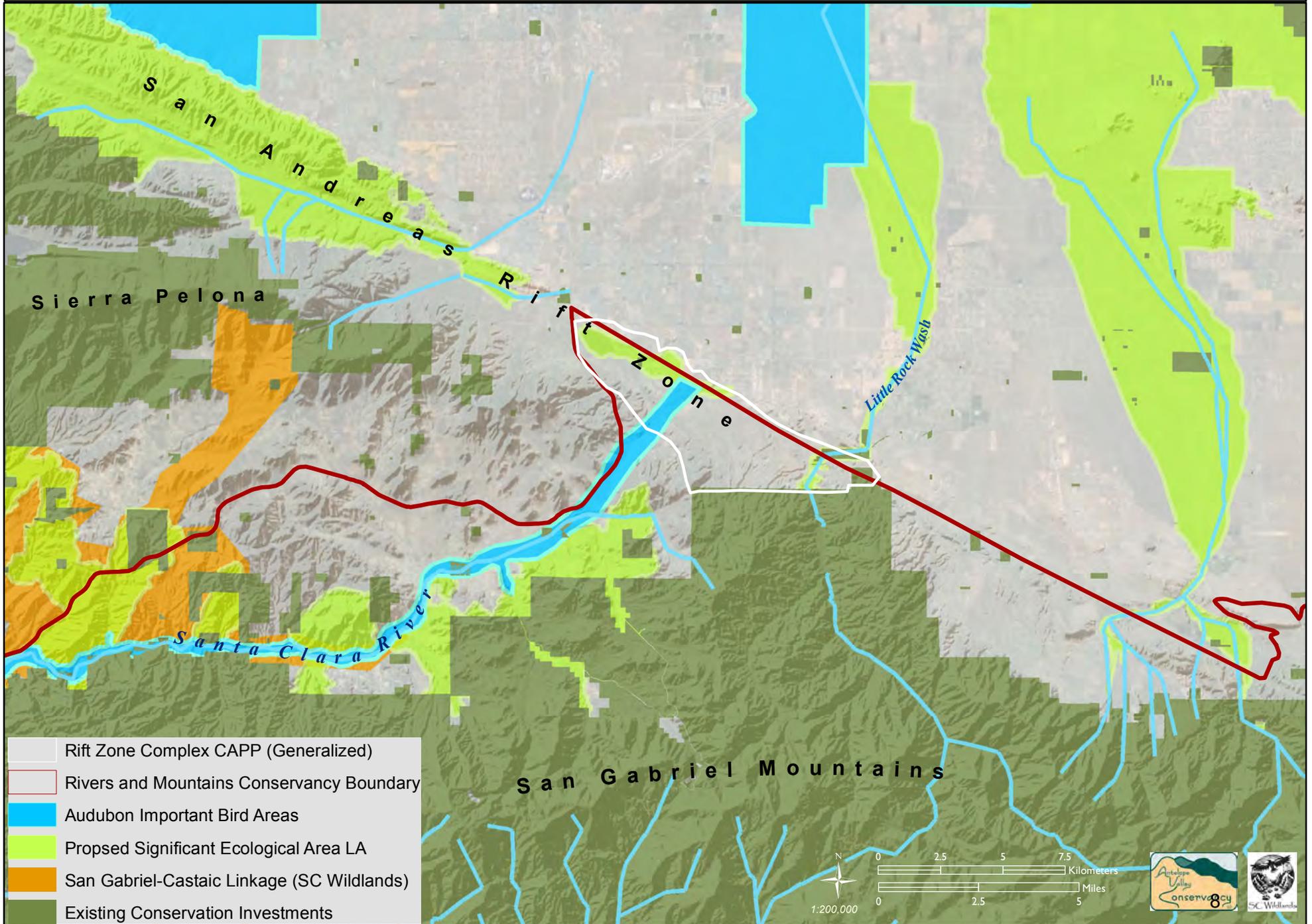
- (a) The conservancy may award grants to local public agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations for the purposes of this division.
- (b) Grants to nonprofit organizations for the acquisition of real property or interests in real property shall be subject to all of the following conditions:
 - (1) The purchase price of any interest in land acquired by the nonprofit organization may not exceed fair market value as established by an appraisal approved by the conservancy.
 - (2) The conservancy approves the terms under which the interest in land is acquired.

