

Notice of Public Meeting

San Diego River Conservancy

A public meeting of the Governing Board of
The San Diego River Conservancy
will be held Thursday,

**September 1, 2011
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm**

Meeting Location

**County of San Diego Administration Center (CAC)
Room 302
1600 Pacific Highway, San Diego, California 92101**

**Tele-Conference Location: 1416 Ninth Street
Resources Agency Conference Room 1310 Sacramento, CA 95814
(877) 287-0283 / Pass code 606349**

**Contact: Michael Nelson
(619) 645-3183**

Meeting Agenda

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Approval of Minutes**
- 3. Public Comment**
Any person may address the Governing Board at this time regarding any matter within the Board's authority. Presentations will be limited to three minutes for individuals and five minutes for representatives of organizations. Submission of information in writing is encouraged.
- 4. Chairperson's and Governing Board Members' Report**

5. Deputy Attorney's General Report

6. Project and Finance Committees: Joint Report

Presentation and Report:

Ben Clay, Chair, Introduction

Ann Miller Haddad, Project Committee

Andrew Poat, Chair, Finance Committee

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 11-04

7. San Diego River Trail: Status of Gaps Analysis

Report:

Michael Nelson, Executive Officer

8. San Diego River Conservancy / San Diego River Park Foundation: Governing Boards' Workshop

Presentation and Report:

Michael Nelson, Executive Officer

9. Executive Officer's Report

The following topics may be included in the Executive Officers Report. The Board may take action regarding any of them:

Carlton Oaks: Proposed Sale Boundaries and Schedule

River Gorge Trail: Status

10. Adjournment

Accessibility

If you require a disability related modification or accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call Michael Nelson at 619-645-3183

State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT
Meeting of September 1, 2011

ITEM: 1

SUBJECT: **ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS**

State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT
Meeting of September 1, 2011

ITEM: **2**

SUBJECT: **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
The Board will consider adoption of the **July 7, 2011**
public meeting minutes.

PURPOSE: The minutes of the **July 7, 2011**
Board Meetings are attached for your review.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve minutes

SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY (SDRC)
Minutes of July 7, 2011 Public Meeting

(Draft Minutes for Approval on September 1, 2011)

Governing Board Member Chair, Ben Clay called the July 7, 2011 meeting of the San Diego River Conservancy to order at approximately 1:34 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Members Present

Brent Eidson	Mayor, City of San Diego (Designee)
Dianne Jacob	Supervisor, Second District
Lorie Zapf	Council Member, City of San Diego District 3 (arrived at 1:36 p.m.)
Todd Gloria	Council Member, City of San Diego District 6
Bryan Cash	Natural Resources Agency, Alternate Designee (via phone)
Karen Finn	Department of Finance, Alternate Designee (via phone)
Ronie Clark	Department of Parks and Recreation, Alternate Designee (via phone)
Ben Clay, Chair	Public at Large
Ruth Hayward	Public at Large
Andrew Poat	Public at Large
Gary Strawn	San Diego Regional Water Quality Board
John Donnelly	Wildlife Conservation Board

Absent

Ann Miller Haddad	Public at Large
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Staff Members Present

Michael Nelson	Executive Officer
Hayley Peterson	Deputy Attorney General
Julia Richards	Administrative Services Manager
Ann Van Leer	Consultant, San Diego River Conservancy

2. Approval of Minutes

Andrew Poat moved approval of the minutes of the May 5, 2011 public meeting. The motion was seconded by **Ruth Hayward** and the minutes were unanimously adopted.

3. Public Comment

Any person may address the Governing Board at this time regarding any matter within the Board's authority. Presentations will be limited to three minutes for individuals and five minutes for representatives of organizations. Submission of information in writing is encouraged.

Rob Hutsel, Executive Director, San Diego River Park Foundation (SDRPF) reported that that SDRPF closed a thirty acre acquisition in Alpine on Peutz Valley Road in partnership with the Back Country Land Trust, which received funding from the Department of Water Resources, an EEMP grant (Caltrans) and many donations. He also announced that on July 17th SDRPF will receive a national award from the Department of the Interior's Take Pride in America Program.

4. Chairperson's and Governing Board Members' Report

Ben Clay recalled that at the last board meeting he established Project and Finance Committees with Ann Haddad and Andrew Poat as Chairs and that they would provide a report at the September meeting. He further advised that Mike Nelson, Ruth Hayward and he visited the River Gorge Trail Project and had seen firsthand the problems that Supervisor Jacob described at San Diego Country Estates.

Michael Nelson advised that SDRC should consider updating and revising its Strategic Plan, since the existing plan is for years 2006 -2011. He said that he had included information behind the Chair's Report that he hoped would be helpful when revising SDRC's Five Year Strategic Plan, including a project matrix and pie charts for "completed" and "continuing" projects, categorized by SDRC Strategic Plan program.

5. Deputy Attorney's General Report

No Report.

6. San Diego River Trail: Gaps Analysis – Capital Priorities

Presentation and Report:

Michael Nelson, Executive Officer

Ann Van Leer, SDRC Consultant

Michael Nelson stated that each jurisdiction along San Diego River made a presentation of their priorities for the San Diego River Trail (SDRT) at the last board meeting (County of San Diego, Santee, City of San Diego). He noted that the jurisdictions had prioritized gaps and projects identified in SDRC's / SCC's Gap Analysis from the Pacific Ocean to the base of El Capitan Dam. He added that he, Ann Van Leer, and Mark Carpenter of KTU+A attempted to assembled the information to form the beginnings of a capital strategy that could be used to measure performance and seek financing. He expressed his hope that SDRC's Governing Board and elected representatives from each jurisdiction would encourage and support inclusion of SDRT projects when possible in their capital improvement programs (CIP).

Ben Clay expressed his desire that Andrew Poat’s Finance Committee’ include trail financing in its deliberations, because he felt it would put SDRC in a good position to seek funding from Sacramento and local agencies like SANDAG.

Todd Gloria observed that KTU+A is one of his constituent businesses and asked if the three jurisdictions had employed similar methodologies or measurements for trail project priorities.

Michael Nelson responded that was not the case, explaining that each jurisdiction capital improvement program’s (CIP) presented their priorities differently. He stated as an examples, the City of San Diego was about to adopt a Master Plan for San Diego River Park which included the Trail and that some segments had been included in the City’s CIP. He observed that the City of Santee had budgeted sections of the Trail and had made a commitment in its General Plan to complete SDRT from its eastern to its western borders. He continued that the County of San Diego had begun to acquire the property interests necessary to build SDRT east of Santee.

Andrew Poat agreed with Todd Gloria and said the financial plan for the SDRT should be like a regional transportation plan with near term, middle term and long term projects.

Michael Nelson directed the Board’s attention to a slide of a map with colored stars that identified the jurisdiction’s priorities and introduced Ann Van Leer.

Ben Clay indicated that phasing the trail from urban to suburban to rural must be addressed. He said that trail types that may work in rural areas may not work as you move to a more urban setting and a commuter bike path.

Ann Van Leer presented slides that included the following table to measure the miles associated with the gaps in each jurisdiction.

Municipal Jurisdiction	Total West/East Trail Miles West of the El Capitan Dam	Currently Existing West/East Trail Miles West of the El Capitan Dam	5-Year Priority Trail Projects (in miles) proposed by each Jurisdiction West of the El Capitan Dam	Remaining West/East Trail Miles West of the El Capitan Dam still needing construction after 5-Year Priority Projects are completed	Remaining Total Trail Miles West of the El Capitan Dam (per Gaps Analysis) still needing construction after 5-Year Priority Projects are completed
City of San Diego	17.388	7.642	1.650	7.58 ¹	20.41
City of Santee	3.454	1.151	2.096 ²	0.207	2.20
County of San Diego	10.280	1.642	2.670	7.67	22.07
TOTAL	31.122	10.435	6.806	7.877	44.68

Note: An additional 21 miles of river footage occur east of the El Capitan Dam in County jurisdiction

Ann Van Leer indicated that staff for each jurisdiction had indicated project priorities they hoped to pursue in the next 5 years.

The County of San Diego:

- Eastern Flume (Gaps Analysis 63) for 2.67 miles.

Santee: Trail priorities are for property interests they control, but also those that were under the County and the City of San Diego's jurisdiction:

- Hanlon-Walker Property (Gaps Analysis 55 and 56) 1.2 miles
- Mast Park to Town Center Community Park Multi-Use Trail (Gaps Analysis 49) 0.24 miles
- County of San Diego Parcel Class 1 Path and Multi-Use Trail (Gaps Analysis 50) 0.386 miles
- Carlton Oaks Golf Course Class 1 Path and Multi-Use trail (Gaps Analysis 45) 1.043 miles (City of San Diego)
- East Carlton Oaks Golf Course Class 1 Path and Multi-Use trail (Gaps Analysis 46 and 47) 0.27 miles
- Mast Park, Mission Creek to Cuyamaca Street (Gaps Analysis 48) 0.39 miles

The City of San Diego: Trail priorities are in most cases located on private property and comprise projects that are east-west and north-south.

- Hazard Center Drive extension Class 1 Bike Path (Gaps Analysis SD-B) 0.262 miles
- Fenton Parkway to I-15 Class 1 Path (Gaps Analysis 19)* 0.866 miles
- Mission Center Road Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge (Gaps Analysis 20)* 0.255 miles
- Camino del Este at grade crossing and signals on north/south side of river (Gaps Analysis 13)* 0.0014 miles
- Sefton Field to Friar Road Class 1 Path and Bridge (Gaps Analysis 1)* 0.27 miles north-south linkage (*asterisks (*) indicate projects not currently in a C. I.P.*)

Ann Van Leer acknowledged that the focus of this capital budgeting exercise were east west linkages not north-south linkages, a decision the Board as policy committee may wish to revisit.

Ben Clay wondered whether there might be a financial opportunity if the Board was willing to make policy decisions that shifted priorities or moved projects around to improve the prospect of funding from SANDAG. SDRC board members should consider briefing officials and board members of SANDAG about the San Diego River Trail (SDRT).

Ann Van Leer said SANDAG recently included \$250,000 in their budget for the San Diego River, but it would most likely be allocated for paved surfaces on SDRT. So, it might be unlikely to receive funds from SANDAG in rural as opposed to urban areas.

Michael Nelson added that he was encouraged and gratified that SANDAG's Regional Transportation Plan's, Bicycle Corridor Network did identify the SDRT from the Pacific Ocean to Lakeside. He said that he would attempt to engage SANDAG in SDRC's work on the San Diego River Trail.

Lorie Zapf advised that she served as the Mayor's, first alternate for SANDAG and that she has often advocated for the bike path and trail.

Todd Gloria asked if there are CIPs created by the City for SDRC for the trail and whether they were funded.

Brent Eidson responded that the information presented was obtained from the City's Park Planning staff and that there was an internal process which allowed City Departments to request the City Council to create a CIP project.

Todd Gloria said it wasn't clear whether they currently exist, and if not, perhaps he and Lorie could make it possible for funds to be set aside for the trail.

Ann Van Leer responded she doesn't think that a CIP for the San Diego River Trail exists, except for Hazard Center Drive extension Class 1 Bike Path (Gaps Analysis SD-B).

Rob Hutsel commented that he believed that CIP for the trail did exist; it was large one and not well defined. He said that the CIP for the trail has been used as development projects occur and developer impact fees go toward park or trail planning.

Lorie Zapf asked if someone was currently working on this at the City, because she was unsure of how the process works.

Brent Eidson responded there is a San Diego River Park Planning group for the City and that when the administration is in a position to move forward, they will bring it to the City Council.

