

## **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,

January 6, 2011  
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

#### **Meeting Location**

San Diego City Hall 202 “C” Street  
Closed Session Committee Room, 12th Floor  
San Diego, California 92101

Tele-Conference Location: 1416 Ninth Street  
Resources Agency Conference Room 1305 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.
4. **Chairperson’s and Governing Board Members’ Report**
5. **Executive Officer’s Report**  
The following topics may be included in the Executive Officers Report. The Board may take action regarding any of them:
  - 2011 Meeting Schedule
  - SANDAG/ Environmental Mitigation Program Land Management Grant

6. Election of Officers
7. **San Diego River Gorge Trail and Trailhead Improvement Project  
(Amendment to Adopted Negative Declaration/Resolution No. 08-09)**  
  
Presentation and Report  
Mike Nelson, Ann Van Leer  
  
Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 11-01
8. **El Monte Valley Helix Water District**  
Presentation and Report  
Mark Weston, General Manager
9. **San Diego River Park Foundation and Coalition**  
  
Presentation and Report  
Rob Hutsel, San Diego River Coalition and Park Foundation
10. **Intergovernmental Working Group: San Diego River Trail**  
Status Report  
Mike Nelson
11. **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 January 6, 2011**

ITEM: 1

SUBJECT: **ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS**

State of California  
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT  
**Meeting of January 6, 2011**

ITEM: **2**

SUBJECT: **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
The Board will consider adoption of the **November 4, 2010** public meeting minutes.

PURPOSE: The minutes of the **November 4, 2010** Board Meetings are attached for your review.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve minutes

## **SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY (SDRC)**

Minutes of November 4, 2010 Public Meeting

(Draft Minutes for Approval on January 6, 2011)

**Chairperson Donna Frye** called the November 4, 2010 meeting of the San Diego River Conservancy to order at approximately 1:42 p.m.

### **1. Roll Call**

#### **Members Present**

<b>Donna Frye, Chair</b>	<b>Council Member, City of San Diego</b>
<b>Bryan Cash</b>	<b>Natural Resources Agency, Alternate (via phone)</b>
<b>Ken DeRosa</b>	<b>Department of Finance, Alternate (via phone)</b>
<b>Ruth Hayward</b>	<b>Public at Large</b>
<b>Brian Cahill</b>	<b>Department of Parks and Recreation, Alternate (via phone)</b>
<b>Andrew Poat</b>	<b>Public at Large (arrived at 1:48 p.m.)</b>
<b>Ann Miller Haddad</b>	<b>Public at Large (arrived at 2:03 p.m.)</b>
<b>John Donnelly</b>	<b>Wildlife Conservation Board</b>

#### **Absent**

<b>Jerry Sanders</b>	<b>Mayor, City of San Diego</b>
<b>Dianne Jacob</b>	<b>Supervisor, Second District</b>
<b>Ben Clay</b>	<b>Public at Large</b>
<b>(Vacancy)</b>	<b>San Diego Regional Water Quality Board</b>
<b>(Vacancy)</b>	<b>Appointment by Speaker of the Assembly</b>

#### **Staff Members Present**

<b>Michael Nelson</b>	<b>Executive Officer</b>
<b>Hayley Peterson</b>	<b>Deputy Attorney General</b>
<b>Julia Richards</b>	<b>Administrative Services Manager</b>

### **2. Approval of Minutes**

**Donna Frye** announced that until a quorum was present there could be no official meeting; however she would allow the City of San Diego to make a presentation of their Draft San Diego River Park Master Plan.

**Hayley Peterson** commented that if a sixth Board Member arrived that the Board should pause and officially convene the meeting.

**Donna Frye** announced that three members in Sacramento were now present, conducted a roll call, and called the November 4, 2010 meeting to order.

**Hayley Peterson** swore in Andrew Poat, Brian Cahill from Department of Parks and Recreation and Ken De Rosa from the Department of Finance.

**Bryan Cash** moved approval of the minutes and **Andrew Poat** seconded the motion.

### **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.

**No Comment.**

### **4. Chairperson's and Governing Board Members' Report**

**No Report.**

### **5. Executive Officer's Report**

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

#### **2011 Meeting Schedule**

Mike Nelson reviewed the results of a poll regarding a bimonthly meetings scheduled for the first Thursday of the month in the afternoon. He said that 4 members preferred Thursday afternoons and that DOF had responded that the first week would be difficult. Donna suggested that the first proposed meeting date, January 6, 2011 be accepted and the remaining dates be considered at the January meeting.

#### **2010-2011 Budget**

He reported that a budget for Fiscal Years 2010-2011 had been enacted and was included in the Board's meeting materials.

#### **Strategic Plan Addendum**

He said the draft strategic plan addendum being prepared by the Trust for Public Land should be available in early 2011.

#### **Carlton Oaks Golf Course / TY Investments**

He stated that all final documents reflecting the SDRC's acceptance of TY Investment's offer and gift of an option agreement, conservation + trail easement, and right of first refusal had been executed. He noted that staff had incorporated suggestions made at the November meeting to provide for trail connections to Santee Lakes and improved connections to Mast Park.

**Bryan Cash** asked for additional information from TY Investments. Felix Tinkov advised that the City of San Diego had prepared a purchase and sale agreement that was under review; adding that recently, Mike Nelson, Rob Hutsel and representatives from the City of San Diego had walked the entire alignment with a surveyor to begin the delineation of boundaries

for the trail easements.

**SANDAG/ Environmental Mitigation Program Land Management Grant**

Mike relayed that SDRC's grant award had been formally approved by the SANDAG and recalled that SDRC would receive approximately \$600,000(?) for projects to be initiated with partners in various jurisdictions along the river. .

**6. City of San Diego, Draft San Diego River Park Master Plan**

**Presentation and Report**

**Robin Shifflet, City Planning and Community Investment**

**Bill Anderson, City of San Diego** stated that the Draft San Diego River Park Master Plan was one of the City's most important planning efforts that it emphasizes a green belt park that is also a linear park with a trail system. He said that this fall the City is presenting this draft to stakeholders before the CEQA analysis is completed and hearings on a Final document go to hearings next Fall.

**Robin Shifflet**, introduced herself as Project Manager for the Master Plan, and stated that the today's presentation was to provide information, share updates, review how things are different, and discuss amendments needed to implement the policy document.

**Todd Mead** said that his firm, Civitas, was the design consultant for the City, that process began in 2003. He said that in 2006 and 2008 the plan's development began to look at regulatory frameworks, design guidelines, and gathered stakeholder input. He stated that a Notice of Preparation was issued in April 2009, and we are now presenting the changes to the plan to the communities and stakeholders in the area. He gave a power point presentation which explained six major sections:

1. **Introduction**                      Origins, Public Input, Planning Area and Benefits.
2. **Vision and Principles**        Guiding ideas for the River's use and development.
3. **Recommendations**          General and Specific strategies for achieving the principles.
4. **Design Guidelines**            Guidelines to achieve the development regulations of the zoning code.
5. **Implementation**                Framework, Tools, Strategy for Maintenance, Management and Security, and Public Outreach and Education.
6. **Regulatory Framework**        Applicable Planning Process Documents, Agency Jurisdiction and Permits.

**Claudia Tedford** from ICF International stated she has been working on drafting proposed Community Plan Amendments, Zoning Code Amendments and the Environmental Impact Report. She testified that in order to proceed with implementation of the Diego River Park draft Master Plan; the following communities need amendments to either the Community Plan or zoning codes: Mission Valley, Navajo, Tierrasanta, and East Elliot.

**Andrew Poat** raised questions about differences between the Draft San Diego River Park Master Plan and the Mission Bay Master Plan.

**Bill Anderson** stated that the River Park Plan was a very different context. He emphasized that Mission Bay was public land and under today's environmental regulations could not be built. Mission Valley is primarily privately held land with some publically held mostly for conservation and/or habitat preservation. He indicated that there is some opportunity at the Qualcomm site at some point, if it is re-developed. Since most of the properties are privately held that over time as those properties redevelop they would have to comply with any local and state regulations or planning requirements. Consequently we don't have the same opportunities that Mission Bay had to carve out a portion for generating land lease revenue that might go back into the park.

He said they were trying to set up a method for implementation that as projects develop, maintenance or implementation responsibilities would be assigned to the projects; some of the projects will need to meet park requirements and other recreational needs. He stated that they would also encourage multiple modes of transportation so improvements to the bicycle network could help be funded.

**Robin Shifflet** stated she will be taking the Plan to City Council as a policy document for adoption. Also, she said that they will be taking four Community Plan Amendments for adoption and three existing zoning code amendments. She said she hoped to take all of it forward as a package: the policy document, the community plans and the regulations that will implement the policy.

**Mike Nelson** asked if with the advent of adoption will City government be compelled to collaborate and required to actively work to implement its recommendations; and, has there been any thought to the how the many agencies within City government that have an ownership interest or responsibility along the river could act cohesively to implement this plan.

**Bill Anderson** answered Departments have been looking at it over time and now that a draft exists are meeting with the various departments to make sure we don't have any issues. Once it is adopted and it is an amendment to one of those Community Plans they are technically part of our General Plan which falls under state law that we as a City have to be consistent with.

**Kathy Keehan** shared that she was thrilled with the progress made on the draft Master Plan and said that SANDAG is working on their regional transportation plan and the latest proposal which SANDAG will be discussing includes a staff recommendation of \$2.6 billion for bike and pedestrian infrastructure and programs.