- (3) The interest in land acquired pursuant to a grant from the conservancy may not be used as security for any debt incurred by the nonprofit organization unless the conservancy approves the transaction.
 - (4) The transfer of land acquired pursuant to a grant shall be subject to the approval of the conservancy and the execution of an agreement between the conservancy and the transferee sufficient to protect the interests of the state.
 - (5) The state shall have a right of entry and power of termination in and over all interests in real property acquired with state funds, which may be exercised if any essential term or condition of the grant is violated.
 - (6) If the existence of the nonprofit organization is terminated for any reason, title to all interest in real property acquired with state funds shall immediately vest in the state, except that, prior to that termination, another public agency or nonprofit organization may receive title to all or a portion of that interest in real property, by recording its acceptance of title, together with the conservancy's approval, in writing.
- (c) Any deed or other instrument of conveyance whereby real property is acquired by a nonprofit organization pursuant to this section shall be recorded and shall set forth the executory interest or right of entry on the part of the state.

RMC Resolution 2012-01 allowed staff to re-evaluate projects already received and projects must meet or exceed the RMC's criteria and guiding principles and funding must be identified before a recommendation is presented to the RMC Governing Board for approval. Further staff recommends funding for the Antelope Valley Conservancy in the amount of \$29,489 for Rift Zone Wetlands Complex Conceptual Area Preservation Plan since it exceeds the RMC's guiding principles based on its goals, objectives, timeline, budget and ability to complete the project within the funds awarded and timeline approved.

Exhibit A: Project Location Map

Rift Zone Complex Conceptual Area Protection Plan Boundary



**Exhibits B and C:
Budget
and
Timeline and Tasklist**

TASK LIST/SCOPE OF WORK

Task Description	Total
Project Management , to be provided by Antelope Valley Conservancy	\$ 2,750.00
CAPP Development , to be provided by Kristeen Penrod, Science & Collaboration for Connected Wildlands (SC Wildlands)	20,000.00
Update to Biological Reports and other tasks as requested by CDFW/WCB	4,000.00
Contingency (6%)	\$1,605.00
Subtotal	\$28,355.00
Administration Fee (4%)	\$1,134.00
TOTAL	\$29,489.00

SCHEDULE/TIMELINE

Task Name	2015			2016		
	AUG	OCT	DEC	FEB	APR	JUN
CAPP Development	o	o	o	-	X	
Revisions during CDFW Review				o	o	X
Biological Reports or other as requested				o	X	
o Task X Completion						

Exhibit D: Support Letters

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
 COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
 COMMITTEE ON RULES AND
 ADMINISTRATION—CHAIRMAN
 SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504

<http://feinstein.senate.gov>

June 4, 2008

Ms. Belinda Faustinos
 Executive Officer
 Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
 "El Encanto" Building
 100 North Old San Gabriel Canyon Road
 Azusa, CA 91702

Dear Ms. Faustinos:

I am writing in support of the Antelope Valley Conservancy's grant proposal, Una Lake Wetlands Acquisition and Restoration (-1 and -2).

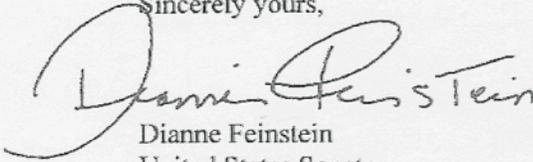
The Una Lake area is a critical wetland and wildlife habitat that must be preserved in order for the area to continue to be an environment where many species can flourish. Due to its location, the property supports a mix of desert communities, sag pond wetlands with woodlands, and foothill plant communities. This diverse mixture of habitats results in the land being a critical part for the wildlife that lives there, along with migrating wildlife that relies on it to survive their long journey. The lack of protection for this land could result in devastating effects that will be far reaching outside of this designated land.

Granting the Antelope Valley Conservancy's request will ensure that the 650 acres of wetlands and wildlife will be preserved. There is no doubt that preservation of the Una Lake lands is in the best interest of our future generation and our ecosystem.

I ask that you please give their proposal every consideration. Please keep my office informed of the status of this application, and if I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Michael Davies in my Los Angeles office at (310) 914-7300.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,



Dianne Feinstein
 United States Senator

FRESNO OFFICE:
 2500 TULARE STREET
 SUITE 4290
 FRESNO, CA 93721
 (559) 485-7430

LOS ANGELES OFFICE:
 11111 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD
 SUITE 915
 LOS ANGELES, CA 90025
 (310) 914-7300

SAN DIEGO OFFICE:
 750 B STREET
 SUITE 1030
 SAN DIEGO, CA 92101
 (619) 231-8712

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE:
 ONE POST STREET
 SUITE 2450
 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94104
 (415) 393-0707

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

www.dfg.ca.gov

South Coast Region
 4949 Viewridge Avenue
 San Diego, CA 92123
 (858) 467-4201



May 27, 2008

Ms. Wendy Reed
 Executive Director
 Antelope Valley Conservancy
 P.O. Box 3133
 Quartz Hill, CA 93586-3133

Habitat Preservation Needs in the San Andreas Rift Zone of the Antelope Valley

Dear Ms. Reed:

Thank you for the Antelope Valley Conservancy's (AVC) interest and efforts in securing habitat land acquisition and preservation along the San Andreas rift zone located in the Antelope Valley, Los Angeles County. The Department recognizes the biological value of areas that lie along the rift zone where ground water is forced to the surface creating a chain of ponds, lakes and seeps. These unique areas, which are surrounded by the arid west Mojave Desert, support a high level of biological diversity.

