



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
Ramirez Canyon Park
5810 Ramirez Canyon Road
Malibu, California 90265
Phone (310) 589-3230 Fax (310) 589-3237

Agenda Item 12(f)
SMMC
4/29/13

April 12, 2013

Irma Muñoz
Chairperson
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
570 West Avenue Twenty-Six, Suite 100
Los Angeles, California 90065

Request for Project Planning and Design Grant for Sage Ranch to Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park Habitat Linkage Project

Dear Chairperson Muñoz and Conservancy Members:

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) expresses its appreciation to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC) for the opportunity to work collaboratively on project development through Project Planning and Design grants. To continue this collaboration, the MRCA is submitting the attached grant application for project planning and design services for the Sage Ranch to Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park habitat linkage project. Combining the trajectories of current available capital funding, acquisition momentum, Conservancy staff feedback, and long time priorities, this application requests \$57,500 for work and expenditures to secure public capital resources in this project area.

The area between Sage Ranch Park and the Santa Susana Pass State Historic Park is vital both to the Rim of the Valley Trail and the Santa Susana Mountains - Simi Hills wildlife corridor. A CAPP recently prepared by the Santa Monica Mountains Resource Conservation District may open the door to important Wildlife Conservation Board funding. Various mitigation funding sources are also available. Key ground work is necessary to set up the opportunities to use this funding in a regionally significant area. Many longstanding Conservancy acquisition priorities are in this proposed Sage Ranch to Santa Susana State Historic Park habitat linkage project.

The proposed project area included under this grant would encompass approximately six miles of blue line streams and approximately 150 parcels, totaling approximately 2,200 acres in the Simi Hills. These parcels includes approximately four miles of a key contiguous north-south Rim of the Valley Trail segment along the North American Cutoff Road.

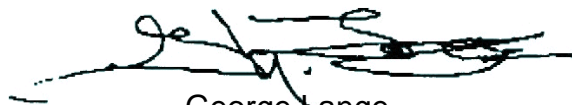
Irma Muñoz, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy

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We look forward to your response and continuing to secure land, easements, and public access improvements in the Santa Monica Mountains and Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor zones.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Judi Tamasi at 310-589-3230, ext. 121.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Lange", written over a horizontal line.

George Lange
Chairperson