State of California—The Natural Resources Agency

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
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Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: August 29, 2011

From : Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Director

Subject: **Agenda Item 14: Consideration of resolution authorizing a grant from the Conservancy Fund to the Felidae Conservation Fund for mountain lion and wildlife corridor interpretive video**

<u>Staff Recommendation</u>: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing a nonprofit grant to the Felidae Conservation fund in an amount not to exceed $6,500 from the Conservancy Fund, for a mountain lion and wildlife corridors interpretive video.

<u>Legislative Authority</u>: Section 33204.2(a) of the Public Resources Code states that

> The conservancy may award grants to nonprofit organizations qualified as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code

of 1954 (26 U.S.C. Sec. 501(c)(3)), . . . , to carry out improvements, maintenance, acquisitions, or educational interpretation programs that directly relate to a project that the conservancy is otherwise authorized to undertake pursuant to this division.

<u>Background</u>: Film maker Michael Harris has followed National Park Service biologists in their mammal tracking studies over several seasons and has taken extensive footage of mountain lions and wildlife habitat linkage chokepoints such as the one at Liberty Canyon and the 101 Freeway. Mr. Harris is teamed with the Felidae Conservation Fund, a qualified nonprofit, to collect funding to complete the video project with additional footage and production work.

The proposed small grant from the Conservancy Fund would augment an additional $78,500 from other sources, including private donations.

Video photography completed pursuant to approval of this grant will be available to the Conservancy and partner agencies for educational interpretation purposes, such as public programs, visitor centers, and the web.