

Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date: April 28, 2014

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

Subject: **Agenda Item 17: Consideration of resolution assigning the right to apply for Proposition A Big Five Specified Excess Funds for the Puerco Canyon Coastal Core Habitat properties to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, unincorporated Malibu area.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the attached resolution assigning the rights to apply for \$5,270,000 of Proposition A Big Five Specified Excess Funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the acquisition of 702.73 acres (APNs 4457-004-056, 057, 058, 059, 060, 061, 062, 063, 064, 065, 066, 067, 068, 069, 070, 071, 072; 4457-005-012, 015, 017, 027, 028; 4458-031-001, 002) in the Puerco, Corral, and Malibu Canyon watersheds.

Legislative Authority: Section 33211 of Public Resources Code.

Background: The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) has entered into an agreement to acquire 24 parcels totaling approximately 703 acres primarily in the Puerco Canyon watershed in Malibu. A map of the parcels is attached. The property is bounded by State, Federal, MRCA, and protected Pepperdine University open space. The Conservancy's 300-acre Corral Canyon Park is one of these adjacent public parklands. The property is critical to the completion of the Coastal Slope Trail.

The acquisition is proposed to be funded by grants from the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) and the State Coastal Conservancy (SCC) and by Third Supervisorial District Proposition A funds. The acquisition is on a tight time line. Actions by the SCC, the WCB, and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors are anticipated in May of this year.

For the MRCA to use Proposition A funding in the Santa Monica Mountains, the Conservancy must authorize assigning the right to apply for said funds from the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District to the MRCA.

The proposed action would assign the right to apply for \$5,270,000 of 3rd Supervisorial District Proposition A Big Five Specified Excess Funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the acquisition of subject 703 acres that lie in the Puerco, Corral and Malibu Canyon watersheds.