## 7. San Diego River Trail: Status of Gaps Analysis

Presentation and Report  
Mark Carpenter, KTU+A

**Mike Nelson** reviewed with the Board that the State Coastal Conservancy and SDRC had contracted with KTU+A to conduct a “gaps analysis” for the San Diego River Trail (SDRT) that would be necessary for SDRC to develop a capital strategy and work plan for SDRT. He recalled that the Board had authorized the establishment of an Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG) comprising representatives from key agencies of jurisdictions along the river to assist with the identification of SDRT segments that were planned, proposed and existed. He then introduced Mark Carpenter from KTU+A.

**Mark Carpenter from KTU+A** said the gaps analysis culminated a yearlong effort to determine the status of the SDRT that he hoped could be used by the Intergovernmental Working Group and the elected leadership of each jurisdictions to move forward , establish priorities, and implement of projects necessary to complete the SDRT.

He provided the Board with a briefing of the final report. He said he first identified existing trail types and facilities from the Ocean to El Capitan Reservoir from a transportation and recreational perspective and then determined where the physical gaps and functional gaps existed. He said KTU+A, SDRC, SCC and the IWG felt the report should focus primarily on the gaps located between the Pacific Ocean and the El Capitan Reservoir. He stated that the report delineated gaps for the following reaches.

- Estuary / Western Mission Valley
- Eastern Mission Valley/Grantville (FISDRIP)
- Mission Trails Regional Park-Santee/East Santee/West Lakeside)
- El Monte Valley/El Capitan Reservoir

He noted that trail is a central component of the City of San Diego’s Draft San Diego River Park Master Plan and are included as proposed sections within this plan.

He added that, KTU+A identified 75 different segments from the Ocean to El Capitan Reservoir and provided to each jurisdiction with the information that would allow prioritization of the segments, however, he added, KTU+A did propose priorities and ranked them into High, Moderate and Low categories.

**Mike Nelson** asked if Mark would talk a bit about Hanson Pond area in El Monte Valley since Endangered Habitat Conservancy had just successfully acquired this property with an SDRC grant of Proposition 40 funding.

**Mark Carpenter** responded Hanson Pond was considered a moderate priority mainly because there is presently no connectivity.

He said the gaps identified were preliminary in nature and as is always the case, a lot of work must be done within the jurisdictions to determine which trail user types would be best served by each segment and could be addressed on a project by project basis.

He noted that the Appendix provided supporting documentation and information regarding the analysis that would assist the jurisdictions as they planned each segment.

He concluded by recommending that SDRC consider the following ongoing efforts and tasks:

- Continue refining trail segment prioritization with IWG members.
- Collaborate with IWG members to seek project funding for high priority trail segments.
- Coordinate with Resource agencies to discuss on programmatic level instead of case-by-case review.

**Donna Frye** said the report was good, the tear sheets were a great idea and wondered if it would be possible to compile a one page map that identified the gaps.

**Ruth Hayward** said they did a marvelous job and inquired whether the analysis identified private and public property ownership.

**Mark Carpenter** confirmed that ownership status was provided in the report.

**Mike Nelson** stated he will take this document, refine its recommendations, work with the IWG to rank priorities, and develop a first draft of a capital budget.

## **8. Election of Officers: Discussion / Possible Action**

**Donna Frye** recommended with no objection that the Board should defer the election of officers because SDRC's election of officers should reflect appointments made to the Board as a result of the November elections.

## **9. Walker Properties, Santee**

### **Adoption: Resolution 10-08 (ratifying actions taken on March 5, 2009)**

**Donna Frye** explained that the Resolution 10-08 was a resolution that would authorize the Executive Officer to pursue the purchase of the Walker Properties in Santee and use funds from the Safe Drinking Water – Water Quality and Supply Flood Control River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006, also known as Prop 84.

**Mike Nelson** reminded the Board that in May 2009 they had met in closed session to discuss the status of an acquisition at the eastern border of the City of Santee, known as the Walker

Properties. He stated that the property was approximately 120 acres presently under lease to RCP Block and Brick Company as part of a sand mining operation, which is almost finished and reclamation is 85-90% complete. He recalled that SDRC had approached the family and enlisted the Trust for Public Land (TPL) to assist with the acquisition. He stated that the property was appraised and that the property owners were willing to consider land conservation of their property that comprised a 1.5 mile riparian corridor. He pointed out that the transaction had been delayed because of the State of California's suspension of General Obligation Bond funded project; adding that the suspension had been lifted, the funds were available, and the authorization by the Treasurers' Office had been received to proceed with negotiations.

He also testified that during the Bond freeze SDRC had successfully applied for funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and had been awarded \$1,000,000. He said the next steps were to obtain the necessary approvals from the both the Coastal Conservancy and the Wildlife Conservation Board and that Resolution 10-08 would provide SCC and WCB with a formal ratification of the Board's previous endorsements which were made in Closed Session..

**Donna Frye** inquired if there were any questions by members of the Board or public comments.

**Virginia Lorne** from the Trust for Public Land shared that they were optimistic that now that funding was available that they could complete negotiations and execute an option contract with the Walker family.

**John Donnelly** had questions regarding the structure of the transaction and inquired whether the Conservancy would be purchasing the property directly from the landowner or would TPL hold the property and then transfer. He also asked whether TPL would take title.

**Mike Nelson** answered that the structure of the transaction would involve conveying the funding from the Wildlife Conservation Board and Coastal Conservancy through grants and sub grants to the City of Santee, which would hold the title and management responsibility for the acquisition.

**Virginia Lorne** responded that it was possible that TPL to be on the title for a nano-second and that it would be a back to back transaction.

**Andrew Poat** moved to approve Resolution 10-08 and **Ann Miller Haddad** seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

## 10. Adjournment at 3:00 p.m.

### Accessibility

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 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 January 6, 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 January 6, 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 January 6, 2011**

ITEM: **5**

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:

- 2011 Meeting Schedule
- SANDAG/ Environmental Mitigation Program Land Management Grant

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- 5A SDRC 2011 Meeting schedule
- 5B SDRC Project Matrix
- 5C SDRC Board roster
- 5D News Articles

# **EXHIBIT 5A**

## **SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY**

### **2011 Meeting Schedule**



**SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY  
PROPOSED 2011 MEETING SCHEDULE**

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Thursday	January 6	1:30 - 3:30 pm
Thursday	March 3	1:30 - 3:30 pm
Thursday	May 5	1:30 - 3:30 pm
Thursday	July 7	1:30 - 3:30 pm
Thursday	September 1	1:30 - 3:30 pm
Thursday	November 3	1:30 - 3:30 pm