Todd Gloria added that sometimes council members can get things moving, so he would be happy to tag team with Lorie Zapf.

Andrew Poat added that it was important for the various community plans be up to date, because those plans were used to allocate fees and funding.

Michael Nelson said SDRC will continue to refining this matrix with the Intergovernmental Work Group and the San Diego River Coalition.

Ben Clay said he would like to thank the Supervisor and the County because he remembers that the County loaned SDRC substantial funds so one of these trail projects could get started.

7. Grant Park: Discovery Center / Project Overview

Presentation and Report:

Rob Hutsel, Executive Director, San Diego River Park Foundation

Michael Nelson before introducing Rob Hutsel stated that there was severe lack of open space and parks in Mission Valley, and the 17 acre donation by the Grant Family to SDRPF had begun to address this deficiency. He said the development of this property, known as Grant Park, was recommended in

the San Diego River Park Conceptual Plan and has always been a priority for the San Diego River Coalition. He said SDRPF had begun to raise funds to build the Discovery Center and said SDRC might wish to consider a small grant to help keep the project moving.

Rob Hutsel said SDRPF since its founding more than 10 years ago had endeavored to establish a park in Mission Valley, the most urban stretch of the river; a park in the City of San Diego where people can see the river and learn about it. He said the Grant Family, which has long had a presence in the Valley donated one of the last undeveloped parcels with a condition that requires a park be built or the property returned to the family.

He stated that the property was located due east of Qualcomm Way near the stadium in a community of 22,000 where more than half its residents have incomes of \$47,000 and 6,500 school children within a mile of the river. Community forums that have been held to discuss Discovery Center expressed a desire for trail access, outdoor facilities and an indoor facility for community events.

He said that Grant Park was identified in the Conceptual Plan as one of a number of planned facilities to be established along the river: Eagle Peak Preserve interpretive center, a community center in Lakeside and a small interpretive facility in Santee.

He reported that SDRPF reached out to multiple partners, most notably the San Diego History Center, San Diego Audubon Society, Project Wildlife and the SDRPF Board of Directors. He said the interpretative plan would focus on three elements. (1) utilization of fish to demonstrate that the river is living and breathing (2) an explanation of how the river was formed and its future, and (3) encouragement of stewardship and community involvement.

His remarked that one of the biggest hurdles confronting SDRPF was the construction costs, which in Mission Valley is on the order of \$2 million plus for a developable acre. He provided estimates for the cost of various phases of design and development:

- Pre-permit: \$250,000
- Permitting: \$150,000
- Construction Phase 1 \$3,200,000
- Construction Phase 2 \$1,200,000

He said that to date SDRPF had raised \$100,000 to date and completed conceptual, interpretive and business plans. He indicated that at this point the primary donors were Sempra Energy Foundation, Hazard Center, Sudberry Properties, and William H. Kuni Fund at the San Diego Foundation.

Ben Clay asked if SDRPF and this project might be eligible for any Quimby park fees collected in Mission Valley.

Rob Hutsel responded that they were not eligible because the property it is not owned by the City of San Diego; however he has made the City of San Diego aware of this project and how they might provide assistance.

Rob Hutsel said that he had just submitted a \$3.9 million grant application to the State of California and State Parks.

Lorie Zapf asked whether the \$3.9 million grant was all or nothing.

Rob Hutsel answered that he did not believe so, but he realized it was a very competitive grant. He said his present goal was to get funding for the next phase for permitting.

Todd Gloria thanked the Grant Family for their donation in an area that needs it. He wondered how projects like Grant Park, which is not on the City's list of priorities, could get funded.

Michael Nelson responded that the San Diego River Coalition ("Coalition") which annually identifies priority projects and estimates of their funding needs. He said that SDRC has access to approximately \$4 million that it commits to projects that have been listed by the Coalition as a top priority. He said that that there may be \$20 million if the Water Bond was should be approved in 2012. He said that this situation demonstrate the importance of San Diego River Park projects be included in the capital improvement programs of the jurisdictions. At this point, SDRC could seek approval for \$50,000 to help SDRPF continue their design until larger financial contributions are received.

Ben Clay said he and Tom Sudberry have chatted and discussed having a joint meeting with both boards from SDRC and SDRPF that would provide a forum to discuss funding for projects like Grant Park. He cited an example the relationship between the State Railroad Museum Board and the State Railroad Museum Board Foundation.

Michael Nelson responded that he had spoken with Rob Hutsel about a joint meeting and the logistics associated with a joint meeting between and state agency board and a non-profit board. He reported that SDRC must satisfy the requirements of the Bagley-Keen Act, but did not see any problems arranging a workshop between the two governing Boards.

Hayley Peterson agreed and advised that the board should not consider the Bagley-Keen Act as an impediment. She said it simply involves notifying the public when a quorum of this board is present.

8. Executive Officer's Report

The following topics may be included in the Executive Officers Report. The Board may take action regarding any of them:

SDRC Administrative Services Provider: Transfer from State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) to General Services
Walker Properties: Option Agreement / SCC Prop 84 Approvals
River Gorge Trail: Construction Status, Community Impacts, Modifications
Carlton Oaks Golf Course: Proposed Sale Boundaries and Adjustments

Transfer from State Coastal Conservancy to General Services

Michael Nelson announced that SCC had made a decision to discontinue providing services to SDRC. Mike said he was advised that 8 years ago SCC, as a favor, had agreed to perform these services until SDRC had sufficient staff or resources to handle them. Though neither SDRC staff nor its fiscal resources have increased, SDRC has substantially increased the number of projects for which it is responsible and as a consequence, the accounting and contracting services necessary to administer them. The SCC decision reflects an unwillingness to perform these services and accept the administrative burden associated with SDRC's projects and how they are financially structured.

He explained that the increase in project accounting and contracting service occurred primarily when SDRC accepted lead responsibility for (4) four Proposition 40 funded projects. Because Prop 40 is a reimbursable program, SDRC was obliged to advance fund these projects. Regrettably, SDRC has never enjoyed financial largesse sufficient to advance fund \$3.2 million of projects and as a state agency was not eligible to receive advance funding.

SDRC and SCC were forced to administer a complicated process that established a revolving fund to pay invoices, receive reimbursements and pay invoices. This process required SCC to request and maintain on SDRC's behalf sufficient reimbursement authority for SDRC to receive reimbursements, credit them to its operating budget, so these funds were available to pay invoices.

He reported that other conservancies use a Contracted Fiscal Services Unit at the Department of General Services (DGS) for administrative services. He said he has conversations with DGS about performing administrative services for SDRC and that they felt it may be possible to assume this function for SDRC mid-fiscal year.

Karen Finn asked whether SCC has been volunteering their services because she knew General Services would insist on a fee for services arrangement.

Michael Nelson provided clarification that SDRC has a contract with SCC for administrative services which extends through April 2012. He stated that SDRC pays SCC \$30,000 annually for the services they provide and understood that DGS would seek a contract to compensate them for services it performs, if they should take SDRC on as a client.

Bryan Cash asked why execute a transition mid-fiscal year as opposed to the end of the fiscal year.

Michael Nelson said a transfer at the end of the fiscal year was acceptable to him, but he was proceeding expeditiously, since the Coastal Conservancy had originally sought a transition at the end of the current fiscal year.

Bryan Cash stated that he felt the transition should occur at end of next fiscal year, because it would be more efficient.

Michael Nelson asked if the Prop 84 funds designated for SDRC would remain with SCC.

Bryan Cash said those Prop 84 bond funds though designated for SDRC were within SCC's allocation and budget.

Ben Clay said he felt it may be advantageous to arrange a meeting with the Natural Resources Agency to get clarification on these issues.

Bryan Cash agreed and said it would be beneficial to have Coastal Conservancy present, so everyone was at the table.

Karen Finn asked Mike Nelson if he felt DGS would help SDRC with difficulties it has encountered with the Coastal Conservancy.

Michael Nelson responded that he did not think processing reimbursements would be less difficult with DGS. He said that the process for utilizing reimbursements would probably be the same. He said he felt the real issue was that SCC had neither the inclination nor the capacity to deal with SDRC's accounting and contracting needs.

Ruth Hayward asked how other conservancies in California had their administrative services performed.

Michael Nelson responded that it is not uncommon for General Services to perform these tasks. As examples, he said they provide administrative services for the Santa Monica Conservancy as well as the Tahoe Conservancy.

Walker Properties

Michael Nelson reported that the SCC Governing Board had approved a \$1,445,000 grant from Prop 84 to the City of Santee for the Walker properties, which included money for preliminary planning and design for the section of the SDRT that will traverse it. He reminded the Board that SDRC had also been awarded a \$1 million grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) which completes the funding for the Walker acquisition. The Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) administers these funds and SDRC, SCC, TPL and Santee are working with WCB to get the approval of this grant on their schedule.

River Gorge Trail

Michael Nelson reported that unfortunately many the objectives of SDRC's financial participation in trail improvements at the River Gorge Trail had been overwhelmed by its incredible popularity and over use, which has created negative impacts in San Diego Country Estates community. These impacts and a recent fatality were the subject of a meeting held by Supervisor Jacob yesterday. He said he was pleased that Joan Friedlander from Cleveland National Forest was available to provide Forest Service's perspective on the matter.

Joan Friedlander said she appreciated the fact that some SDRC Board Members had taken the time to visit the River Gorge Trail. She said that yesterday's fatality was tragic and assured the Board that Forest service was committed to better manage the area.

She began her presentation by stating that there had been fatalities and individuals had been paralyzed from diving off the 75' foot cliffs at Cedar Creek Falls before this fatality. She said this year 48 air rescues have been associated with Cedar Creek Falls, about 90% of them related to dehydration

and fatigue. She said that this past Saturday there were 1,000 visitors and 6 were airlifted, yet refused further treatment.

She explained that because Cedar Creek Falls is the most popular falls in the Cleveland National Forest and the public wants access to public land and that site, Forest Service worked with SDRC to improve it. Forest Service stands behind this partnership and continues to believe that installing a trailhead and trail improvements provided infrastructure necessary to manage the area for public access. She said there is now there is a gentler trail and signage to caution people about the risk.

She informed the Board that there are a number of new developments which occurred as the project moved forward. During the last three months, Forest Service determined that the falls were on federal property not the Helix Water District. So, USFS conducted surveys and secured easements with Helix Water District to allow the public access to Cedar Creek Falls, which is one of the reasons there wasn't a trail down there previously. Forest Service has added signage that is critical, but along with the signs comes a need for enforcement. New rules are being established that include a ban on alcohol, a ban on camping, and other actions to keep people on the trail and ensuring that visitors do not jump or dive from the falls.

She admitted that Forest Service had a long way to go regarding changes in visitor behavior and enforcement and promised a continuation of targeted law enforcement. But she said the biggest problem continues to be the number of people seeking access. It is becoming obvious that there is a lack of trails to support a growing demand in the San Diego/Riverside area, that since she started working here 4 years ago the visitation has doubled each year. She testified that this year there had been a fivefold increase at Cedar Creek Falls, but observed that there had also been a fivefold increase at Three Sisters Falls, which is as steep and dangerous as Cedar Creek Falls, but does not have an improved trail.

She said she believed a key distinction at Cedar Creek Falls is the impact of social networking. Activities that have gone on for decades were now on video. Cedar Creek Falls has a Facebook page and the videos have gone viral, which has shifted the clientele base.

She concluded that Forest Service's principal management challenge was controlling the number of visitors. She said that the Forest Service had temporarily closed the trail for up to 4 months to explore management options that were available.