The Department understands that the AVC is seeking to obtain conservation easements and facilitate restoration, studies and management over areas that include Una Lake, and wetlands to the east of Una Lake, along the rift zone. The Department has been supportive of preservation efforts within these areas in a manner which maintains and enhances their biological attributes. At the present time, many of these areas continue to be subject to unrestricted off road vehicle access, dumping, introductions of exotic invasive species, stream diversions, ground water extraction and development pressures which threaten to further degrade and eliminate these important public trust resources.

Several of the biologically diverse areas within the rift zone targeted by the AVC's conservation efforts are in urgent need of preservation, enhancement and restoration. The Department continues to support the types of conservation efforts that the AVC is pursuing within these unique habitats.

Questions regarding this letter and further coordination on these issues should be directed to Ms. Kelly Schmoker, Staff Environmental Scientist at (626) 335-4369 or Mr. Scott Harris, Environmental Scientist at (626)797-3170.

Sincerely,

Theresa H. Stewart
 for Edmund J. Pert
 Regional Manager
 South Coast Region

cc: Ms. Terri Dickerson, Laguna Niguel
 Ms. Helen Birss, Los Alamitos
 HabCon-Chron, Department of Fish and Game

EP:ks

Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1870



Los Angeles County
Department of Regional Planning

Planning for the Challenges Ahead



Bruce W. McClendon, FAICP
Director of Planning

June 3, 2008

Rivers and Mountains Conservancy
100 N. Old San Gabriel Canyon Road
Azusa, CA 91702

Re: Una Lake wetlands acquisition and restoration project (1&2)

To whom it may concern,

The Department of Regional Planning (DRP) supports the efforts of the Antelope Valley Conservancy to acquire 650 plus acres of land and/or conservation easements for a wetlands preserve and accompanying restoration project in the Una Lake region of the Antelope Valley. As one of the last major open space areas in the County, the Antelope Valley is a delicate ecological environment that needs to be protected and properly conserved as the Valley is under considerable development pressure. While the Conservancy is in its infancy, it is poised to become a major contributor to the coalition of conservancies in our County. With a keen focus on riparian habitats and areas of unique ecological character and/or function, the Antelope Valley Conservancy and this project proposal will help to improve the environmental quality of Los Angeles County. Both the adopted and proposed draft General Plan (scheduled for adoption in 2009) promotes the conservation and restoration of the County's wetlands and other important open spaces. Since the project lies within a proposed Significant Ecological Area (SEA), the County has already recognized the importance of this area, and this project would directly support County efforts in resource and habitat conservation. Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING

Bruce W. McClendon, FAICP
Director of Planning



ANTELOPE VALLEY COLLEGE
Office of the Superintendent/President
(661) 722-6301 • Fax (661) 722-6333

June 4, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of Antelope Valley Community College District (AVCCD), I write to enthusiastically support the mission of the Antelope Valley Conservancy and the possibility of conservation easements for preservation of land near property the district purchased in the Barrel Springs area.

On February 28, 2008, AVCCD purchased 60 acres north of the planned easement. The district plans to construct a new community college on the purchased land, which will have an enrollment of approximately 10,000 students, and would like to use the preservation area as an outdoor laboratory for environmental science or technology programs.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions regarding our support of the easements or the partnership between Antelope Valley College and Antelope Valley Conservancy.

Sincerely,

Jackie L. Fisher, Sr.
Superintendent/President



June 4, 2008

Subject: "Una Lake Wetlands Acquisition and Restoration (-1 and -2)".

To Whom it May Concern:

On behalf of The Endangered Species Coalition, representing our 380 member groups nationally, and 61 groups in California, I am writing in support of Antelope Valley Conservancy's grant proposals for preservation in the Una Lake/Barrel Springs area. The Endangered Species Coalition is committed to protection of endangered species and the habitats they need for survival and recovery.

The preservation area offers wetland and upland habitats, desert/mountain ecotones, critical top-predator range, and wildlife corridor that are very important to preserve for future generations.