# **EXHIBIT 5B**

## **SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY**

### **Project Matrix**

PROJECT NAME	GRANTEE	ESTIMATED COST	BOARD APPROVAL	ALLOCATED	PROJECT STATUS	PROJECT DESCRIPTION
<b>PROPOSITION 40 (TOTAL ALLOCATION: \$10,000,000)</b>						
CALMAT (Acquisition)	LRPC	\$2,200,000	Before SDRC Act	\$2,200,000	completed	acquired 100 acres Calmat Property; nucleus of Lakeside's River Park.
Eagle Peak Preserve (Acquisition- Phase 1)	SDRPF	N/A	9/10/04	\$175,000	completed	acquired 112 acres of land within the SD River Watershed
Mission Valley Preserve	City of SD	\$500,000	9/10/04	\$500,000	phase 1 completed	eradicate 4.22 acres of non-native vegetation and replace it with native plants within the Mission Valley Preserve.
<b>San Diego River Trail</b> <i>Ocean Beach Bike Path</i>	City of SD	\$2,550,000	9/10/04	\$2,000,000	construction initiated	extend Ocean Beach Bike Path .75 miles from Pacific Highway to Hotel Circle
<b>San Diego River Trail</b> <i>River Gorge Trail</i>	SDRC/USFS	Phase 1- \$190,644 Phase 2-\$634-442	8/12/05 10/13/06; 11/9/07; 9/18/08; 11/21/08	\$136,762 \$833,250	design design	construct 4.75 miles of multi purpose trail on the east and west sides of the SD River. construct trail improvements at the west San Diego River Gorge Trailhead.
Eagle Peak Preserve (Acquisition Phase 3)	SDRPF	\$674,000	8/11/06	\$527,000	completed	acquired 180 acres of land within the Headwaters Reach
<b>San Diego River Trail</b> <i>Lakeside River Park Trail</i>	LRPC	\$450,000	8/11/06	\$203,617	completed	.75 miles of trail adjacent to the San Diego River in the City of Lakeside
Hanson Ponds (Acquisition)	EHC	\$5,000,000	3/2/07	\$1,586,000	negotiations successful	proposed acquisition of 143.5 acre Hanson Property for habitat restoration and public access to the river
Watershed Invasives Control and Restoration	SDRC	\$5,000,000	3/2/07; 11/9/07; 7/18/08	\$577,846	design	control and replant over 329 acres of invasive plant species beginning on the main stem of the river
<b>San Diego River Trail</b> <i>Mast Park West</i>	City of Santee	\$475,000	9/18/08; 11/21/08	\$472,963	design	City of Santee will develop an additional 2500 feet of San Diego River Trail
<b>San Diego River Trail</b> <i>Riverford Road</i>	Lakeside RPC	\$800,000	11/9/07; 7/17/08	\$787,562	design	SDRC and Lakeside River Park Conservancy are working to develop an additional mile of San Diego River Trail.
		<b>SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>\$10,000,000</b>		
<b>PROPOSITION 84 (TOTAL APPROPRIATION :\$5,935,000)</b>						
Tributary Canyon	SDRC	\$963,185.50	7/8/2010 (+\$220,000)	\$370,000	design	design urban trails to connect canyons north and south of the San Diego River.
Walker Properties-Santee (Acquisition)	SDRC	\$10,000,000	9-Nov-07	\$1,480,000	negotiation	(\$1M from Feds, Sect. 6) negotiating 140 acres of land in Santee, comprising 2 miles of riparian corridor.
<b>San Diego River Trail</b> <i>Hazard Center/163</i>	City of SD	\$1,400,000	15-May-08	\$270,163	design	City of San Diego will design, construct, and connect the San Diego River Trail from Fashion Valley Mall to Hazard Center (Under 163) <b>*City of San Diego - Substituted SANDAG funding for Prop 84</b>
		<b>SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>\$2,120,163</b>		
<b>SPECIAL DEPOSIT FUND</b>						
Hydrology Study	DOI/BOR	\$719,000	8/12/05	\$30,000	phase 1 complete	provide analysis for implementation of the San Diego River Plans.
Data and Watershed Information System	SDRPF	\$25,000	7/17/08	\$25,000	completed	develop digital tool box which will allow SDRC to track and manage projects.
Sponsorship	SDNHM	\$10,000	7/17/08	\$10,000	completed	H2O Water = Life Exhibits Sponsorship and Promotions
Strategic Plan Addendum	TPL	\$100,000	11/21/08	\$25,000	in progress	preparation of an addendum to the 2006-2011 Strategic and Infrastructure Plan
River Blitz & Clean Ups	SDRPF	\$35,000	1/8/09	\$35,000	in progress	conduct 2 field surveys (\$7500) and perform and manage 12 River Clean Ups (\$24,000); and
El Monte Valley Flume Properties	SDRC	\$723,838	10/13/06; 1/19/07	N/A	in progress	secure land along the six mile historic flume in EMV for public trail.
Watershed Data Collection and Restoration Program	SDSURF	\$1,500,000	3/5/09	\$240,000	in progress	development of a network of sensors, dedicated to monitoring of the environment and water quality
San Diego River Regional Habitat Enhancement (SANDAG-EMP Grant)	SDRC; City of Santee; LRPC	\$527,739	7/8/10	\$527,739	design	invasivise control and removal, access control (fencing and repair), park patrols, clean ups, landowner outreach
		<b>SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>\$892,739</b>		
<b>PROPOSITION 13 (TOTAL ALLOCATION: \$2,000,000)</b>						
CALMAT (Acquisition)	Lakeside RPC	\$2,000,000		\$2,000,000	complete	
		<b>SUBTOTAL</b>		<b>\$2,000,000</b>		

**FUND SUMMARY**

FUND SOURCE	APPROPRIATION	SDRC APPROVED	BALANCE	unspent	COMMENTS
Proposition 40	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$0		
Proposition 84	\$5,935,000	\$2,120,163	\$3,814,837		
Special Deposit Fund	\$892,739	\$872,875	\$19,864		
Proposition 13	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$0		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$18,827,739</b>	<b>\$14,993,038</b>	<b>\$3,834,701</b>		

# **EXHIBIT 5C**

## **SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY'S ROSTER**

## GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER ROSTER

### San Diego River Conservancy

(Revised January 2011)

NAME	BOARD MEMBER CATEGORY	TEL/FAX #	E-MAIL	ADDRESS	TERM
Karen Scarborough, Undersecretary  Bryan Cash (Alternate)	Secretary of Natural Resources Agency  Deputy Assistant Secretary for Bonds and Grants	T: 916-653-5656 F : 916-653-8102  T: 916-653-6381 Cell: 916-704-5529	<a href="mailto:Karen.Scarborough@resources.ca.gov">Karen.Scarborough@resources.ca.gov</a>  <a href="mailto:bryan.cash@resources.ca.gov">bryan.cash@resources.ca.gov</a>	Resources Agency Office of the Secretary 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311 Sacramento, CA 95814	Term automatically terminates if this person ceases to hold the office that qualifies him or her for membership.
Ana Matosantos Karen Finn; Cynthia Bryant; Miriam Ingenito (Alternate)	Director of Finance Resources, Energy, Environment,Capital Outlay  Program Budget Manager	T: (916) 324-0043 F: (916) 322-0717	<a href="mailto:karen.finn@dof.ca.gov">karen.finn@dof.ca.gov</a>  <a href="mailto:cynthia.bryant@dof.ca.gov">cynthia.bryant@dof.ca.gov</a>	Department of Finance 915 L Street Sacramento, CA 95814	Term automatically terminates if this person ceases to hold the office that qualifies him or her for membership.
Jerry Sanders	Mayor of San Diego	T: 619-236-6330	<a href="mailto:JerrySanders@sandiego.gov">JerrySanders@sandiego.gov</a>	City of San Diego 202 C Street, 11 <sup>th</sup> Floor San Diego, CA 92101	Term automatically terminates if this person ceases to hold the office that qualifies him or her for membership.
Lorie Zapf, Councilmember, Sixth Council District	City Council of San Diego	T: 619-236-6616 F: 619-236-7329	<a href="mailto:lzapf@sandiego.gov">lzapf@sandiego.gov</a>	City of San Diego 202 C Street, 10 <sup>th</sup> Floor San Diego, CA 92101	Term automatically terminates if this person ceases to hold the office that qualifies him or her for membership.
Dianne Jacob,  Janice Downs	Supervisor, Second District	T : 619-531-5522  T : 619-531-4714	<a href="mailto:Dianne.Jacob@sdcounty.ca.gov">Dianne.Jacob@sdcounty.ca.gov</a>  <a href="mailto:Janice.downs@sdcounty.ca.gov">Janice.downs@sdcounty.ca.gov</a>	San Diego County Board of Supervisors 1600 Pacific Highway, Rm 335 San Diego, CA 92101	Term automatically terminates if this person ceases to hold the office that qualifies him or her for membership.

Vacant	Public At Large Appointed by Speaker of Assembly				No expiration of term. Member serves at the will of the appointing power.
Andrew Poat	Public At Large Appointed by Governor	T: 619-615-2959	<a href="mailto:ap@sandiegobusiness.org">ap@sandiegobusiness.org</a>	San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation 530 B Street, 7 <sup>th</sup> Floor San Diego, CA 92101	Term began 11/4/2010
Ann Miller Haddad	Public At Large Appointed by Governor	T: 619-847-8748	<a href="mailto:Haddad1@cox.net">Haddad1@cox.net</a>	3791 Cedarbrae Lane San Diego, CA 92106	Term began
Ruth Hayward	Public At Large Appointed by Senate Committee on Rules	T 858-274-5473 858-274-7670	<a href="mailto:rahlj@san.rr.com">rahlj@san.rr.com</a>	5473 Bahia Lane La Jolla, CA. 92037	No expiration. Member serves at the will of the appointing power.
Ruth Coleman, Ronie Clark (Alternate)	Director Dept. of Parks and Recreation	T : 916-653-8288 T 619-688-8288 T : 619-660-3496	<a href="mailto:rclark@parks.ca.gov">rclark@parks.ca.gov</a>	Natural Resources Agency 1416 Ninth Street, Rm #1431 Sacramento, CA 95814	Term automatically terminates if this person ceases to hold the office that qualifies him or her for membership.
Ben Clay	Public At Large Appointed by Governor	W : 619-234-0607 Cell :619-261- 3063	<a href="mailto:bclay@carpiclay.com">bclay@carpiclay.com</a>	3947 Bandini Street San Diego, CA 92103	Term began 10/12/2010
John Donnelly Executive Director	Executive Director, Wildlife Conservation Board Non-Voting Member	T: 916-445-8448 F: 916-323-0280	<a href="mailto:jdonnell@dfg.ca.gov">jdonnell@dfg.ca.gov</a>	Wildlife Conservation Board 1807 13 <sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 103 Sacramento, CA 95814	Term automatically terminates if this person ceases to hold the office that qualifies him or her for membership.
Gary Strawn	San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board Non-Voting Member	T : 619-562-6397	<a href="mailto:strawnhouse@gmail.com">strawnhouse@gmail.com</a>	9433 Lake Canyon Road Rd Santee, CA 92071	Term automatically terminates if this person ceases to hold the office that qualifies him or her for membership.

SDRC STAFF

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# **EXHIBIT 5D**

## **SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY**

### **News Articles**



## Poinsettia Bowl field preparation minute by minute

BY MATTHEW T. HALL

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2010 AT 4:34 P.M.



JOHN GIBBINS

Crews paint the Poinsettia Bowl logo on the Qualcomm Field Thursday, a day after the field was under water.

To whip [Qualcomm Stadium](#) into fighting shape for Thursday night's [Poinsettia Bowl](#), emergency work crews had to pump about 1.5 million gallons of water from a swamped parking lot and playing field into the adjacent San Diego River.

The effort, precipitated by the past week's intense precipitation, was unprecedented in the city-owned facility's 43-year history, stadium manager Mike McSweeney said.