Ben Clay asked if they were also considering closing the trail to Eagle Peak.

Joan Friedlander responded that the Forest Service would have to close both sides which is extremely difficult. She added that she felt permits and possibly additional parking would be important tools, particularly a permit system that required a fee and a reservation.

Dianne Jacob thanked Joan for her presentation and said she was sorry she was unable to be present at the two meetings she had scheduled, but was pleased the Forest Supervisor attended yesterday. She said that the temporary closure order is very important, though it took quite a bit of time to get to this point.

She said regardless what could or could not have been anticipated, San Diego Country Estates was overrun on July 4th weekend, 1000 visitors and 250-300 cars descended on this quiet residential area bringing trash, drinking, criminal conduct and absolutely no respect for property. While it is true that this area have used for these activities for decades, the situation is dramatically different; plus, SDRC is a partner and it wants to see this problem solved.

She said San Diego had a rainy year, so there was a lot of water at Cedar Creek Falls and social networking did make larger numbers of people aware of this particular area, but frankly the Forest Service was not prepared to manage the area and enforce the rules. Enforcement has been an issue raised repeatedly. In addition, the environment is being trashed. We seek to preserve the trail and address the issue of health and public safety. Some have said this was predictable. Whether this would have happened if there was an existing permitting process to restrict the number of people in this area, nobody will ever know. She said that there is a sense of urgency for something to be done and she is happy to hear the Forest Service issued the order for the temporary closure.

She advised the Board that the County Department of Public Works have been involved on the County roads which surround this area. The County has installed 25 mph signs, bright red curbing in appropriate areas and has worked with the Planning Group for San Diego County Estates on restrictions; but it is not a complete solution, it is like squeezing a balloon; if you shut it down in one area people are going to find places to park in other areas.

She said at yesterday's meeting the Sheriff's Department, Ramona Fire District, CalFire, a Congressional Office member, the homeowners association, Forest Service, San Diego River Conservancy and residents were in attendance. There was unanimous support for a temporary closure and there was a request that the Forest Service work with the home owners and the Sherriff's Department, CalFire and others to develop a management and enforcement plan for this area. It was unfortunate this was not done earlier; but the past is the past, so we should focus on the solutions that will make this situation manageable. She closed by saying that she was happy to work with Joan Friedlander and William Metz to arrive at a permanent solution for this area. She hoped the temporary closure will be left in place until a permanent solution is implemented.

Sale Boundaries and Adjustments

Michael Nelson said the City of San Diego's sale of property at Carlton Oaks Golf course is proceeding. The City and TY Investments have executed a Purchase and Sale Agreement. Though we are not a party to this agreement, we have obtained a copy. Hayley Peterson was asked to review the document. The next step for the proposed sale will be a hearing before the Land Use and Housing Committee before its presentation to the City Council for final approval. He said the survey of the sales boundaries is complete, but it awaits formal certification by the City's surveyor.

Ben Clay asked if the SDRC easements are protected in these documents.

Hayley Peterson responded that she had examined the purchase and sale agreement, but reminded the Board that the trail easement was contained in a separate agreement between SDRC and TY

Investments. It is an easement that will exist on TY Investment's property, not the City of San Diego's; so, the City's sale agreement does not specifically reference the trail easement.

Ben Clay asked if TY Investments document show SDRC's trail easement existing on top of the berm.

Hayley Peterson said the trail easement that SDRC negotiated is a moving trail easement and subject to fluctuation because its terms were based on approximate acreages at a location that had not been surveyed. She stated that there is nothing in the City's purchase and sale agreement that would prevent a trail on top of the berm. She also observed that separate and apart from the trail easement is SDRC's invasive species restoration project, which is specifically referenced in the agreement and allows the City retains a right to maintain the project.

Gary Strawn asked about TY Investments withdrawal of water from Sycamore Creek.

Hayley Peterson responded that the negotiations are completed between the SDRC and TY, but didn't recall anything specific to water withdrawals from the river. She said that regulatory issues regarding water withdrawal might be an issue for the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Dianne Jacob asked is SDRC getting everything that was promised and whether it is secured and enforceable, if the sale goes forward.

Hayley Peterson responded affirmatively and saying that the easements and options were in escrow pending the sale and following a closing the agreement which was negotiated between the SDRC and TY will take effect.

Andrew Poat asked whether SDRC had a strategy for answering questions at the hearings.

Michael Nelson responded that since a condition of the option agreement was that the SDRC would not interfere with the proposed sale he has been neutral, answering questions about the Board's decision when asked, but not as an advocate.

Andrew Post said he is not asking for advocacy, he was asking for an information source. He said he wanted to be certain that information that is made available to decision makers be accurate and appropriately presented.

Ben Clay agreed and said the position of this Board is a matter of record and that is what Mike will convey.

Brent Eidson stated one of the benefits of having the Mayor serve on this board is that he will be available to provide the Mayor's perspective.

Hayley Peterson provided clarification to the new members that the agreement SDRC negotiated with TY Investments did include a "non interference" clause, but that clause does not apply to City Council members who serve on this Board.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:53 p.m.

State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT
Meeting of September 1, 2011

ITEM: **3**

SUBJECT: **PUBLIC COMMENT**

PURPOSE: Any person may address the Governing Board at this time regarding any matter within the Board's authority which is not on the agenda. Submission of information in writing is encouraged. Presentations will be limited to three minutes for individuals and five minutes for representatives of organizations. Presentation times may be reduced depending on the number of speakers.

State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT
Meeting of September 1, 2011

ITEM: **4**

SUBJECT: **CHAIRPERSON'S AND GOVERNING BOARD
MEMBERS' REPORTS**

PURPOSE: These items are for Board discussion only and the Board
will take no formal action.

State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT
Meeting of September 1, 2011

ITEM: **5**

SUBJECT: **DEPUTY ATTORNEY'S GENERAL REPORT**

State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT
Meeting of September 1, 2011

ITEM: **6**

SUBJECT: **PROJECT AND FINANCE COMMITTEES:
JOINT REPORT**

Presentation and Report:

Ben Clay, Chair, Introduction

Ann Miller Haddad, Chair, Project Committee

Andrew Poat, Chair, Finance Committee

RECOMMENDATION: **Adopt Resolution 11-04**

Exhibits and Documents

Project, Program and Funding Analysis

Resolution 11-04



Date 8.25.11

To: Governing Board Members

From: Mike Nelson

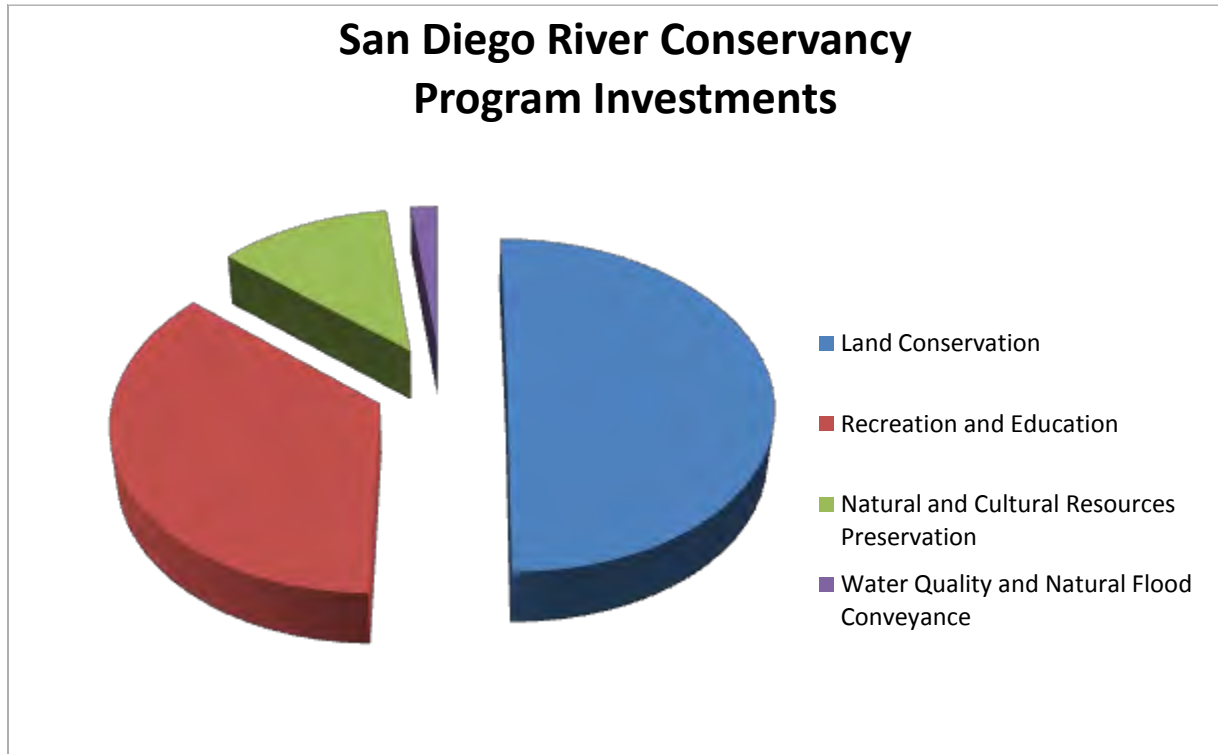
Subject: Strategic Plan Revision – Project, Program and Funding Analysis

The review of projects and programs made it necessary to create the following charts and matrices:

- Status of Investments
- 2006 -2011 Strategic Plan: Project Analysis
- Project Matrix: Strategic Plan Program
- Project Matrix: Funding Analysis and Summary

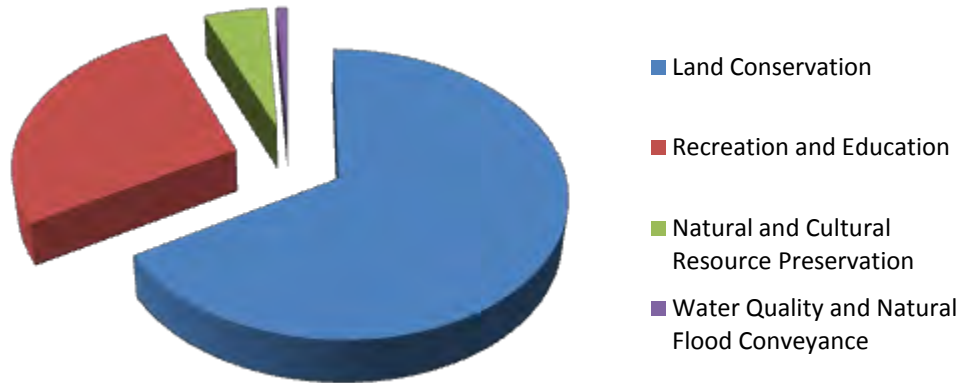
Status of Investments

The charts that follow represent an analysis of allocations and expenditures by the San Diego River Conservancy. The investments made by the Governing Board have been categorized according to the four programs adopted in the 2006-2011 Strategic Plan.