I am familiar with AVC, and I am confident that the grants and the lands will be managed with biological and fiscal accountability.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Leda Huta

Leda Huta, Executive Director
Endangered Species Coalition
P.O. Box 65195
Washington D.C. 20035

Sincerely,

Ann Dickman

Ann Dickman, Ph.D., President
Board of Directors

From: "Mike Dispenza" <mdispenza@qnet.com>
To: "AV Conservancy" <avconservancy@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: Letter of Support request
Date: Thu, 29 May 2008 09:28:52 -0800

To Whom it May Concern:

Subject: "Una Lake Wetlands Acquisition and Restoration (-1 and -2)".

I am writing in support of grant proposals advanced in the second round by the Antelope Valley Conservancy.

As you know the grants will fund preservation for 650+ acres of wetlands and wildlife corridor in the Rift Zone, from historic US 6 at Una Lake eastward to Barrel Springs.

Knowing the organization and the people involved you will be well served by the issuance of these grants.

I am available any time for further comment if needed.

Sincerely,

Mike Dispenza, Councilman
City of Palmdale, Ca.

Sincerely,


Edmund J. Part
Regional Manager
South Coast Region

cc: Mr. Ted Dickerson, Laguna Niguel
Mr. Howard Brien, Los Alamitos
Julian C. Clark, Department of Fish and Game



SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS
REGIONAL CONSERVANCY

May 30, 2008

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR UNA LAKE WETLANDS ACQUISITION & RESTORATION

The San Gabriel Mountains Regional Conservancy (SGMRC) is pleased to provide a letter of support for the Una Lake Wetlands Acquisition & Restoration Project Proposal.

The project area in the Una Lake/Barrel Springs area offers wetland and upland habitats, including a number of ecotonal opportunities. Of additional significance is connectivity of the wildlife corridor and top predator critical range. Representative funding for this area targeting land and watershed projects and protection is long underserved and overdue.

It should be pointed out that the Antelope Valley Conservancy (AVC), the project lead, has shown continuing growth in its many regional leadership roles in conservation and projects among conservancies collaborating with the SGMRC Conservancies Network of NPO Land Trusts and Conservancies. Based on AVC growth, resources, and networking, SGMRC is confident that projects under their ownership and guidance/management will show high level responsibility for land, habitat, and fiscal accountability.

Feel free to contact me directly should you have any need for clarification.

Sincerely,

Ann Croissant, Ph.D., President
Board of Directors



California U.S. Route 5 Tourist Association

Cathy Hart
(661) 726-5608
FAX (661)726-5615

March 6, 2008

Wendy Reed
Antelope Valley Conservancy
P.O. Box 3133
Quartz Hill, CA 93586-3133

Dear Ms. Reed,

In realizing that the Antelope Valley Conservancy serves the community by preserving native habitats and watersheds, facilitating preservation of wildlife corridors and trails and promoting ecosystem and regional planning, I am pleased to write a letter of support for the Antelope Valley Conservancy. Your efforts to maintain community character and scenic beauty guarantees their preservation for future generations. Thank you for your initiative in this respect. I look forward to working with you on your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Cathy Hart
Region Manager, Public Affairs



California **U. S. Route 6 Tourist Association**[®]

1117 East Ave. J-5
Lancaster, CA 93535
USA

(A Not-for-profit IRS 501 (c) (3) Corporation)

PH: (661) 942-3800
Email: FMHANN@aol.com
california@route6tour.com

May 28, 2008

RE: Una Lake Wetlands Acquisition and Restoration (-1 and -2)

To Whom It May Concern:

Let it be known that the California U.S. Route 6 Tourist Association, a state division of the National Association supports the grant proposals as submitted by the Antelope Valley Conservancy. The grant proposals will fund the preservation of 650+ acres of wetland and wildlife corridor in the Rift Zone from the Sierra Highway (Historic U.S. 6) at Una Lake eastward to Barrel springs.



The U.S. Route 6 Tourist Association is a Not-for-profit IRS 501 (c) (3) dedicated to the cultural preservation and economic development of inner cities, small towns and rural communities located along all 3,652 miles of the Grand Old Highway. We also strongly support the preservation of the natural environment and wildlife ego systems.

Given the location, this is definitely a rare opportunity to preserve an ecological area adjacent to urban growth.

Best Regards.

Fred M. Hann

Fred M. Hann,
Executive Director
California U.S. Route 6 Tourist Assn.