**"The turf came through," he said Thursday. "The condition was much better than we anticipated."**

Otherwise, Navy would have had an unfair advantage over [San Diego State University](#).

Just before 8 a.m., Poinsettia Bowl executive director Bruce Binkowski called it an amazing accomplishment as he watched a team of workers paint the sponsorship logo at midfield.

**"All the water is out," he said. "It's a miracle."**

The first pump inside the stadium, capable of draining 2,200 gallons a minute, began whirring about 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, McSweeney said. Like a police officer arriving first at a crime scene, it would require backup before too long.

Water was accumulating on the field and sidelines from the rain above and the saturated groundwater below. Water stood three feet deep in places and the stadium resembled a swimming pool with front-row seats at its edge.

By 11 a.m. Wednesday, pictures of the flooded field were going viral on the [Internet](#) and stadium officials had to huddle as the water volume increased along with the online page views. They hatched a plan that involved 40 to 50 people getting the stadium ready for the Poinsettia Bowl's scheduled 5:06 p.m. kickoff Thursday.

**McSweeney said it was a "herculean effort" by his director of operations, Steve Wightman.**

Around 2:30 or 3 p.m. Wednesday, additional pumps began sucking out water, sending it via 500 feet of pipe provided by the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department into Qualcomm's parking lot, which was two-thirds covered in water. The lot slowly drained into the river.



Around 8 p.m., Godwin Pumps of [America](#), a Mira Loma firm, set up a large pump capable of draining 7,400 gallons a minute. It chugged along in the parking lot near the trolley station, channeling water out of the stadium site directly into the river.

**It wasn't until about 9 p.m. Wednesday that the swollen San Diego River had receded to a level low enough that "water really accelerated" getting out of the property, McSweeney said.**

By 1 a.m., city and stadium crews began shutting down the handful of pumps on the east end of the stadium while leaving on the big pump in the south end of the parking lot.

By 4:15 a.m., three massive vinyl tarps that had been covering the playing field since after the Chargers game last Thursday were removed. Each tarp is capable of blanketing two-thirds of the 65,000-square-foot field. The removal took about 20 stadium workers.

**At 6:30 a.m., painting of the field began. Two crews started spraying the end zones with shades meant to match each team's colors. Navy's was done first, then SDSU's.**

By 8 a.m., painting of the sponsorship logo was underway at midfield.

The last, large pump was turned off at 11 a.m., when the parking lot opened to the first tailgaters.

The field markings were completed by noon.

Amid the painting, stadium crew workers with squeegees and brooms focused on their usual game-day preparation, pushing water off seats and walkways and directing it toward drains. They also got lounges, restrooms and other areas ready for the swarm of 51,000 ticket holders.

**Cost estimates for the emergency work won't be available until next week — at the earliest, McSweeney said.**

*matthew.hall@uniontrib.com • (619) 293-1335 • Twitter @SDuncovered*



## Storm sinks region's sewer systems

BY MIKE LEE

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED DECEMBER 22, 2010 AT 3:31 P.M., UPDATED DECEMBER 22, 2010 AT 4:22 P.M.

Cities and utility districts across San Diego and south Orange counties struggled on Wednesday to contain sewage spills created by immense loads of storm water.

Even though the sewage and storm water systems generally are separate, they are commonly close enough together that major rains can create problems for both systems at once. For instance, manholes in low spots allow storm water to infiltrate into the wastewater system, said David Gibson, head of the San Diego Regional [Water Quality Control](#) Board, which polices sewage spills.

Orange County on Wednesday closed 12 miles of beaches because of sewage contamination. [San Diego County](#) officials continued urging residents to stay out of the ocean for at least 72 hours after rains end. They also maintained earlier closures of beaches from Coronado to the [international border](#) because of sewage-tainted flows from the [Tijuana River](#).

"Maximum capacity is getting reached," Gibson said as tail end of the storm whipped San Diego.

One of the hardest-hit spots in the region was the Padre Dam Municipal Water District in Santee. On Wednesday afternoon it was battling a massive sinkhole that resulted in a severed a water line, in addition to a failed sewage [pump station](#) that caused a spill of roughly 1.4 million gallons.

The mishaps started at about 5:30 a.m. Wednesday when Sycamore Creek near the **agency's operations yard topped its banks, busted a wall and flooded the facility.** Waters rose to cover the wheels of some vehicles and caused a sewage pump station to stop working, said Melissa McChesney, a spokeswoman for the district.

That created a backup in the sewage system and forced wastewater to pour out of manholes near the Carlton Oaks Golf Course.

Padre Dam crews have placed sand bags on manhole covers to keep the sewage contained and they have put in place a temporary line to handle the flows and take pressure off the main line. A permanent fix may not be ready until next week, McChesney said.

Another challenge erupted about an hour later when a Santee [storm drain](#) collapsed and created a sink hole from one side of Pebble Beach Drive to the other near Williams Court. McChesney said that caused a water district mainline to break, cutting service to about 30 homes in the [cul-de-sac](#).

Padre Dam dispatched a [drinking water](#) truck to service the neighborhood on **Wednesday and is looking at repair options. It's not clear when the work will be done,** though McChesney said on Wednesday afternoon that water service had been restarted at the 30 homes.

On Wednesday afternoon, Gibson reported several other sewage problems and asked **residents to limit water use in hopes of reducing pressure on the region's pipes. His list** of problems includes:

**El Cajon** — Capacity issue resulted in a spill at Fessler Avenue near Johnson. Initial rough estimate is 250,000 gallons. Caller stated he had 7 manholes pop at once.

**Laguna Beach** — Downtown underwater. System overwhelmed. Multiple sewage discharges. Multiple locations. Discharge amount unknown.

**La Mesa** — Collection system was overwhelmed and underwater. Unknown amounts of discharge. City will update when things calm down.

**Moulten Niguel Water District** — 50,000-gallon spill in [San Juan Capistrano](#).

**Oceanside** — 40,000-gallon spill next to Buena Vista Creek. Creek flow was so high the check valve in the storm drain system closed and they were able to pump it out and put it back in the system.

**San Diego city** — Sewage spill at 30th & Redwood, 9:24 am to 10:15 am. Unknown quantity.

**San Diego county (Bonita Area)** — Collection system was overwhelmed and underwater. Unknown amounts of discharge.

**Trabuco Canyon Water District** — Mudslide hit pumping station. May be days until they can get it running again. They have evacuated residents from the canyon so there **won't be a lot of sewage generated.**

**Vallecitos Water District** — System overloaded. Discharges of unknown quantity to San Marcos Creek/Lake San Marcos.

*Mike Lee: (619)293-2034; [mike.lee@uniontrib.com](mailto:mike.lee@uniontrib.com). Follow on Twitter [@sdenvirobeat](#)*



## Weathering the storms

BY UNION-TRIBUNE EDITORIAL BOARD  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2010 AT

**San Diego's reputation for having one of the world's most wonderful** climates is well-earned. Grumps who like having four distinguishable seasons use another adjective to describe the local weather: bland. Given that the average daily high [temperature](#) at [Lindbergh Field](#) ranges from 66 degrees in January to 78 degrees in August, perhaps the term fits.

**But when San Diegans suffer through bouts of the kind of weather we're** enduring this week, it hardly seems bland. The present series of storms has been particularly harsh, with the San Diego River expected to have its worst overflow in 30 years, heavy flooding in Mission Valley trapping people inside motels, winds topping 60 mph in [Point Loma](#), [Sea World](#) forced into a rare closure – even the [Qualcomm Stadium](#) field under [water](#). The effects on transportation have been dramatic, with roads closed, trains idled and hundreds of thousands of drivers forced into brutal commutes.

So be careful out there. Drive as little as possible. Give other [motorists](#) more of a cushion on wet roads. Be wary of driving into areas where there is standing water, which could be deeper than you think. And for the cell-phone addicts who keep yakking away while driving no matter what the circumstances, please heed the law – **for safety's sake.**

And sooner or later, our gloriously bland weather will resume.

## Why Mission Valley Is Underwater

Posted: Wednesday, December 22, 2010 3:39 pm | Updated: 4:52 pm, Mon Dec 27, 2010.

by [Adrian Florido](#)

The San Diego River is overflowing as it churns through Mission Valley. Fashion Valley shops are open, but their parking lots are closed. Crews are rushing to pump water out of Qualcomm Stadium, where the field is underwater a day before the Poinsettia Bowl. Tourists are stranded in their rooms in Hotel Circle as the water rises around them.

This December storm, which has dumped 4.2 inches of rain in the last week, is wreaking havoc in Mission Valley, and it's got us remembering a [2006 investigative series](#) our former colleague Will Carless wrote on the pitfalls of haphazard planning in Mission Valley. In one of those, he explored [Mission Valley's susceptibility to flooding](#) during large storms.

Mission Valley has had catastrophic floods before. It is built on a major flood plain, with the San Diego River running through it before dumping most of the city's storm water into the Pacific at Ocean Beach. The development boom that in recent decades transformed Mission Valley from pasture land into a concrete community of condos and shopping malls has left the neighborhood even more vulnerable to calamitous flooding.

Will explained why:

The increase in the amount of concrete and asphalt covering what was once porous arable land means less and less rainwater can now seep into the ground. More drains, roads and roofs in the areas around the river also means rainwater now finds its way more quickly from storm clouds through neighborhoods into the river's flood plain.