Funding Analysis	Allocation
Land Conservation	\$8,948,000
Recreation and Education	\$6,414,154
Natural and Cultural Resources Restoration and Preservation	\$2,132,196
Water Quality and Natural Flood Conveyance	\$330,000
Total	\$17,824,350

San Diego River Conservancy Completed Projects



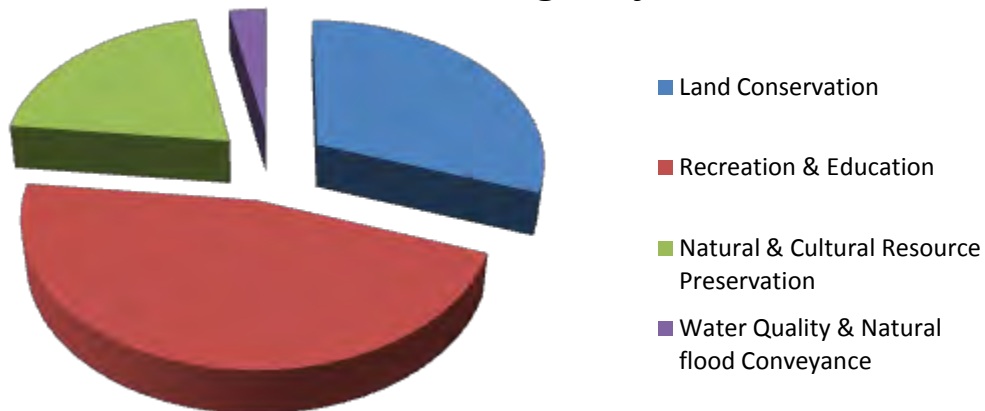
Funding Analysis

Land Conservation	\$6,488,000
Recreation and Education	\$2,676,580
Natural and Cultural Resources Restoration and Preservation	\$500,000
Water Quality and Natural Flood Conveyance	<u>\$90,000</u>
Total	\$9,754,580

Allocation

	\$6,488,000
	\$2,676,580
	\$500,000
	<u>\$90,000</u>
	\$9,754,580

San Diego River Conservancy Continuing Projects



Funding Analysis

Land Conservation	\$2,460,000
Recreation and Education	\$3,737,574
Natural and Cultural Resources Restoration and Preservation	\$1,632,196
Water Quality and Natural Flood Conveyance	<u>\$240,000</u>
Total	\$8,069,770

Allocation

	\$2,460,000
	\$3,737,574
	\$1,632,196
	<u>\$240,000</u>
	\$8,069,770

PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

PROGRAM 1: LAND CONSERVATION

Project 1. Secure Key River Properties

Project 1.1 Conserve 250 Acres in the Headwaters

Eagle Peak Preserve (San Diego River Park Foundation) \$175,000: financial assistance for acquisition of 112 acres. (Completed/ Prop 40)

Eagle Peak Preserve (San Diego River Park Foundation) \$527,000: financial assistance for acquisition of 180 acres. (Completed/ Prop 40)

Project 1.2 Conserve 500 Acres in the El Monte Valley

Hanson Pond (Endangered Habitats Conservancy) \$1,586,000: financial assistance for acquisition of 143.5 acres (Completed/ Prop 40)

Project 1.3 Conserve 300 Acres in Lakeside

CALMAT (Lakeside's River Park Conservancy) \$4,200,000: financial assistance for the acquisition of 100 acres CALMAT Property; nucleus of Lakeside's River Park. (Completed/ Prop 13 & 40)

Project 1.4 Conserve 100 Acres in the City of Santee

Walker Properties (City of Santee) \$2,445,000: acquisition of 120 acres, a 1.3 mile riparian corridor (Option Agreement Executed)

Project 1.5 Conserve 300 Acres in the City of San Diego

Carlton Oaks Golf Course (TY Investments, San Diego River Conservancy): acquisition through donation of a conservation easement, trail easements and right of first refusal that extinguishes development rights on 65 acres and provides authorization for an alignment of 1 mile of San Diego River Trail. (Option Agreement Executed/ Prop 84)

Project 2. Improve Land Management

Project 2.1 Develop and Implement Land Management Protocols

PROGRAM 2: RECREATION AND EDUCATION

Project 1. Complete the San Diego River Park Trail

San Diego River Trail -Gaps Analysis (San Diego River Conservancy & State Coastal Conservancy) \$60,000: a) integrate into one document an identification of gaps that included the plans, projects, and visions of jurisdictions and stakeholders for the SDRT from the headwaters near Julian to its terminus at Ocean Beach, b) begin the development of a formal work plan and capital strategy to implement a regional collaboration to complete the trail. **(ADDED)**

Project 1.1 Trail from San Diego Country Estates to Cedar Creek Falls

San Diego River Gorge Trail and Trail Head (United States Forest Service) \$970,012: design and construct trail improvements and trail head. **(Construction initiated/Prop 40)**

Project 1.2 Trail from Eagle Peak Preserve/Saddleback to Cedar Creek Falls

San Diego River Trail -Gaps Analysis: (San Diego River Conservancy & State Coastal Conservancy): Identified this segment as critical Gap, Conservancy and jurisdictions will pursue trail design and development of a capital strategy to complete. **(Design/and Capital Budgeting)**

Project 1.3 Trail From Cedar Creek Falls to City of San Diego Lands Near El Capitan Reservoir

San Diego River Trail -Gaps Analysis: (San Diego River Conservancy & State Coastal Conservancy): Identified this segment as critical Gap, Conservancy and jurisdictions will pursue trail design and development of a capital strategy to complete. **(Design/and Capital Budgeting)**

Project 1.4 El Monte Valley Loop Trail

Hanson Pond and Helix Water District Trails (Endangered Habitats Conservancy, Helix Water District, County of San Diego); Participant in property owners trail planning. **(Preliminary Planning)**

San Diego River Trail -Gaps Analysis: (San Diego River Conservancy & State Coastal Conservancy): Identified this segment as a critical Gap, Conservancy and jurisdictions will pursue trail design and development of a capital strategy to complete. **(Design/and Capital Budgeting)**

Project 1.5 Improve the Historic Flume Trail

Preliminary Plan and Real Estate Services** (San Diego River Conservancy & County of San Diego): Conduced real estate analysis and collaborated with the County of San Diego to secure appraisals and surveys necessary to acquire property along 6 six miles of the historic flume in El Monte Valley. **(Completed)

Project 1.6 Lakeside's River Park Trail

San Diego River Trail - Lakeside's River Park (LRPC) \$203,617:** constructed .75 miles of trail adjacent to the San Diego River in Lakeside **(Completed/Prop 40)

San Diego River Trail -Riverford Road (LRPC) \$787,562:** SDRC and LRPC are designing and building 1 mile of San Diego River Trail, connecting to Lakeside's Baseball Park and the City of Santee. **(Design/CEQA / Prop 40)

Project 1.7 Equestrian Trail and Staging Improvements in Mast Park

San Diego River Trail- Mast Park West (City of Santee) \$472,963:** design and construction of 2500' of San Diego River Trail. **(Completed/Prop 40)

Project 1.8 Trail through the Carlton Oaks Golf Course

Carlton Oaks Golf Course (TY Investments, San Diego River Conservancy):** acquisition through donation of a conservation easement, trail easements and right of first refusal that extinguishes development rights on 65 acres and provides authorization for an alignment of 1 mile of San Diego River Trail. **(Option Agreement Executed/ Prop 84)

San Diego River Trail -Gaps Analysis:** (San Diego River Conservancy & State Coastal Conservancy): Identified this segment as a critical Gap, Conservancy and jurisdictions will pursue trail design and development of a capital strategy to complete. **(Design/and Capital Budgeting)

Project 1.9 Complete at least 3.5 Miles of Trail through the City of San Diego

San Diego River Trail - Ocean Beach Bike Path (City of San Diego) \$2,000,000:** extended Ocean Beach Bike Path .75 miles from Pacific Highway to Hotel Circle. **(Completed/Prop 40)

San Diego River Trail - Hazard Center/163 (City of San Diego) \$1,400,000:** City of San Diego will design, construct, and connect the San Diego River Trail from Fashion Valley Mall to Hazard Center under 163. **(design/ City of San Diego substituted SANDAG funding for Prop 84)

Tributary Canyons (San Diego River Conservancy and the State Coastal Conservancy) **\$370,000**: A collaborative project that will improve recreational access to the River and its tributary canyons, preserve and enhances natural resources, and promote environmental awareness. (design/ Prop 84)

Project 1.10 Trail through Walker Property

Walker Properties (City of Santee) **\$4,200,000**: acquisition of 140 acres, a 1.3 mile riparian corridor (Option Agreement Executed/ Prop 84)

San Diego River Trail -Gaps Analysis: (San Diego River Conservancy & State Coastal Conservancy): Identified this segment as a critical Gap, Conservancy and jurisdictions will pursue trail design and development of a capital strategy to complete. (Design/and Capital Budgeting)

Project 2. Make the River Park Real

- Project 2.1 Provide Uniform Signage throughout Entire River Park**
- Project 2.2 Lakeside River Park Amenities**
- Project 2.3 El Monte Valley Park Amenities**
- Project 2.4 Santee Interpretive Center and Signage**

Project 3. Make it Safe and Make it Visible

Project 4. Ask the Public to Help and Help them Help

PROGRAM 3: NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION

Project 1. Remove Invasive Non-Native Plants and Restore the Land.

Project 1.1 Complete Mapping of Invasive non-native Plants

Watershed Invasives Control and Restoration Project (San Diego River Conservancy) **\$5,000,000**: a) designed an invasives control program for the watershed to control and replant over 329 acres b) secured state local and federal permits, as well as prepare and adopt CEQA compliance documents

(SANDAG-EMP Grant) San Diego River Regional Habitat Enhancement Project (SDRC; City of Santee; City of San Diego, LRPC) **\$527,739**: implement invasive control and removal, access control (fencing and repair), park patrols, clean ups, landowner

outreach (In Progress/TRANSNET)

Project 1.2 Remove Invasive non-native Plants and Restore 400 Acres in the El Monte Valley

Project 1.3 Remove Invasive non-native Plants and Restore 300 Acres in Lakeside

San Diego River Regional Habitat Enhancement Project/SANDAG-EMP (SDRC; City of Santee; City of San Diego, LRPC) \$527,739: Grant Participant (In Progress/TRANSNET)

Project 1.4 Remove Invasive non-native Plants and Restore 40 Acres in Santee

San Diego River Regional Habitat Enhancement Project/SANDAG-EMP (SDRC; City of Santee; City of San Diego, LRPC) \$527,739: Grant Participant (In Progress/TRANSNET)

Project 1.5 Remove Invasive non-native Plants and Restore 250 Acres in San Diego City Reaches

Mission Valley Preserve (City of SD) \$500,000: control 4.22 acres of non-native vegetation and replace it with native plants. (Phase 1/ Completed/Prop 40)

San Diego River Ecological Preserve –Ward Road (San Diego River Conservancy, California Department of Fish and Game) \$233,000 : Designed and implemented a project to control over 14.2 acres of invasive non-native plants and re-vegetate with natives on DFG and adjacent properties.(Completed /DFG Endowment)

Carlton Oaks Invasives Control and Restoration (San Diego River Conservancy, San Diego State University Research Foundation, Public Utilities Department, City of San Diego) \$577,846: Remove invasives on approximately 18 acres along the river at Carlton Oaks Golf Course and 3.5 acres of Caltrans property near I-8 and I-15 (In Progress/Prop 40)

Carlton Oaks Golf Course – TY Investments (San Diego River Conservancy, San Diego State University Research Foundation, TY Investments Inc.) \$293,609: Conducting a riparian habitat restoration for the San Diego County Water Authority which includes the control of 4.7 acres of invasive non-native plants and re-vegetate with native plants.(In Progress / SDRWQB: Supplemental Environmental Project)

Project 2. Protect and Preserve Cultural and Historic Resources

Project 2.1 Kumeyaay Lake and Berm Restoration

Project 2.2 Historic Mission Dam Dredging

Project 2.3 Presidio Park Slope Preservation

Project 3. Initiate Cultural Resources Planning Projects to Enhance Education and Historical Interpretation on Public Lands. (ADDED)

Project 3.1 Serra Museum, Presidio Park: Interpretive Plan and Exhibit Design

(San Diego History Center, San Diego River Conservancy) \$150,000: The History Center will create a new interpretive Plan for the Museum that frames the ecological history of the San Diego River, its natural resources and its people within a larger cultural and biological context. (Funding Approval)

PROGRAM 4: WATER QUALITY AND NATURAL FLOOD CONVEYANCE

Project 1. Complete Hydrology Assessment for San Diego River Watershed.

