



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

September 11, 2014

Hon. Linda Parks
Chairperson
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
570 West Avenue Twenty-Six, Suite 100
Los Angeles, California 90065

**Request for Project Planning and Design Grant for
Eastern Simi Hills Project**

Dear Chairperson Parks and Conservancy Members:

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) expresses its appreciation to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for the opportunity to work collaboratively on project development and completion. The MRCA respectfully submits the attached grant application for project planning and design work in the Eastern Simi Hills region of the Upper Los Angeles River watershed. This application requests \$75,000 of Proposition 84 funding for the MRCA staff to secure public land and easement interests in this project area that includes portions of both Ventura and Los Angeles Counties.

The eastern side of the Simi Hills provide numerous trailhead opportunities at the edge of the San Fernando Valley and form part of the inter-mountain range habitat linkage from the Santa Susana Pass area. The area also includes miles of the Rim of the Valley Trail Alignment. From south to north the subject proposed grant work area encompasses portions of the following Los Angeles River tributaries: El Escorpián, Bell, Dayton, Woolsey, Box, Chatsworth, and Santa Susana.

There are many gaps between protected habitat areas and many trails on private lands that should be permanently protected. The numerous parks and public open space holdings along the corridor require expanded habitat and trail connections to maintain their ecological and recreational capacity.

Please direct any questions to Garrett Weinstein, Project Analyst, at (310) 589-3230, ext. 124.

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Sincerely,

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

George Lange
Chairperson