Whether the measures that quell the river are a match for the factors that swell it is anybody's guess.

This week's flooding in Mission Valley does not foretell a happy answer to that question. Residents, planners, and advocates worry about what a truly big storm could mean for the neighborhood, which continues growing but lacks emergency plans for dealing with floods.

More from Will's story:

Jim Peugh, a local environmentalist who works to conserve the San Diego River, said history is bound to repeat itself in Mission Valley. "The dams will hold it up to a certain point, then they won't hold it any more and we'll have another flood like 1916, and our city will face another economic loss," he said. "That will probably be billions of dollars, and then we'll be surprised again," he added.



## THE NEIGHBORHOOD FILES

### SANTEE WORKING ON PHASE THREE OF SAN DIEGO RIVER PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

By [Margie M. Palmer](#) | [Email the author](#) | December 17, 2010

The area around the [San Diego River](#) running through the heart of Santee is in the midst of a major makeover.

Working in conjunction with the city of San Diego, which is developing a river park along the length of the San Diego River within its city limits, Santee is continuing to do its part to preserve habitats and provide recreation access near the river.

The [San Diego River Park Conceptual Plan](#) discusses the creation of a river park along the length of the San Diego River which runs from the El Capitan Reservoir to the Pacific Ocean at Ocean Beach. The collective goal of those involved in the project "are to preserve and celebrate the river's historic resources, to support the natural stream processes, to preserve and enhance riparian habitat and to provide recreation access and activities," according to the plan's [abstract](#).

Santee, which is currently working to develop a river park alongside the stretch of the river within its city limits, also has a conceptual plan, which involves maximization of public use, flood protection of surrounding areas and the creation of bicycle and pedestrian corridors along both sides of the river.

The development plan, however, is not new news. It has been in place from the time the city [first incorporated](#). "The city of Santee has had a conceptual master plan to have a trail alongside the river since 1981," said Santee Director of Community Services Bill Maertz.

"The first phase of development which took place was [Mast Park](#) in 1984, and the second phase was the Mission Creek section which took place in 1988. The land currently under construction is Mast Park West and Carlton Hills Creek which runs from Mast Park to the [Carlton Oaks Golf Course](#)."

Maertz said the cost of the project, roughly \$400,000, is being covered entirely through state and federal grant money. The [Town Center Park](#) portion, he added, was paid for entirely by developer's fees and community development bonds. "There were no general fund or tax dollars used for this," he said.

Ultimately, said Maertz, the continuation of trail development alongside the San Diego River will further the city's goal of making Santee a walkable community.

"I think that was the goal from the very beginning, when Santee first formed," Maertz said. "The development will allow for people to have access to green space, to allow them to hike alongside the river so they can enjoy the natural habitats them without disturbing them."

Do you support the development of a river park? [Tell us in the comments](#).

State of California  
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT  
**Meeting of January 6, 2011**

ITEM: **6**

SUBJECT: **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

State of California  
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT  
**Meeting of January 6, 2011**

ITEM: 7

SUBJECT: **San Diego River Gorge Trail and Trailhead Improvement Project  
(Amendment to Adopted Negative Declaration/Resolution No. 08-09)**

**Presentation and Report**  
Mike Nelson, Ann Van Leer

**Recommendation: Adopt Resolution 11-01**

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- 7A SDRC Resolution 11-01
- 7B Staff Report for SDRC Resolution 11-01
- 7C Letter to SDRC from the U.S. Forest Services
- 7D River Gorge Project Footprint topography



# **EXHIBIT 7A**

## **SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY**

### **Resolution 11-01**

## Resolution No: 11-01

### RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY

#### **Approval of an Addendum to the Negative Declaration and a Project Amendment for the San Diego River Gorge Trail and Trailhead Improvement Project to allow for the Development of Additional Parking at the Trailhead**

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WHEREAS, the Legislature and Governor of the State of California have provided funds for the program shown above and the Governing Board of the San Diego River Conservancy has previously approved allocating those funds to the U.S. Forest Service to implement the San Diego River Gorge Trail and Trailhead Improvement Project; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the San Diego River Conservancy adopted Resolution 08-09 (November 21, 2008, Item 9) approving a Negative Declaration for the San Diego River Gorge Trail and Trailhead Improvement Project; and

WHEREAS, this project supports Program 2 of the Five Year Strategic Plan, Complete the *San Diego River Park Trail* and will implement Project 1.1, *Trail from San Diego Country Estates to Cedar Creek Falls*; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the San Diego River Conservancy has reviewed a letter provided by the Forest Service discussing the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) implications of the proposed change to the project; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board of the San Diego River Conservancy has reviewed the new proposed trailhead site plan associated with the proposed new parking area and finds the environmental impacts to be technical in nature and fully mitigated by the U.S. Forest Service;

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

1. Approves an addendum to the San Diego River Gorge Trail and Trailhead Project to allow for **the development of additional parking at the trailhead as per the Forest Service's revised site plan.**
2. Approves an amendment to the project to allow for the development of additional parking at the trailhead as per the U.S. Forest Service's revised site plan.
3. Appoints the Executive Officer, or designee, as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all required documents which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned changes.

Approved and adopted the 6th day of January, 2011. I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution Number 11-01 **was duly adopted by the San Diego River Conservancy's Governing Board.**

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: \_\_\_\_\_

Nos: \_\_\_\_\_

Absent \_\_\_\_\_

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Michael J. Nelson, Executive Officer  
San Diego River Conservancy

# **EXHIBIT 7B**

## **SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY**

### **Staff Report for Resolution 11-01**

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT  
**Meeting of January 6, 2011**

STAFF REPORT

- ITEM: **Resolution 11-01**
- SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF AN ADDENDUM TO THE NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE SAN DIEGO RIVER GORGE TRAIL AND TRAILHEAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
- PURPOSE: The Board may consider adoption of Resolution 11-01 approving an addendum to the Negative Declaration and a project amendment for the San Diego River Gorge Trail and Trailhead Improvement Project to allow for the development of additional parking at the trailhead. Twelve new standard parking spaces plus one new ADA parking space are proposed. New impacts of ¼ acre will be mitigated with additional hillside restoration.
- STRATEGIC PLAN CONSISTENCY: The San Diego River Gorge Trail and Trailhead provides access to the San Diego River from the west in Ramona near San Diego Country Estates. This project supports Program 2 of the Five Year Strategic Plan, *Complete the San Diego River Park Trail* and will implement Project 1.1, *Trail from San Diego Country Estates to Cedar Creek Falls*.
- BACKGROUND: Project Summary: San Diego River Conservancy Resolution 08-09 (November 21, 2008, Item 9) authorized adoption of a Negative Declaration for the San Diego River Gorge Trail and Trailhead Improvement Project. The Board had previously approved Proposition 40 funds for the project, which is in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service.
- This project continues to be a high priority for the U.S. Forest Service due to safety concerns and habitat impacts associated with current public use of the existing trails which are user created, steep and not to appropriate trail standards. For example, just this year since June, 29 people required rescue from the gorge. The project, which includes new trailhead facilities such as water and a restroom, a new less steep trail to the bottom of the gorge and a shorter ADA trail to a river overlook, is currently under construction.
- Providing additional parking has been an important component of the project as neighboring residents have long complained to the U.S. Forest Service that gorge visitors are using neighborhood streets to

park. The U.S. Forest Service has had numerous ongoing communications with neighboring property owners about parking issues. In partial response to those concerns, the U.S. Forest Service improved public parking along Thornbush Road on Forest land in 2007. While the 2007 parking improvements were appreciated, the Forest Service still hoped to add additional parking in the future if funds were available.

As originally proposed, the San Diego River Gorge Trail and Trailhead Improvement Project would have added 1 new regular parking space and 1 new ADA parking space. A favorable bidding climate has resulted in additional project funds which the Forest Service has requested be applied to create an additional small parking area at the trailhead with 12 new standard spaces and 1 additional ADA space.

The Negative Declaration proposed 2.33 acres of hillside restoration to mitigate for the project. Since work has begun, the U.S. Forest Service has revised its estimate of the number of acres of restoration associated with the project to 10 acres, 7.67 acres over and above what was proposed in the Negative Declaration.

An additional environmental impact of ¼ acre will occur as a result of this proposed change. Because that impact will be mitigated through additional restoration of the hillside and the U.S. Forest Service now proposes mitigation over and above what was proposed in the Negative Declaration, this project revision is considered a minor technical change under CEQA.

**SUPPORTING  
DOCUMENTS:**

- (1) Resolution 11-01
- (2) Letter from the District Ranger, Cleveland National Forest
- (3) New Site Plan, San Diego River Gorge Trailhead

**CEQA COMPLIANCE:**

This action adopts an addendum to the Negative Declaration for the San Diego River Gorge Trail and Trailhead Project and an amendment to the project to allow for the creation of a new parking area.

# **EXHIBIT 7C**

## **SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY**

**Letter to SDRC from the  
US Forest Service**



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Forest  
Service

Cleveland National Forest

Palomar Ranger District  
1634 Black Canyon Road  
Ramona, CA 92065-1205  
(760) 788-0250  
(760) 788-6130 FAX  
CRS 1-800 735-2922

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File Code: 1920-2-2

Date: November 17, 2010

Michael Nelson  
Executive Officer  
San Diego River Conservancy  
1350 Front Street, Suite 3024  
San Diego, CA 92101

This letter replaces my October 7, 2010 letter as I have provided some additional information.