Project 1.1 Hydrology Study - San Diego River Floodplain Restoration Planning (Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation) **\$30,000:** analysis of river park reclamation plans to facilitate replacing non-native vegetation, establishing recreational corridors, improving water quality and reducing flood risk. **(Phase 1 Completed/ SEP)**

Project 2. Data and Watershed Information System (Added)

Project 2.1 San Diego River Watershed Data Portal (San Diego River Park Foundation, San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego River Conservancy, EcoLayers Inc.) **\$25,000:** established digital portal with Park Foundation and SDRWQCB that provides citizens and stakeholders with project information and status. **(Completed / SDRWQB :Supplemental Environmental Project)**

Project 3 River Blitz & Clean Ups (Added)

- Project 3.1** **Field Surveys and River Clean Ups** (*San Diego River Park Foundation*) **\$35,000**: conducted 2 field surveys and managed 12 River Clean Ups. (Completed /SDRWQB: Supplemental Environmental Project)

Project 4. San Diego RiverNet: Watershed Data Collection and Restoration Program (Added)

- Project 4.1** **San Diego RiverNet: Watershed Data Collection and Restoration Program** (*San Diego State University Foundation, San Diego River Park Foundation, San Diego River Conservancy*) **\$240,000**: Developed a \$1,500,000 project to establish a network of sensors, dedicated to monitoring of the environment and water quality (Completed Phase 1 Installation / SDRWQB Supplemental Environmental Project)

Project Matrix: Strategic Plan Program

PROJECT NAME	GRANTEE	ESTIMATED COST	BOARD APPROVAL	FUNDING	ALLOCATED	PROJECT STATUS	PROJECT DESCRIPTION
LAND CONSERVATION							
CALMAT	Lakeside's River Park Conservancy	\$2,200,000	9/1/2002	Prop 40	\$2,200,000	COMPLETED	Assistance for the acquisition of 100 acres CALMAT Property: nucleus of Lakeside's River Park.
		\$2,000,000	9/1/2002	Prop 13	\$2,000,000	COMPLETED	Assistance for the acquisition of 100 acres CALMAT Property: nucleus of Lakeside's River Park.
Eagle Peak Preserve	San Diego River Park Foundation	N/A	9/10/04	Prop 40	\$175,000	COMPLETED	Assistance for acquisition of 112 acres
		\$674,000	8/11/06	Prop 40	\$527,000	COMPLETED	Assistance for acquisition of 180 acres.
Hanson Pond	Endangered Habitats Conservancy	\$5,000,000	3/2/07	Prop 40	\$1,586,000	COMPLETED	Assistance for acquisition of 143.5 acres
Walker Properties	SDRC/City of Santee	\$10,000,000	11/9/2007	Prop 84, Sec6	\$2,445,000	OptionAgreement Executed	Acquisition of 110 acres with a 1.3 mile riparian corridor (\$1M from Feds, Sect. 6) . (\$1,445,000 from Prop 84)
El Monte Valley Flume Properties	SDRC	\$723,838	10/13/06; 1/19/07	SEP	\$15,000	Negotiation	Conducted real estate analysis with the County of San Diego, secured appraisals and surveys necessary to acquire property along 6 six miles of the historic flume in El Monte Valley.
Carlton Oaks Golf Course easements	SDRC		9/2/10			AgreementExecuted/ Escrow	Donation of a conservation easement, trail easements and right of first refusal (65 acres)(1 mile SDRiver Trail)
					\$8,948,000		
RECREATION AND EDUCATION							
Gaps Analysis	SDRC/State Coastal Conservancy	\$60,000	7/8/10	Prop 84	\$60,000	COMPLETED	Identificat of gaps that included the plans and projects of jurisdictions, development of a formal work plan and capital strategy to implement a regional collaboration to complete the trail.
San Diego River Trail	SDRC						
• Ocean Beach Bike Path	City of San Diego	\$2,550,000	9/10/04	Prop 40	\$2,000,000	COMPLETED	Extension of Ocean Beach Bike Path .75 miles from Pacific Highway to Hotel Circle.
• River Gorge Trail	SDRC/US Forest Service	Phase 1- \$190,644	8/12/05	Prop 40	\$136,762	Construction	Design and construction of trail improvements and trail head at Cleveland National Forest.
		Phase 2-\$634-442	10/13/06; 11/9/07; 9/18/08; 11/21/08	Prop 40	\$833,250	Construction	
• Lakeside River Park Trail	Lakeside's River Park Conservancy	\$450,000	8/11/06	Prop 40	\$203,617	COMPLETED	Design and construction of .75 miles of trail at Lakeside's River Park.
• Mast Park West	City of Santee	\$475,000	9/18/08; 11/21/08	Prop 40	\$472,963	COMPLETED	Design and construction of 2500' of San Diego River Trail at Mast Park West
• Riverford Road	Lakeside's River Park Conservancy	\$800,000	11/9/07; 7/17/08	Prop 40	\$787,562	Design/CEQA	SDRC and Lakeside's River Park Conservancy are designing and building 1 mile of San Diego River Trail, connecting to Lakeside's Baseball Park and the City of Santee
• Hazard Center/163	City of San Diego	\$1,400,000	5/15/2008	SDCity Funds	\$1,400,000	Permits	Design, construct, and connect the San Diego River Trail from Fashion Valley Mall to Hazard Center (Under 163) (*City of San Diego - Substituted SANDAG and other funding sources for Prop 84)
• Carlton Oaks Golf Course	SDRC			Prop 84			Planning and design services for conservation baseline, wetlands delineation and San Diego River trail alignment.
• Tributary Canyon	SDRC/State Coastal Conservancy	\$963,185.50	9/28/07; 5/15/08; 7/8/2010	Prop 84	\$370,000	Design/Negotiation	Improve recreational access to the River and its tributary canyons, preserve and enhances natural resources, and promote environmental awareness .
Serra Museum, Presidio Park	San Diego History Center	\$150,000	5/5/11	Prop 84	\$150,000	Design/Negotiation	Development of Interpretive Plan and Exhibit Design at Serra Museum that incorporates ecological history of the San Diego River.
					\$6,414,154		
NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION							
Watershed Invasives Control and Restoration	SDRC	5,000,000	9/3/2009			COMPLETED	Watershed invasives control program to control and replant over 329 acres, secured state local and federal permits, as well as, preparation and adoption of CEQA compliance documents
• Mission Valley Preserve	City of San Diego	\$500,000	9/10/04	Prop 40	\$500,000	COMPLETED (phase 1)	Control of non-native vegetation and replace it with native plants (4.22 acres)
• Carlton Oaks Invasives Control and Restoration	Foundation/ City of San Diego Public Utilities	\$577,846	3/2/07; 11/9/07; 7/18/08	Prop 40	\$577,846	In Progress	Control invasives on approximately 18 acres at Carlton Oaks Golf Course and 3.5 acres of Caltrans property near I-8 and I-15
• San Diego River Ecological Preserve at Ward Road	SDRC/Dept of Fish and Game	\$233,005	9/3/09	DFG endowment	\$233,005	COMPLETED	Control invasive non-native plants and re-vegetate with natives on DFG and adjacent properties (14.2 acres)
• Carlton Oaks Golf Course -- TY Investments	SDRC/San Diego State Univ Research Foundation/SDCWA	\$293,609	9/3/09	SDRWQB: SEP	\$293,609	In Progress	Riparian habitat restoration for the San Diego County Water Authority which includes the control of 4.7 acres of invasive non-native plants and re-vegetation with native plants
• San Diego River Regional Habitat Enhancement (SANDAG-EMP Grant)	SDRC/ City of Santee/ Lakeside's River Park Conservancy	\$527,739	7/8/10	SANDAG	\$527,736	In Progress	Invasivise and access control, park patrols, clean ups, landowner outreach
					\$2,132,196		
WATER QUALITY AND NATURAL FLOOD CONVEYANCE							
Hydrology Study - San Diego River Floodplain Restoration	Dept of Interior/Bureau of Reclamation	\$719,000	8/12/05	SDRWQB: SEP	\$30,000	COMPLETED (phase 1)	Hydrology Study - San Diego River Floodplain Restoration Planning
San Diego River Watershed Data Portal	San Diego River Park Foundation	\$25,000	7/17/08	SDRWQB: SEP	\$25,000	COMPLETED	Digital portal with Park Foundation and SDRWQCB that provides citizens and stakeholders with project information and status
Field Surveys and River Clean Ups	San Diego River Park Foundation	\$35,000	1/8/09	SDRWQB: SEP	\$35,000	COMPLETED	Conducted 2 field surveys and managed 12 River Clean Ups
San Diego River Net -Watershed Data Collection and Restoration Program	SDSU Research Foundation	\$1,500,000	3/5/09	SDRWQB: SEP	\$240,000	COMPLETED (phase 1-installations)	\$1,500,000 project to establish a network of sensors dedicated to monitoring of the environment and water quality
					\$330,000		
TOTAL					\$17,824,350		