CC: Russell J. Lombard, President / CEO
Michele M. Heitzmann, Vice Chair - Program Development
Ashley J. Thompson, Executive Director – Program Development
Wendy Reed, MPA, President – Antelope Valley Conservancy – Quartz Hill, CA

Historic U.S. Route 6, Your "Roadway to Adventure"[®] Visit our web site at Route6tour.com

Transition Habitat Conservancy
PO Box 720026
Pinon Hills, CA 92372-0026
760 868 5136

To Whom it May Concern:

On behalf of Transition Habitat Conservancy I am writing in support of Antelope Valley Conservancy's grant proposals for preservation in the Una Lake/Barrel Springs area. Our organization has identified this type of habitat as being very important to preserve. This is critical watershed in addition to being very biologically rich and sensitive.

The preservation area offers wetland and upland habitats, desert/mountain ecotones, critical top-predator range, and wildlife corridors that are very important to preserve for future generations.

I am familiar with AVC, and I am confident that the grants and the lands will be managed with biological and fiscal accountability.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Jill Bays
President



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ETI Corral #9
Littlerock Trailblazers
Littlerock, Ca

Littlerock Trailblazers

April 16, 2008

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter is to give support from our organization, ETI Corral #9, Littlerock Trailblazers, to the Antelope Valley Conservancy's work to preserve natural lands in the current acquisition of the Significant Ecological Areas.

The existence of the local,(AVC) charitable land trust is important to our community for both present and future needs in preserving these areas..

Sincerely,

Ray Drasher
President
Littlerock Trailblazers

Linda Taroff

Linda Taroff
21618 Oak Orchard Road
Santa Clarita, California 91321

Angela de los Robles
2435 Oak Canyon Road
Madera, California 93250
510-25-1000 Fax 510-257-3337
www.malibuOnline.com

March 6, 2008

Antelope Valley Conservancy
P.O. Office Box 3133
Quartz Hill, California 93586-3133

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to let you know that I support the dedication of the Antelope Valley Conservancy to preserve natural lands by acquiring Significant Ecological Areas. The existence of AVC'S charitable land trust is critical to the success of this invaluable preservation effort, especially considering the pressing demands on our environment and encroachment by developers,

As a member of the Santa Clarita Valley Trails Advisory Committee as well as Chair of the Placerita Canyon Trails Council, I extend many thanks for your ongoing commitment to protecting one of our most valuable resources.

Sincerely,

Linda Tarnoff

Linda Tarnoff
21618 Oak Orchard Road
Santa Clarita, California 91321

Angles de los Robles

27035 Old Chimney Road
Malibu, California 90265
310.58.5484 Fax: 310.457.3337
Swenson@MalibuOnline.com

March 7, 2008

Dear Sir or Madam:

The preservation of our wildlife and the natural quality of our lands is critical to the survival of our way of life, our community and the quality of our world.

Our organization, Angles de los Robles, wholeheartedly supports the work of the Antelope Valley Conservancy efforts in this area, particularly as it relates to the current acquisition of the Significant Ecological Areas.

Thank you,

Susan D. Swenson
Trustee, Angeles de los Robles

Bill Kurt
Property Manager and Local Resident

June 22, 2015

RESOLUTION 2015-17

RESOLUTION OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES
RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (RMC) AUTHORIZING A
GRANT TO THE ANTELOPE VALLEY CONSERVANCY FOR THE RIFT
ZONE WETLANDS COMPLEX CONCEPTUAL AREA PRESERVATION
PLAN (RMC15108)

WHEREAS, The legislature has found and declared that the San Gabriel River and its tributaries, the Lower Los Angeles River and its tributaries, and the San Gabriel Mountains, Puente Hills, and San Jose Hills constitute a unique and important open space, environmental, anthropological, cultural, scientific, educational, recreational, scenic, and wildlife resource that should be held in trust to be preserved and enhanced for the enjoyment of, and appreciation by, present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, The people of the State of California have enacted the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006, which provides funds for the RMC grant program; and

WHEREAS, The RMC may award grants to local public agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations for the purposes of Division 22.8 the Public Resources Code; and

WHEREAS, This action is exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); and NOW

Therefore be it resolved that the RMC hereby:

1. FINDS that this action is consistent with the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Act and is necessary to carry out the purposes and objectives of Division 22.8 of the Public Resources Code.
2. FINDS that the grant is consistent with the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006, which provides funds for the RMC grant program.
3. FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
4. APPROVES a grant to Antelope Valley Conservancy in the amount of \$29,489 for Rift Zone Wetlands Complex Conceptual Area Preservation Plan (RMC15108).
5. ADOPTS the staff report dated June 22, 2015.

~ End of Resolution ~

Motion _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the
SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS
CONSERVANCY on June 22, 2015.

Frank Colonna, Chair

ATTEST: _____
Terry Fujimoto
Deputy Attorney General