### **Background:**

As we have discussed, the trail and trailhead work for the San Diego River Gorge project is well underway; bids have been received that will make certain the project is completed within approved budgets. As you know, this location continues to be one of the most popular sites in the Forest. Our joint investment will provide long-term benefits to Forest users, address public safety, while improving natural resources at a highly degraded site. A critical component of the project design was provision of adequate parking. Though we were uncertain when we began this project if sufficient funding would be available to provide for parking in addition to the ADA parking, we can report that cost savings for the project will now allow us to include an additional 12 spaces and another ADA parking space at the trailhead.

You may recall that the Forest Service, using federal funds, was able to improve on-street parking along Thornbush Road at the trailhead in 2007. This decision acknowledged parking concerns raised by the community. This improvement was an important first step in removing visitor parking from the neighborhood and consolidating it at the site. Because we have achieved significant cost savings in the project to date we propose the savings be used to add these new spaces at the trailhead, further responding to concerns raised by the community. This new parking translates into a ¼ acre of new environmental impact at the trailhead to chemise chaparral.

### **NEPA and CEQA Considerations:**

The Forest Service decision adequately addresses the additional parking through its' NEPA for this decision dated June 16, 2010. The CEQA Initial Study considered both the trail and trailhead improvements as one project; in addition to best practices, mitigation was proposed to rehabilitate sections of the hillside that have been damaged due to erosion and other impacts associated with user-defined trails. Because this additional ¼ acre of impact associated with the new parking wasn't specifically addressed in the CEQA document prepared for the project, we propose an additional ¼ acre of hillside rehabilitation to provide additional mitigation for any new impacts associated with this new parking. With this additional mitigation, the slightly



revised project will have no net impact on the project area, as was the case previously with the project per the CEQA Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration.

### **NEPA Consideration:**

In the NEPA document, we identified within the Purpose and Need for Action section, the need for “addressing problems associated with access, parking,....at the unofficial trailhead for the River Gorge Trail at Thornbush Road...” Further, we describe parking as part of the proposed action under the Trailhead section where we state the “The Palomar Ranger District proposes to construct new as well as enhance existing facilities at the trailhead location near Thornbush Road, including...a parking area...”. Parking was also identified for the eastside access from Saddleback in this decision.

During our NEPA scoping, the issue of expanded parking was addressed both informally through meetings I and Al Colby, then Project Lead, had with neighboring landowners and others interested in this project. It was through scoping that the need for additional parking was brought forward, and this is in fact referenced in one of our scoping letters dated October 1, 2008. This was one of the reasons we decided to include additional parking if sufficient funding was available.

### **CEQA Consideration:**

The Initial Study for this project included consideration of the environmental impacts associated with the trail and trailhead, both on the west and east sides of the gorge. Habitat impacts are to chemise chaparral. Direct project impacts associated with constructing the trail were estimated at 1.32 acres. Additionally, the project proposed rehabilitation of 1.78 acres of existing user-defined trail and .55 acres of fire break road. The trail and rehabilitation work has already begun and to date, crews have constructed approximately 5280 feet of new trail and have rehabilitated 1/2 acre of user-defined trail. Our estimates based on the rehabilitation work underway and what remains is that, when completed, the project will rehabilitate approximately 10 acres. Direct impacts associated with proposed trailhead improvements, as originally proposed were estimated at 1 acre. However, the trailhead work also included improvements to water quality and reduction in erosion through hydrological modifications such reduced gullying that isn't easily quantified.

### **Conclusion:**

The difference between the CEQA Initial Study's analysis, and what is currently proposed, equates to an added ¼ acre of environmental impact to chemise chaparral for the proposed new parking spaces. As a result, an additional ¼ acre of hillside rehabilitation is proposed as part of the project as mitigation for that new impact.

This additional rehabilitation increases the project's environmental and public benefits, which include curtailing the existing habitat degradation and erosion associated with the user created trails, and enhancing public safety. For example, 29 people were rescued by Astria from the user-created trails, and Helix property, since June of 2010. We expect that number to significantly decrease as a direct result of this project because trail users will have access to water at the trailhead and will follow a safer, less strenuous and properly designed trail to the bottom of the



gorge. The new parking also directly addresses a concern raised by the community to concentrate parking at the trailhead and not on neighborhood streets.

The additional impacts have already been considered in the NEPA process. As a NEPA expert, it is my professional opinion that the amount of change has already been vetted through the environmental review process and is consistent with the SDRC CEQA Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration as well as the Forest Service's finding of "no significance". Further, I have consulted our heritage, biological and other resource staffs who concur with this interpretation.

We appreciate your efforts to assist us in this matter.

Sincerely,

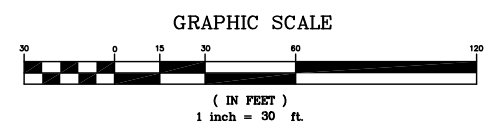
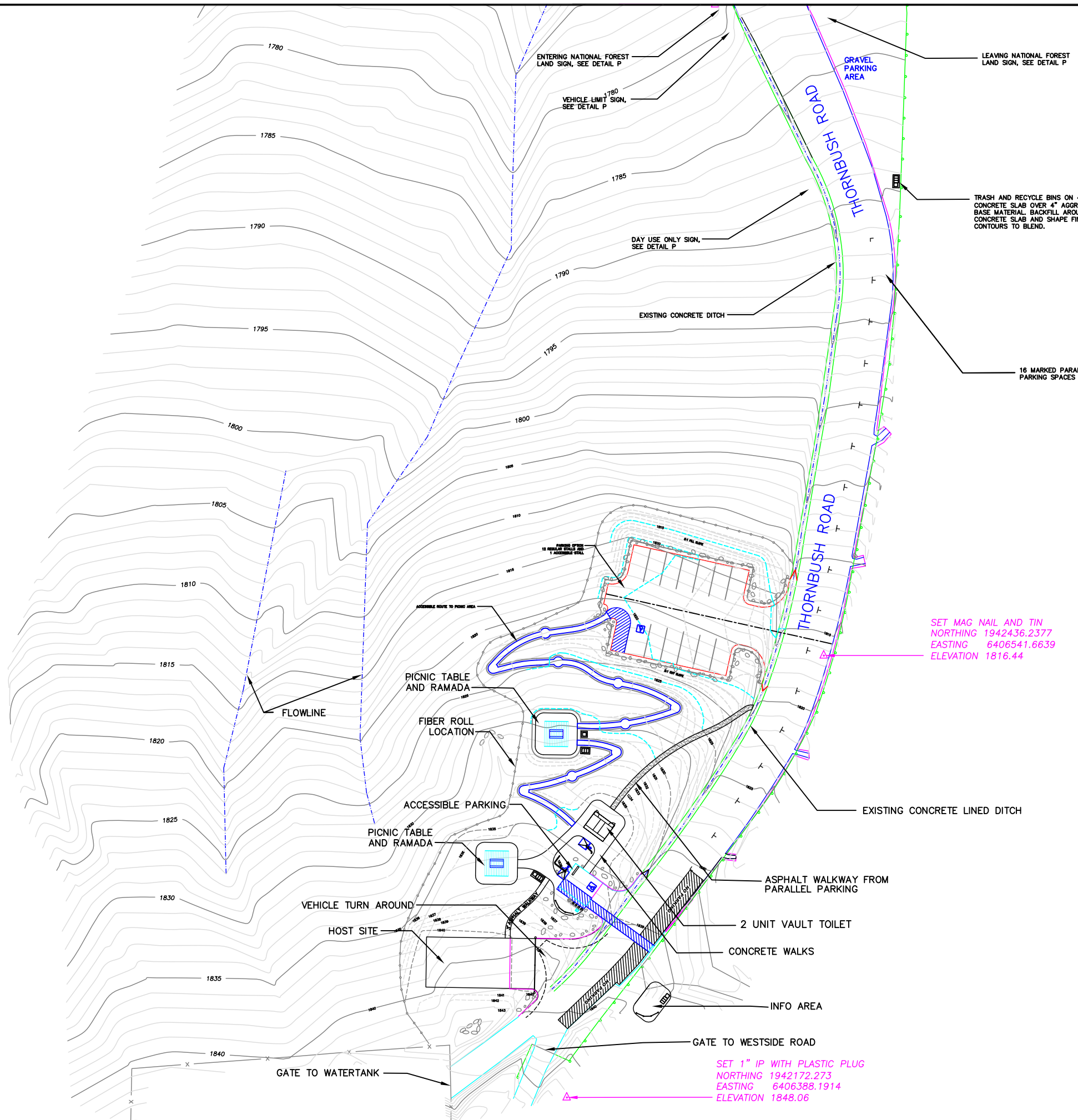
*/s/Joan Friedlander*  
JOAN FRIEDLANDER  
District Ranger

# **EXHIBIT 7D**

## **SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY**

### **River Gorge Project footprint**

Version 2.0 12/19/01 FILE: USFS-Datize(24x36).dwg



NO.	DATE	REVISIONS

FOREST: CLEVELAND NATIONAL FOREST

PROJECT NAME: SAN DIEGO RIVER GORGE TRAILHEAD

DRAWING NAME: SURVEY CONTROL AND OVERVIEW

A/E

PROJECT NUMBER
DESIGNED BY TM/GV
DRAWN BY TM/GV/WW
CHECKED BY
CHECKED BY
DATE 18MAY2010
SCALE AS SHOWN
DRAWING

State of California  
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT  
**Meeting of January 6, 2011**

ITEM: **8**

SUBJECT: **El Monte Valley - Helix Water District**

**Presentation and Report**  
**Mark Weston, General Manager**

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- 8A El Monte Valley Project – Info sheet
- 8B El Monte Valley Project map

# **EXHIBIT 8A**

## **EL MONTE VALLEY PROJECT**

### **Information Sheet**



# El Monte Valley Project

## A New Source of High-Quality Water for San Diego County

In a semi-arid region with low rainfall, the need to create a new, sustainable, drought-proof water supply is becoming urgent. Ninety percent of San Diego County's water supply is imported from outside the area, making San Diego one of the largest counties in the United States dependent on imported water. Imported sources have been restricted by drought on the Colorado River and judicial rulings limiting the amount of Northern California water pumped to San Diego County.