Project Matrix: Funding Analysis

TITLE	GRANTEE	EST. COST	APPROVAL	ALLOCATED	STATUS	DESCRIPTION
PROPOSITION 13						
CALMAT	Lakeside's River Park Conservancy	\$2,000,000	9/1/2002	\$2,000,000	COMPLETED	Assistance for the acquisition of 100 acres CALMAT Property; nucleus of Lakeside's River Park.
				\$2,000,000		
PROPOSITION 40						
CALMAT	Lakeside's River Park Conservancy	\$2,200,000	9/1/2002	\$2,200,000	COMPLETED	Assistance for the acquisition of 100 acres CALMAT Property; nucleus of Lakeside's River Park.
Eagle Peak Preserve	San Diego River Park Foundation	N/A	9/10/04	\$175,000	COMPLETED	Assistance for acquisition of 112 acres
		\$674,000	8/11/06	\$527,000	COMPLETED	Assistance for acquisition of 180 acres.
Hanson Pond	Endangered Habitats Conservancy	\$5,000,000	3/2/07	\$1,586,000	COMPLETED	Assistance for acquisition of 143.5 acres
Watershed Invasives Control and Restoration	SDRC	5,000,000			COMPLETED	Watershed invasives control program to control and replant over 329 acres, secured state local and federal permits, as well as, preparation and adoption of CEQA compliance documents
• Mission Valley Preserve	City of San Diego	\$500,000	9/10/04	\$500,000	COMPLETED (phase 1)	Control of non-native vegetation and replace it with native plants (4.22 acres)
• Carlton Oaks Invasives Control and Restoration	SDRC/San Diego State Univ Research Foundation/ City of San Diego Public Utilities	\$577,846	3/2/07; 11/9/07; 7/18/08	\$577,846	In Progress	Control invasives on approximately 18 acres at Carlton Oaks Golf Course and 3.5 acres of Caltrans property near I-8 and I-15
San Diego River Trail						
• Ocean Beach Bike Path	City of San Diego	\$2,550,000	9/10/04	\$2,000,000	COMPLETED	Extension of Ocean Beach Bike Path .75 miles from Pacific Highway to Hotel Circle.
• River Gorge Trail	SDRC/US Forest Service	Phase 1- \$190,644	8/12/05	\$136,762	Construction	Design and construction of trail improvements and trail head at Cleveland National Forest.
		Phase 2-\$634-442	10/13/06; 11/9/07; 9/18/08; 11/21/08	\$833,250	Construction	
• Lakeside River Park Trail	Lakeside's River Park Conservancy	\$450,000	8/11/06	\$203,617	COMPLETED	Design and construction of .75 miles of trail at Lakeside's River Park.
• Mast Park West	City of Santee	\$475,000	9/18/08; 11/21/08	\$472,963	COMPLETED	Design and construction of 2500' of San Diego River Trail at Mast Park West
• Riverford Road	Lakeside's River Park Conservancy	\$800,000	11/9/07; 7/17/08	\$787,562	Design/CEQA	SDRC and Lakeside's River Park Conservancy are designing and building 1 mile of San Diego River Trail, connecting to Lakeside's Baseball Park and the City of Santee
				\$10,000,000		
PROPOSITION 84						
Gaps Analysis	SDRC/State Coastal Conservancy		7/8/10	\$60,000	COMPLETED	Identical of gaps that included the plans and projects of jurisdictions, development of a formal work plan and capital strategy to implement a regional collaboration to complete the trail.
San Diego River Trail	SDRC					
• Carlton Oaks Golf Course	SDRC					Planning and design services for conservation baseline, wetlands delineation and San Diego River trail alignment.
• Tributary Canyon	SDRC/State Coastal Conservancy	\$963,185.50	9/28/07; 5/15/08; 7/8/2010	\$370,000	Design/Negotiation	Improve recreational access to the River and its tributary canyons, preserve and enhances natural resources, and promote environmental awareness .
Serra Museum, Presidio Park	San Diego History Center	\$150,000	5/5/11	\$150,000	Design/Negotiation	Development of Interpretive Plan and Exhibit Design at Serra Museum that incorporates ecological history of the San Diego River.
Walker Properties	SDRC/City of Santee	\$10,000,000	11/9/2007	\$1,445,000	OptionAgreement Executed	Acquisition of 110 acres wih a 1.3 mile riparian corridor (\$1M from Feds, Sect. 6) . (\$1,445,000 from Prop 84)
				\$2,025,000		
USFWS ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT GRANT(SECTION 6)						
Walker Properties	SDRC/City of Santee	\$1,000,000	11/9/2007	\$1,000,000	OptionAgreement Executed	Acquisition of 110 acres wih a 1.3 mile riparian corridor (\$1M from Feds, Sect. 6) . (\$1,445,000 from Prop 84)
				\$1,000,000		
MISCELLANEOUS						
SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS (San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board, Department of Toxics Substance Control)						
El Monte Valley Flume Properties	SDRC	\$723,838	10/13/06; 1/19/07	\$15,000	Negotiation	Conducted real estate analysis with the County of San Diego, secured appraisals and surveys necessary to acquire property along 6 six miles of the historic flume in El Monte Valley.
Watershed Invasives Control and Restoration	SDRC	5,000,000			COMPLETED	Watershed invasives control program to control and replant over 329 acres, secured state local and federal permits, as well as, preparation and adoption of CEQA compliance documents
• Carlton Oaks Golf Course – TY Investments	SDRC/San Diego State Univ Research Foundation/SDCWA	\$293,609	9/3/09	\$293,609	In Progress	Riparian habitat restoration for the San Diego County Water Authority which includes the control of 4.7 acres of invasive non-native plants and re-vegetation with native plants
Hydrology Study - San Diego River Floodplain Restoration	Dept of Interior/Bureau of Reclamation	\$719,000	8/12/05	\$30,000	COMPLETED (phase 1)	Hydrology Study - San Diego River Floodplain Restoration Planning
San Diego River Watershed Data Portal	San Diego River Park Foundation	\$25,000	7/17/08	\$25,000	COMPLETED	Digital portal with Park Foundation and SDRWQCB that provides citizens and stakeholders with project information and status
Field Surveys and River Clean Ups	San Diego River Park Foundation	\$35,000	1/8/09	\$35,000	COMPLETED	Conducted 2 field surveys and managed 12 River Clean Ups
San Diego RiverNet -Watershed Data Collection and Restoration Program	SDSU Research Foundation	\$1,500,000	3/5/09	\$240,000	COMPLETED (phase 1- installations)	\$1,500,000 project to establish a network of sensors dedicated to monitoring of the environment and water quality
				\$638,609		
DEPT. FISH & GAME WARD ROAD ENDOWMENT						
Watershed Invasives Control and Restoration	SDRC					
• San Diego River Ecological Preserve at Ward Road	SDRC/Dept of Fish and Game	\$233,005	9/3/09	\$233,005	COMPLETED	Control invasive non-native plants and re-vegetate with natives on DFG and adjacent properties (14.2 acres)
SANDAG - ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM GRANT-(TransNet)						
Watershed Invasives Control and Restoration	SDRC	5,000,000			COMPLETED	Watershed invasives control program to control and replant over 329 acres, secured state local and federal permits, as well as, preparation and adoption of CEQA compliance documents
• San Diego River Regional Habitat Enhancement (SANDAG-TransNet EMP Grant)	SDRC/ City of Santee/ Lakeside's River Park Conservancy	\$527,739	7/8/10	\$527,736	In Progress	Invasive and access control, park patrols, clean ups, landowner outreach
CITY OF SAN DIEGO FUNDS						
San Diego River Trail						
• Hazard Center/163	City of San Diego	\$1,400,000	5/15/2008	\$1,400,000	COMPLETED	Design, construct, and connect the San Diego River Trail from Fashion Valley Mall to Hazard Center (Under 163) (*City of San Diego - Substituted SANDAG and other funding sources for Prop 84)
				\$2,160,741		
TOTAL				\$17,824,350		

Project Matrix: Funding Summary

FUND SOURCE	ALLOCATION	APPROVED	BALANCE
Proposition 13	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$0
Proposition 40	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$1,220,000
Proposition 84	\$5,985,000	\$2,025,000	\$3,960,000
USFWS Endangered Species Act Grant, Section 6	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Miscellaneous Contributions			
Supplemental Environmental Projects (San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board, Department of Toxics Substance Control)	\$638,609	\$638,609	\$200,000
Department of Fish and Game - Ward Road Endowment	\$233,005	\$233,005	\$0
SANDAG Environmental Mitigation Program Grant (TransNet)	\$527,736	\$527,736	\$527,736
City of San Diego - Hazard Center/163 Funds	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000	\$0
Total	\$21,784,350	\$17,824,350	\$6,907,736

Resolution No: 11-04

**RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SAN DIEGO RIVER
CONSERVANCY (SDRC)**

**Authorizing an Evaluation, Analysis and Revision of SDRC's Strategic Plan and
Infrastructure Plan**

WHEREAS, The Governing Board of the San Diego River Conservancy adopted Resolution 06-03 on March 24, 2006, which approved a Five Year Strategic and Infrastructure Plan (2006-2011);

WHEREAS, this Plan expires in 2011 and Resolution 06-03 contemplated that reviews of this Plan would be the subject of future Agendas of the Governing Board;

WHEREAS, the State of California and the Department of Finance require a Five-Year Strategic and Infrastructure Plan for consideration of inclusion in bond funding or other potential appropriations.

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the San Diego River Conservancy wishes to evaluate SDRC's effectiveness and the viability of projects in its four programs: Land Conservation, Recreation and Education, Natural and Cultural Resources Restoration and Preservation, Water Quality and Natural Flood Conveyance;

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the San Diego River Conservancy seeks a revision of its Strategic Plan and Infrastructure Plan that includes: an internal and external assessment and a performance review of programmatic objectives and projects, which leads to the development of a Plan that promotes innovation and links strategic objectives to capital allocation and execution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the San Diego River Conservancy's Governing Board:

1. Authorizes preparation of a revised Strategic and Infrastructure Plan that is prepared in consultation with SDRC's Project and Finance Committees and is consistent with the guidelines of Department of Finance.
2. Authorizes the Executive Officer and staff to initiate expenditures from SDRC's operating budget and utilization of the State Coastal Conservancy's grant for Conservation Visioning for this purpose.
3. Appoints the Executive Officer, or designee, as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned Project.
4. Approved and adopted the 1st day of September 2011. I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution Number 11-04 was duly adopted by the San Diego River Conservancy's Governing Board.

Michael J. Nelson
Executive Officer

State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT
Meeting of September 1, 2011

ITEM: 7

SUBJECT: **SAN DIEGO RIVER TRAIL: STATUS OF GAPS ANALYSIS**

Report:
Michael Nelson, Executive Officer

State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT
Meeting of September 1, 2011

ITEM: **8**

SUBJECT: **SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY / SAN DIEGO
RIVER PARK FOUNDATION: GOVERNING BOARDS'
WORKSHOP**

Presentation and Report:
Michael Nelson, Executive Officer

GOVERNING BOARD WORKSHOP

SAN DIEGO RIVER PARK FOUNDATION / SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERANCY

8:00 - 8:30 CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

9:00 – 9:30 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Senator Christine Kehoe

9:30 – 10:30 HISTORY & OVERVIEW: OBJECTIVES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

9:30 San Diego River Park Foundation Rob Hutzel

9:45 San Diego River Conservancy Mike Nelson

10:00 San Diego River Coalition Rob & Mike

10:30 BREAK

11:00 – 12:00 BUILDING UPON SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATION

11:00 SDRC - Opportunities: Mike Nelson

11:15 Discussion Board Members

11:30 SDRPF Rob Hutzel

11:45 Discussion Board Members

12:00 – 1:00 WORKING LUNCH: **(Facilitated)**

1:00 – 2:00 A FRAMEWORK FOR THE FUTURE

(Potential topics)

1:00 SDRC Finance - Five Year Strategic Plan Ben Clay
(Ann Miller Haddad)
(Andrew Poat)

1:20 Collaboration on Funding and Grant Applications Michael Beck

1:40 San Diego Delegation Briefing – Sacramento Visit Ben Clay

2:00 Discussion and Endorsement of Actions Ben Clay

2:30 ADJOURN

State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT
Meeting of September 1, 2011

ITEM: 9

SUBJECT: **EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

The following topics may be included in the Executive Officers Report. The Board may take action regarding any of them:

Carlton Oaks: Proposed Sale Boundaries and Schedule

River Gorge Trail: Status

The San Diego Union-Tribune.

CEDAR CREEK FALLS AND SD RIVER GORGE TRAIL CLOSED UNTIL NOV. 8: VIOLATORS TO FACE HEFTY FINES, JAIL TIME



Fatal attraction: At least 3 young people have died and 4 others suffered spinal cord injuries at the falls since 1998.

By Miriam Raftery

July 9, 2011 (San Diego's East County) – Citing public safety concerns, Cleveland National Forest Supervisor William Metz has ordered closure of Cedar Creek Falls, the San Diego River Gorge Trail and adjacent areas through November 8. (The Forest Service may opt to reopen the area sooner if deemed appropriate, per a press release that accompanied [the closure order](#).)

Closure follows a teen's death Wednesday and a string of serious injuries at the falls which are revealed in the closure order.

Entering the closed area is a violation punishable by a fine of up to \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization—or imprisonment of up to six months, or both. Brian Harris, Cleveland National Forest spokesman, told East County Magazine that Congressman Duncan Hunter supports closure of the federal forest area.

