

Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: November 4, 2013

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 15: Consideration of resolution approving the use of Coastal Habitat Impact Mitigation Fund for the acquisition of approximately 416 acres in Decker Canyon, west of Decker Canyon Road, incorporated and unincorporated Malibu area.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution authorizing the use of Coastal Habitat Impact Mitigation Funds for the acquisition of approximately 416 acres (APN'S 4472-018-007; 4472-024-005, 007, 008; 4472-023-007, 008; 4473-004-002 and 003) in Decker Canyon, west of Decker Canyon Road, in both incorporated and unincorporated portions of the Malibu area.

Legislative Authority: Public Resources Code 33211(c)

Background: The subject properties comprise an approximately 416-acre ownership in the Decker Canyon watershed, and fall within the Conservancy's Los Alisos Canyon-Upper Workprogram project. This ownership abuts Leo Carrillo State Park to the west, and Decker Canyon Camp to the northeast. The Coastal Slope Trail crosses through five of the eight subject parcels. The dominant vegetation type is chaparral with extensive riparian vegetation included in a long section of Decker Canyon Creek.

On November 6, 2013, the MRCA Governing Board will consider a resolution authorizing the use of \$25,000 of Coastal Habitat Impact Mitigation Fund (CHIMF) funding towards the acquisition of the subject properties. The MRCA's use of each CHIMF expenditure must be approved by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. The MRCA holds and expends these mitigation funds which can only be spent within the Coastal Zone boundary of the Santa Monica Mountains.

The bulk of the acquisition costs would be funded by Proposition A funds from the Los Angeles County Third Supervisorial District, and by funds from the Leo Carrillo Trust held by the State of California. The MRCA would hold fee title to each property.