To meet this need, Helix Water District is pursuing a new, permanent water supply. The El Monte Valley Project will supplement the water in the El Monte underground basin with highly purified water, supplying about 15 percent of the District's demand.



The El Monte Valley serves as a wildlife corridor between the adjoining hills and Lake Jennings. Restoration of the riverbed will allow for enhanced habitat for native species.

The El Monte Valley Project will use recycled water that will undergo advanced water purification, including microfiltration, 100% reverse osmosis, and hydrogen peroxide and ultraviolet disinfection. The water will then be pumped into recharge basins along the north side of the El Monte Valley where it will seep into the groundwater basin and mix with naturally occurring water – the same path that rainwater takes. After a minimum six-month period in the ground, the water will be pumped from wells on the south side of the valley and sent to the R.M. Levy Water Treatment Plant in Lakeside, where it will be treated again using ozone to become drinking water.

In addition to supplying five million gallons of purified water per day, this new water source will support habitat restoration along two miles of the San Diego Riverbed.

## Project Model

A similar, much larger project has been operating in Orange County since January 2008. The Orange County Water District's Groundwater Replenishment System has been proven to produce safe, high-quality purified water. The Groundwater Replenishment System purified water has been effective for use as a seawater barrier and as a source of drinking water.



## El Monte Valley Project

The El Monte Valley Project, as currently envisioned, has three major components:

**Purified water** – The District is partnering with local agencies to produce purified water that meets or exceeds drinking water standards. The purified water will then be pumped into recharge basins and will seep into the groundwater basin.

**Riverbed restoration** – The purified water will help raise the water table in the El Monte Valley to allow for restoration of the riverbed with native plants, enabling the creation of a public recreation area. The recreation area will provide many benefits for generations to come, including multi-purpose trails on both sides of the river with appropriate crossings for hiking, mountain biking and equestrian use, as well as wildlife habitat and educational opportunities.

**Surface (sand) mining** – The mining project will take place over a 10 year period in the central areas of the project site. The mining will help re-contour the riverbed for the restoration project, produce sand and gravel to address San Diego County's sand and gravel shortage and generate needed funding for the water and riverbed restoration components.



## Where We Are Today

Helix Water District researched and modeled the feasibility of the El Monte Valley Project to determine that it met the needs of the region. In addition, the potential benefit of the water recharge to the river valley, including revegetation of native plants, was studied closely. The environmental review process is now under way.

### Benefits of the El Monte Valley Project

- Provides five million gallons of purified water per day, regardless of drought, to the Helix Water District service area, which includes La Mesa, Spring Valley, Lemon Grove, El Cajon, parts of Lakeside and Santee, and some unincorporated areas of San Diego County. This amounts to 15 percent of the District's total water demand.
- Improves groundwater quality by mixing high-quality purified water with groundwater.
- Ensures a more consistent water supply for local well users.
- Reduces demand for water imported from the Colorado River and Northern California.
- Reuses a precious resource and creates a new water supply, while reducing wastewater discharges to the ocean.
- Raises the water level to enable revegetation of the San Diego Riverbed, and returns the area to a more natural habitat to support wildlife.
- Provides benefits for generations to come, including a recreation area with trails for hiking, mountain biking and equestrians; wildlife habitat; flood protection; and educational resources.
- Produces sand and gravel to help with San Diego County's shortage.



Equestrians and hikers enjoy the El Monte Valley now and will have enhanced facilities and access to the valley in the future.

## About Water Purification

The water supplied through the El Monte Valley Project will undergo advanced water purification processes proven to produce an extremely high-quality, safe water supply. These processes include:

**Microfiltration** – Microfiltration is a low-pressure membrane process that removes small suspended particles, protozoa, bacteria and viruses from water. It is a process used in computer chip manufacturing, sterilization of medicines that cannot be heated, baby food, fruit juice and soda beverage processing.

**Reverse Osmosis** – Reverse osmosis is a high-pressure membrane process used by many bottled water companies that forces water through a thin membrane to filter out minerals, contaminants, salts, viruses and pesticides.

**Ultraviolet Light and Hydrogen Peroxide Disinfection** – These two processes act as an additional barrier of protection, providing extra assurance that no unwanted contaminants will pass through the purification process. This process is similar to that used in hospitals and dental offices to sterilize instruments.

**Ozone** – Ozone is a three atom form of oxygen. It is able to destroy a wider range of organisms in drinking water than chlorine. The Helix Water District's R.M. Levy Water Treatment Plant uses ozone as its primary disinfectant.

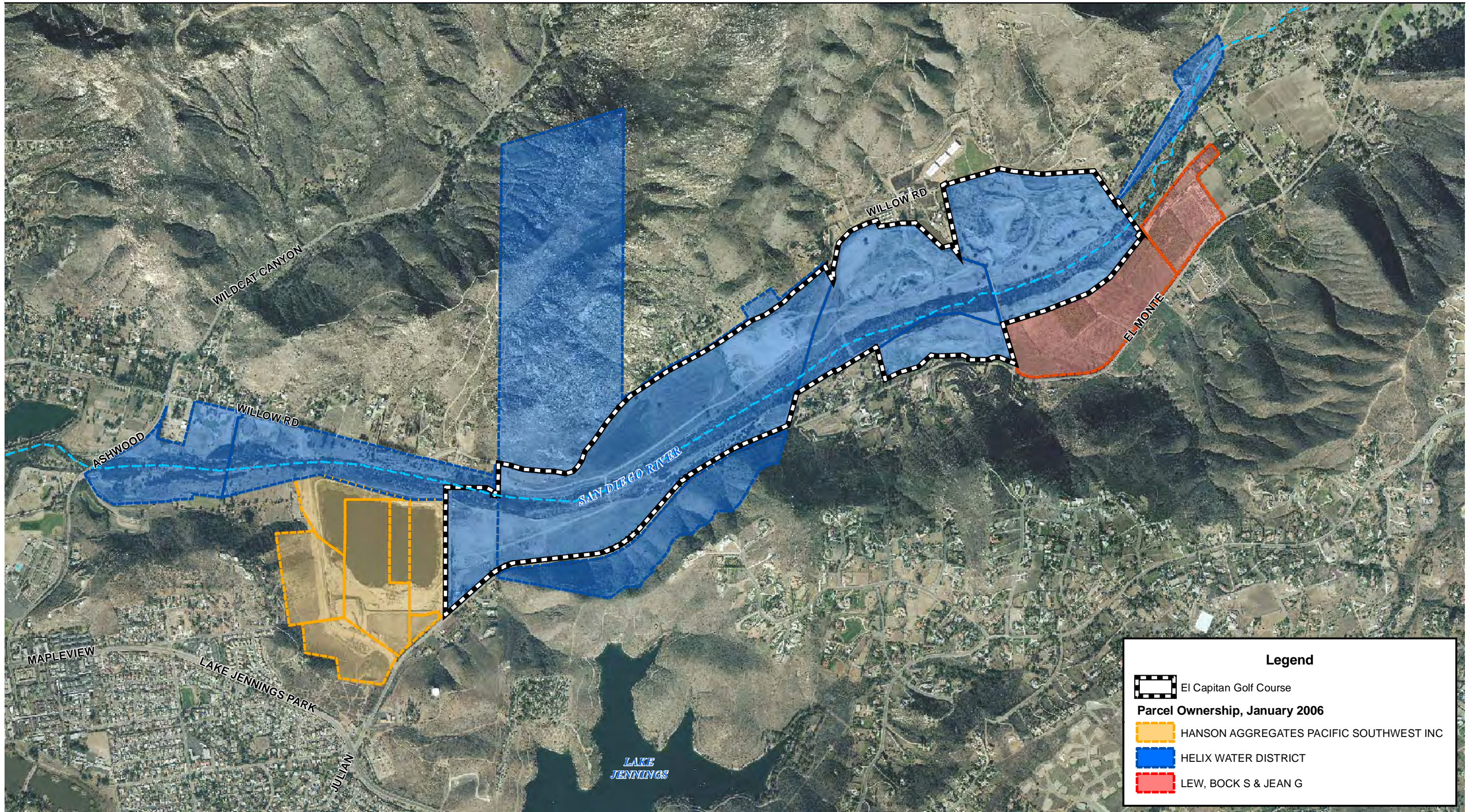


# **EXHIBIT 8B**

## **EL MONTE VALLEY PROJECT**

### **Map**





Source: AirPhotoUSA 2006; SanGIS 2006  
 1,400 700 0 1,400 Feet  
 Scale: 1:18,000; 1 inch = 1,500 feet