[View map of closure area here.](#) The closed area includes the trailhead at Thornbush Road, the trail to and from Cedar Creek Falls from the Thornbush Road Trailhead, the trail from Saddleback (located on Eagle Peak Road), and the Cedar Creek Falls site. The closure area extends for one-quarter mile on both sides of the trails and falls. Roads leading to the trailheads will be closed except to residents, a Sheriff's official has indicated. The Sheriff's ASTREA helicopter will fly over the area looking for violators of the order.

The closure does not affect other local falls, such as Three Sisters or Mildred Falls. However jumping, diving, alcohol and climbing cliffs has been banned at all local waterfalls in the wake of recent tragedies at each.

Joe Meram, 16, a teenager from El Cajon, died July 6 after he slipped and fell from an 85-foot-cliff into the swimming hole at Cedar Creek Falls. But he was far from the first to suffer serious harm at the site. Numerous other injuries and deaths have occurred through the years, according to information released by the U.S. Forest Service in its decision memo regarding the closure.

During the 4th of July weekend in 1998, a young man died after drinking and losing his footing in an attempt to jump from atop a 75-foot cliff. In 2003, a youth broke his back in four places, another young man suffered paralysis. On July 8, 2005, a 27-year-old was found dead at the bottom of the pool. Three weeks later, a 17-year-old broke his neck diving into the pool. The Forest Service then erected a sign indicating the danger, but it didn't stop a 26-year-old from becoming permanently paralyzed jumping off a 75-foot-cliff.

Some visitors may be lured into believing such actions are safe because at times, the water is 25 feet deep. But as summer progresses, the depth evaporates to only four to 12 feet deep.

According to the San Diego Sheriff's office, Cedar Creek Falls and the San Diego River Gorge trail leading to it have the highest number of rescues in the Sheriff's area of jurisdiction. Last year, 48 helicopter medical assist calls were made to the Cedar Falls area, of which 90% were due to dehydration and most others were due to risky jumping and diving off cliffs 75 feet high or taller.

The Forest Service has worked in partnership with San Diego River Gorge Conservancy to create a new trailhead and reconstruct the trail to Cedar Falls to lessen some hazards, creating a more gently graded trail. The trail was added to the official trail "system" for the Forest Service after an easement from Helix Water District was obtained. The new trail opened in June—not surprisingly leading to a surge in visitors, though visits to the falls had been increasing steadily over the past several years.

Other steps to improve safety have included adding a water spigot at the trailhead of the 5-mile roundtrip hike and adding signs warning of steep terrain. But use of the trail has increased five-

fold in the past three years, along with a surge in partying and alcohol consumption which has contributed to dehydration and injuries, the Forest Service reports.

Neighbors have complained of parking problems, trespass, public urination and illegal campfire rings near the falls, prompting further safety concerns. Since 2007, visitor use of the site has grown from 50-60 cars to 260 on a peak weekend as media coverage and even a Facebook page devoted to Cedar Falls have raised public awareness of the beautiful but potentially treacherous falls. Three years of heavy rains have resulted in more water flow and year-round visitation, even during summer months when peak temperatures soar above 100 degrees.

Most recently, the Forest Service banned alcohol consumption, jumping, diving and climbing cliffs near the falls—none of which was enough to prevent the tragic death of Joe Meram. The teen was reportedly hiking with relatives when he wandered onto a wrong trail and plunged to his death.

The Forest Service aims to develop a plan to make the falls safer—but that plan will likely stop short of what many falls visitors have said is most needed: supervision at the site by a ranger or trained lifeguard to assure that rules are followed. Other outdoor enthusiasts, by contrast, have voiced fears that their enjoyment of a wilderness experience could be lessened by restrictions and enforcement personnel.

Forest Service officials have long indicated that they lack the manpower and budget for such staffing. San Diego Sheriff Bill Gore, in an interview with East County Magazine yesterday morning, suggested the Forest Service might deputize Sheriff's officials to provide enforcement of rules in the Cedar Falls area.

The closure order is not subject to appeal and is exempted from environmental rules, according to the decision memo signed by William Metz on July 8. Exemptions will be made for emergency personnel and those with special permits.

News Release

CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST

10845 RANCHO BERNARDO ROAD, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92127
VOICE (858) 673-6180, FAX (858) 673-6192, CRS/TTY 711



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Brian Harris 858-674-2984/619-937-1462

July 8, 2011

Forest Service Closes Cedar Creek Falls

San Diego, July 8, 2011... To protect public safety, the Cleveland National Forest is closing the San Diego River Gorge Trail and Cedar Creek Falls. The area and trail will be closed from July 9, 2011 through November 8, 2011. The Forest Service can reopen the area prior to November 8, 2011 if deemed appropriate.

The closed area includes the trailhead at Thornbush Road, the trail to and from Cedar Creek Falls from the Thornbush Road Trailhead, the trail from Saddleback (located on Eagle Peak Road), and the specific Cedar Creek Falls site. The closure area extends for ¼ mile on both sides of the trails and the falls. (Please reference the attached map)

-CNF-

ORDER NO. 2-11-05.
CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST
OCCUPANCY AND USE

Pursuant to 16 USC 551 and 36 CFR 261.50(a) and (b), and to provide for public health and safety, the following acts are prohibited within the Palomar Ranger District of the Cleveland National Forest. This Order is effective from July 9, 2011, through November 8, 2011.

1. Going into or being upon the Cedar Creek Falls Closure Area. The Cedar Creek Falls Closure Area includes all National Forest System lands within ¼ mile on either side of the San Diego River Gorge Trail (Cedar Falls Trail), as shown on Exhibit A. 36 CFR § 261.53(e).
2. Being on the San Diego River Gorge Trail (Cedar Falls Trail), as shown on Exhibit A. 36 CFR § 261.55(a).

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this Order:

1. Persons with a permit from the Forest Service specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission.
2. Any Federal, State or local officer, or member of an organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.

These prohibitions are in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 CFR 261, Subpart A.

A violation of these prohibitions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization or imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both. 16 USC 551 and 18 USC 3559, 3571 and 3581.

Executed in San Diego, California, this 8th day of July 2011.



WILLIAM METZ
Forest Supervisor

Decision Memo

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE – FOREST SERVICE

FOREST ORDER NO. 2-11-05

Occupancy and Use of the San Diego River Gorge Trail and Trailhead (Cedar Falls area).

CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST
SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

Cedar Creek Falls Closure Area encompasses both the trail and ¼ mile on either side (1/2 mile total width) of the San Diego River Gorge Trail (Cedar Falls Trail) along portions of Sections 1, 2 and 3, Township 14S, Range 2E and portions of Sections 34, 35 and 36, T13S, Range 2E ending at Cedar Falls.

In an effort to develop an infrastructure to enable safe management the Cedar Falls area, the Palomar Ranger District, in partnership with the San Diego River Gorge Conservancy implemented a trailhead and trail reconstruction project just recently completed. The project included the reconstruction of a gently graded hiking trail, obliteration of user-created trails, a public easement, construction of a trailhead with vehicle parking, restrooms, water spigots, trash receptacles; visitor host trailer pad, visitor information kiosks, signs and new rules for managing the area.

Historically, the rugged access to this back country destination and water attraction has resulted in serious injuries including fatalities over the past several decades. In 2005, plans for a trail and trailhead were developed to address recurring safety and resource protection problems. Though interrupted by the 2007 Fire Siege and aftermath, this month construction was completed. The Forest now has an infrastructure to manage this popular recreation site but requires a Forest Order to protect public health and safety from dangers associated with public use of this area.

Though not a complete list, the following incidents exemplify the importance of implementing this Forest Order. During the Fourth of July weekend of 1998, a young man died after drinking and lost his footing in an attempt to jump from the top of a 75 foot cliff. In 2003, two young men were rescued in separate incidents. One youth broke his back in four places, the other suffered paralysis. On the July 8, 2005, a 27 year old was found dead at the bottom of the pool. Three weeks later in 2005, a 17 year old broke his neck diving into the pool. At this time the Forest Service erected a sign indicating danger. In September of 2005, a 26 year old was permanently paralyzed jumping from the 75 foot cliff. At times, the water is 25 feet deep and then unknown to cliff jumpers and divers, evaporates to only 4 to 12 feet depths as the water typically dries up as summer progresses.

According to the San Diego Sherriff's Office, Cedar Creek Falls and the San Diego River Gorge trail leading to it have the highest amount of rescues in the San Diego County Sheriff's jurisdiction. The Forest Service is working in conjunction with the County and other rescue

personnel to attempt to create an environment for a safe and enjoyable recreation experience. During the 2010 calendar year, rescue personnel conducted a total of 48 helicopter medical assist calls to the Cedar Falls area. Ninety percent of these calls were related to dehydration, many of the remainder associated with dangerous jumping and diving off 75 foot or taller cliffs. In the past month alone, on June 13, a person broke their leg in what could have easily been a fatal jump that was documented on video by a visitor which is available at District headquarters.

There are numerous incidents of dehydration as well. In 2010/2011 the Palomar Ranger District rebuilt the trail to a standard and grade that was more gentle and easier for hikers. The Forest Service also added the trail to its official trail "system" after acquiring a needed easement from the adjacent Helix Water District. The District has also increased signage warning hikers of steep terrain and hot conditions as well as provided a water spigot at the trailhead. Despite these attempts, use of the trail has increased 5 fold in the past three years and there has been a surge in alcohol and partying off of the trail that is contributing to more rescues, and incidents of dehydration.

The area has also had a history of excessive alcohol consumption. Alcohol is contributing to injuries and other problems in the water play and surrounding area. Alcohol use is also exacerbated by hot temperatures routinely exceeding 100 degrees Fahrenheit during the summer months. Neighbors from the San Diego Country Estates are complaining of trespass, unruly behavior, public urination and report large numbers of youths in particular, carrying coolers and partying at the Falls or trailhead. Illegal campfire rings and unattended fires are being reported near the Falls. This month, there were a large number of assemblages of young people and partying. Alcohol is contributing to problems with behavior, and constrains the ability of Forest Service non-law enforcement personnel to enforce rules, manage people and further compromises safety for Forest Service employees. Unattended campfires, jumping or diving from cliffs, and dehydration are exacerbated by alcohol use. Concern is mounting that the area is becoming a known party spot with known alcohol and drug (marijuana) use. Since 2007, visitor use to the site has increased 5 fold from 50-60 cars on a peak weekend to a high of 260 cars. Increased public use of this area over the past 3 years is likely the result of considerably increased media attention especially in the form of social networking where Cedar Falls now has its own "Facebook" page. Three consecutive wet years following a prolonged drought have resulted in year round visitation. Trail development and high media attention to the controversies surrounding the site have increased use and exacerbated existing problems.

Proposed Mitigation

In order to mitigate the aforementioned situation it is recommended that the Cleveland National Forest should enact the following management actions:

For the reasons explained above, the Forest Service needs to reduce potential serious accidents or death which primarily results from reckless behavior of jumping and diving off cliffs and dehydration, particularly prevalent during the summer months. When provided in an order, it is prohibited be on a trail or go into or be upon any area which is closed for the protection of public health or safety. 36 CFR 261.53(e) and 36 CFR 261.55(a).

The actions encompassed by this Forest Order are consistent with management direction in the Cleveland National Forest Land and Resources Management Plan, 2006 as required by the

National Forest Management Act (FSM 1922.41 and FSH 1909.12). This restriction is a temporary measure taken to protect the safety of Forest visitors. Therefore, this action is categorically excluded from documentation with an EA or EIS and is not subject to appeal [(36 CFR 215.8(a)(4)].

This restriction will be in effect from the effective date on the Order until November 8, 2011, and will address public health and safety concerns related to recreation areas. The Order is issued in conformance with 31.1 Categories of Actions Excluded from Documentation; and 31.12 Categories Established by the Chief "Categories of Actions for Which a Project or Case File and Decision Memo Are Not Required. A supporting record and decision memo are not required, but at the discretion of the responsible official, may be prepared for the following categories: (1) Orders issued pursuant to 36 CFR Part 261-Prohibitions to provide short-term resource protection or to protect public health and safety." Areas may be closed for the protection of public health or safety under 36 CFR 261.53 Special Closures. Trails may be closed for protection of public health and safety under 36 CFR 261.55(a). These restrictions are necessary due to increasing numbers of people and increasing incidents of reckless behavior. These conditions pose a significant threat to public health and safety.

REASONS FOR CATEGORICALLY EXCLUDING THE PROPOSED ACTION

This decision is categorically excluded from documentation under Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, Section 31.12(1) – Orders issued pursuant to 36 CFR Part 261 – Prohibitions to provide short-term resource protection or to protect public health and safety.

As a result of the above-mentioned analyses, I find there are no extraordinary circumstances that might cause the action to have significant environmental effects; therefore the proposed action is excluded from further documentation in an Environmental Impact Statement or Environmental Assessment. A discussion of the circumstances arising from -the area closure is provided below:

1. Threatened and Endangered species or their critical habitat.

This action will further protect threatened and endangered species, and their habitats, located adjacent to the area.

2. Flood plains, wetlands, or municipal watersheds.

This action will minimize impacts on flood plains, wetlands, and municipal watersheds immediately adjacent to the restricted area. The trail passes through the San Diego River which is a municipal watershed.

3. Congressional designated areas, such as Wilderness, Wilderness study areas, or national recreation areas.

There are no such areas in the Cedar Falls area or nearby, therefore there is no effect.

4. Inventoried Roadless Areas or potential Wilderness areas.

The nearest Inventoried Roadless Areas will not be affected by this action. This area is not a part of any recommendations for inclusion within the Wilderness system.

5. Research Natural Areas.

There are no Research Natural Areas within close proximity to the area.

6. American Indians and Alaska Native religious or cultural sites.

There are no negative impacts to cultural sites from this action. The Barona Band of Mission Indians which has land adjacent to this area, has previously expressed in writing their concern over impacts of Forest visitors trespassing on their lands. This action will have no negative impacts to neighboring tribal land.

7. Archeological sites, or historic properties or areas.

There are no negative impacts to archaeological sites or historic properties, or areas within or adjacent to the closure area.

SCOPING

Scoping with the general public was not conducted due to the exigency and significant safety concerns associated with the current situation. However, the District did have a meeting with the County of San Diego, rescue personnel from Cal Fire; Ramona Water and Fire Authority; Helix Water Authority, Barona Tribe of Mission Indians, Heartland District; and San Diego Sheriff's Office and neighbors from the SD Country Estates as well as its Homeowner Association; and members of Congressman Duncan Hunter's staff.

ALTERNATIVES

1. *No Action*
Under this alternative, significant impacts to public health and safety could occur.
2. *Area Closure*
Under this alternative, closure would be implemented in the designated trail area: Cedar Creek Falls. Occupancy and use within the designated area would be temporarily prohibited.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

This restriction will not pose an impact or effect resource values. Endangered, threatened and sensitive species, cultural, archaeological and historical sites, wetland protection will not be impacted from this Order.

The restriction will prohibit the public's ability to recreate and enjoy the area for a temporary period of four months and will likely displace visitors to other places on or off the Cleveland

National Forest. The Cleveland National Forest will guide visitors to other opportunities on the Forest during this period.

FINDINGS REQUIRED BY OTHER LAWS.

This action is consistent with management direction (Cleveland National Forest Land and Resources Management Plan) as required by the National Forest Management Act (FSM 1922.41 and FSH 1909.12).

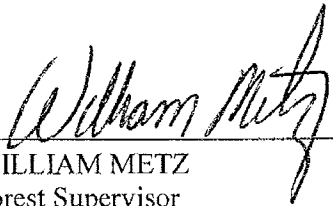
IMPLEMENTATION DATE

This action may be implemented on the effective date shown on the Order.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW OR APPEAL OPPORTUNITIES

This action is not subject to review or appeal under the requirements of 36 CFR 215.8 (4).

APPROVED:

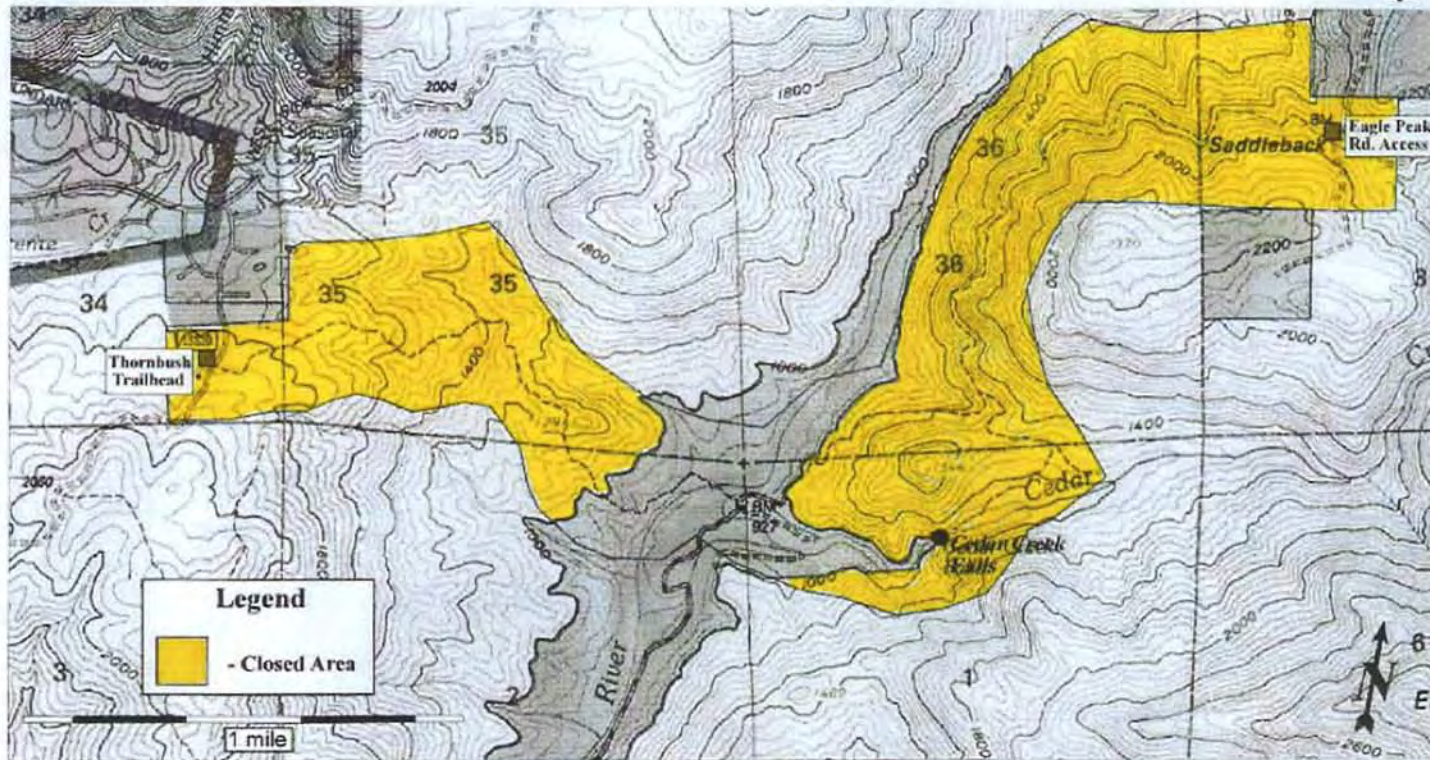


WILLIAM METZ
Forest Supervisor
Cleveland National Forest



DATE

Exhibit - A.



**San Diego River Gorge Trail & Cedar Creek Falls Closure
Order No. 02-11-05 Cleveland National Forest**

The San Diego Union-Tribune.

Santee is ready to show off its new park

Written by
Karen Pearlman
Aug. 25, 2011

SANTEE — Kristen Mann, who grew up in Orange County, has never been to Town Center Community Park, but the WNBA player is looking forward to bringing her fitness finesse and basketball prowess to Santee this Saturday.

Mann will visit the park and host a clinic for children during the city's "Family Fest," a four-hour event celebrating the completion of what city officials call "phase II" of the sprawling 55-acre park situated on the north side of the San Diego River.

The park includes lighted sports fields (some made of synthetic turf, others from natural turf), the Cameron Family YMCA, the city of Santee Aquatics Center and Sportsplex USA, which operates a sports complex through a public/private partnership agreement with the city.

The park was dedicated June 1, 2010 and had a ribbon cutting Oct. 27, 2010, but much of the eastern portion of it has been undergoing upgrades, including playing fields that have now officially opened. The park cost \$23.5 million to build, paid for by tax increment bonds.

The idea for Town Center Community Park began in the late 1980s, after the city acquired 55 acres of county property. It was envisioned in city planning documents as the centerpiece of a pedestrian-oriented "smart growth" community.

The City Council initiated the planning process for the park in October 1996. Leaders saw the need for a park that would provide a variety of active and passive recreational experiences, for adults and children.

The 28-year-old Mann, who attended UC Santa Barbara and played in the WNBA for five years and hopes to get back into the league after a season playing overseas in France, will host a fitness clinic for kids from ages 7 to 13 to encourage them to get outside and play.

"I absolutely hate running," said Mann, laughing. "I'll show the kids how basketball can be a tool to promote a healthy lifestyle. And not just basketball but any type of sports (can be used) as a way to get kids to stay in shape and be active, to get them out of the house and away from watching TV and playing video games, and into living the healthy life they should be living. Obesity is killing this country."

Mann's clinic is just one highlight of the event, which will go from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 550 Park Center Drive.

For Santee Mayor Randy Voepel, the highlight is the official celebration of two walking paths in the park that are dedicated to military members. Several other amenities in the park also will have dedications, including its concert stage, soccer fields and a human sun dial.

“We have what I believe is the only Marine monument in the county,” Voepel said.

Several years ago the city adopted U.S. Marine Corps 2nd Battalion, 1st Marines and Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 462. Both units will have memorial trails dedicated to them at the event.

“We were going to have those trails anyway, and I decided to dedicate the trails to the Marines three years ago,” the mayor said.

Voepel said that both of the units’ commanding officers will be on hand and a sergeant major as well. He noted that of the 800 to 1,100 members of the infantry unit, 31 have been killed and 202 wounded in action over the past seven years.

“We’ll have the Marine Color Guard and we’ll either read off the names or have the Color Guard march 21 paces, read out a name, halt and read out another name and so on,” Voepel said.

The event also includes free hot dogs, chips and soft drinks, inflatable jumps, laser tag, craft booths, interactive booths, fitness contests and games. The aquatic center will be open for free swimming all day.

The Alley Cats, a doo-wop a cappella group, will perform as will a percussion group called Jr. Crew and MTV reality show “Made” singer Kelsie Martin.

For Mann, who has three younger siblings, the opportunity to help Santee kids is an important one.

“I’m excited to be doing this,” Mann said. “I have a busy schedule but if I could do a clinic for kids every day, I would. If you touch one kid’s life, that’s all that matters. Meeting all the kids will brighten my day.”

State of California
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT
Meeting of September 1, 2011

ITEM: 10

SUBJECT: **ADJOURNMENT**