**El Capitan Golf Course**

State of California  
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT  
**Meeting of January 6, 2011**

ITEM: 9

SUBJECT: **San Diego River Park Foundation and Coalition**

**Presentation and Report**

**Rob Hutsel, San Diego River Coalition and Park Foundation**

State of California  
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT  
**Meeting of January 6, 2011**

ITEM: 10

SUBJECT: Intergovernmental Working Group: San Diego River Trail

**Status Report**  
Mike Nelson

**ATTACHMENTS:**

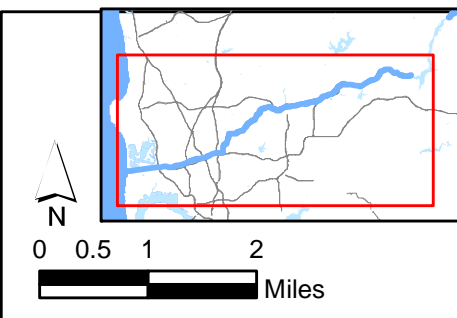
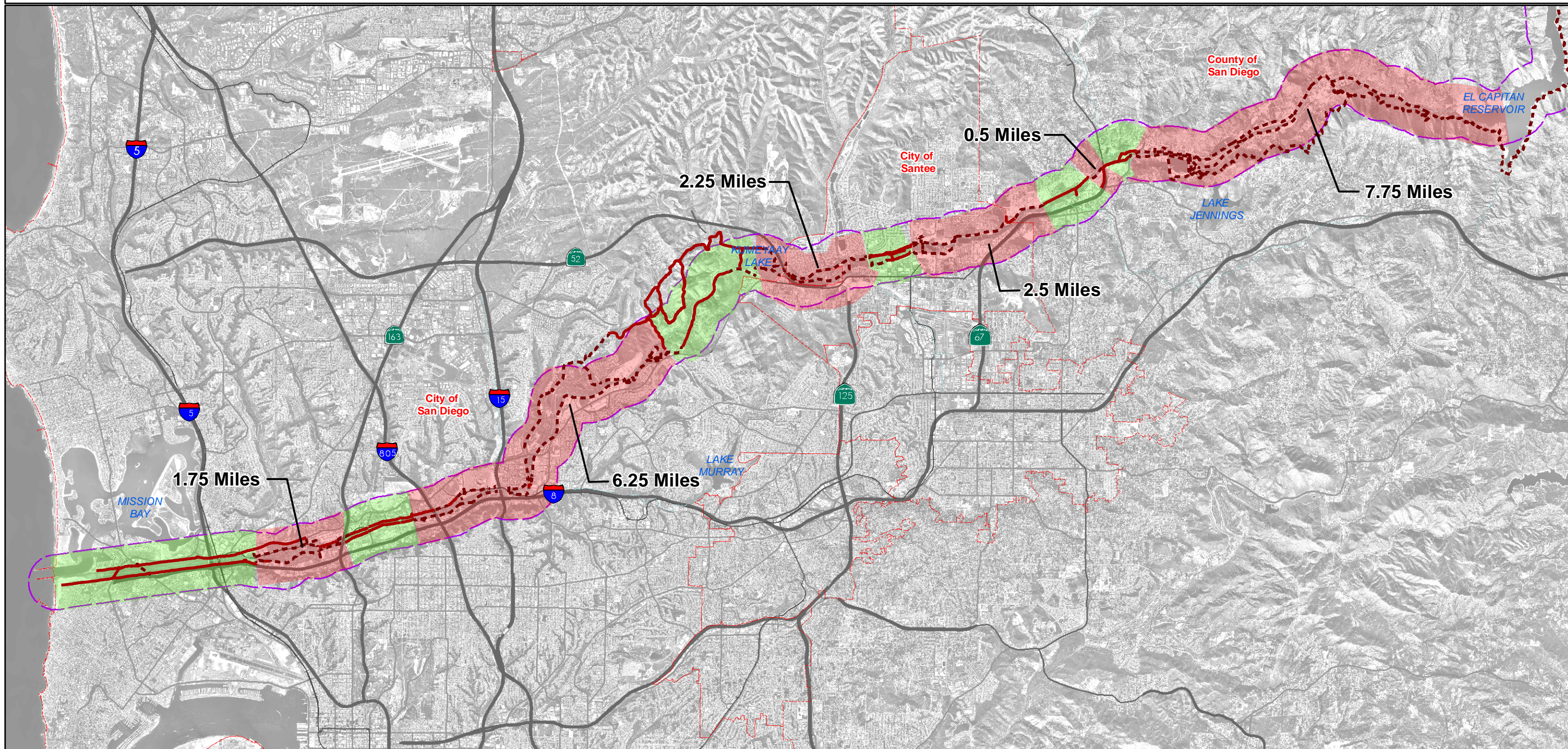
- 10A SDRC Gaps Analysis summary (map)
- 10B Lists of priorities by jurisdiction

# **EXHIBIT 10A**

## **SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY GAPS ANALYSIS**

### **Overall Map**

# SDRT GAPS Analysis: Ocean to the El Capitan Reservoir



**SDRT - Existing Trail**  
**SDRT - GAP**

**Existing Trail Segments**  
**Planned/Proposed Trail Segements**

**SDRC Jurisdiction**  
**City Boundaries**

# **EXHIBIT 10B**

## **SAN DIEGO RIVER CONSERVANCY GAPS ANALYSIS**

### **Priorities by Jurisdiction**

# City of San Diego

ID	Name	Length (miles)	Land Use Jurisdiction	Jurisdiction Priority	KTUA	SANDAG	Total Miles
SD-A	West Mission Bay Drive Class I Path	0.403	City of San Diego		H	X	<b>7.0714</b>
SD-B	Hazard Center Drive Extension Class I Path	0.262	City of San Diego		H		
1	Sefton Field to Friars Road Class I Path and Non-Vehicular	0.27	City of San Diego		H	X	
2	YMCA to Fashion Valley Road Along Trolley Tracks	1.196	City of San Diego		H		
11	Mission Center Road Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge	0.027	City of San Diego		H	X	
12	Camino Del Este Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge	0.014	City of San Diego		H	X	
13	Camino Del Este Pedestrian Signal	0.0014	City of San Diego		H	X	
16	Discovery Center Class I Path	0.247	City of San Diego		H		
19	Fenton Parkway to I-15 Class I Path	0.866	City of San Diego		H	X	
20	Qualcomm to Mission Center Parkway Class I Path and Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge	0.255	City of San Diego		H	X	
23	Rancho Mission Road/Ward Road	0.122	City of San Diego		H		
33	MTRP Class I Path	1.419	City of San Diego		H	X	
34	Tierrasanta Blvd to Calle De Vida	0.772	City of San Diego		H		
42	West Carlton Oaks Golf Course Multi-Use Path	0.051	City of San Diego		H		
43	Carlton Oaks Golf Course to Carlton Oaks Drive Class I Path	0.123	City of San Diego		H		
45	Carlton Oaks Golf Course Class I Path and Multi-Use Trail	1.043	City of San Diego		H		

# County of San Diego

ID	Name	Length (miles)	Land Use Jurisdiction	Jurisdiction Priority	KTUA	SANDAG	Total Miles
CNTY-A	Lakeside Baseball Park to Lakeside River Park Multi-Use Path	0.627	County of San Diego		H		<b>9.74</b>
CNTY-D	El Monte County Park to Flume Multi-Use Trail	0.92	County of San Diego		H		
57	Channel Road to SR-67 Underpass	0.41	County of San Diego		H		
60	Western Flume	4.891	County of San Diego		H		
63	Eastern Flume	2.67	County of San Diego		H		
64	Flume to El Monte Road	0.222	County of San Diego		H		



# City of Santee

ID	Name	Length (miles)	Land Use Jurisdiction	Jurisdiction Priority	KTUA	SANDAG	Total Miles
SA-A	Environmental Trust/Mast Park Multi-Use Trail	0.583	City of Santee	3	H		<b>3.709</b>
SA-B	Town Center Community Park Multi-Use Trail	0.432	City of Santee	2	H		
44	West Hills Parkway to Carlton Oaks Golf Course	0.148	City of Santee	M	H		
46	East Carlton Oaks Golf Course Class I Path and Multi-Use Trail	0.125	City of Santee	M	H		
47	Unused Row Class I Path and Multi-Use Trail	0.143	City of Santee	5	H		
49	Mast Park to Town Center Community Park Class I Bike Path	0.24	City of Santee	2	H		
50	County of San Diego Parcel Class I Path and Multi-Use Trail	0.386	City of Santee	2	H		
51	RCP Brick & Block Class I Path and Multi-Use Trail	0.2	City of Santee	1	H		
53	Santee Town Center to Town Center Park Non-Vehicular Bridge	0.192	City of Santee	L	H	X	
54	RCP to Magnolia Ave South	0.065	City of Santee		H		
55	Magnolia Ave. North to Hanlon Walker	0.075	City of Santee		H		
56	Hanlon Walker Property Multi-Use Path	1.12	City of Santee	1	H		

State of California  
San Diego River Conservancy

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT  
**Meeting of January 6, 2011**

ITEM: 11

SUBJECT: **ADJOURNMENT**