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MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

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- Mexico

ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM WORKING GROUP

The Environmental Mitigation Program Working Group may take action on any item appearing on this agenda.

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

1 to 3 p.m.

SANDAG, 7th Floor Conference Room
 401 B Street, Suite 800
 San Diego, CA 92101-4231

Staff Contact: Keith Greer
 (619) 699-7390
 kgr@sandag.org

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

- POST-WILDFIRE ASSESSMENTS AND PERSPECTIVES
- LAND MANAGEMENT ELIGIBILITY AND PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA
- CONSERVED LANDS DATABASE STATUS

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ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM WORKING GROUP

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

ITEM #		RECOMMENDATION
1.	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (Chair, Mayor Pro Tem Carrie Downey, City of Coronado)	
+2.	SUMMARY OF DECEMBER 11, 2007, MEETING Review and approve the December 11, 2007, meeting summary.	APPROVE
3.	PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS Members of the public will have the opportunity to address the Environmental Mitigation Program Working Group (EMPWG) on any issue within the jurisdiction of the Working Group. Speakers are limited to three minutes each.	COMMENT
4.	STATUS UPDATE ON THE <i>TransNet</i> ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM (EMP) MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA), REGIONAL FUNDING AND RELATED ACTIONS (Keith Greer, SANDAG) Mr. Greer will provide a status update on the recent actions of the Independent Taxpayers Oversight Committee, Regional Planning Committee, Regional Transportation Committee, and/or SANDAG Board actions related to the <i>TransNet</i> EMP MOA and regional funding.	INFORMATION
5.	POST-WILDFIRE ASSESSMENTS (Jeremy Buegge, County of San Diego; Susan Carter, San Dieguito River Park; and Emily Young, San Diego Foundation) The October 2007 wildfires resulted in ecological impacts and land management challenges on a countywide basis. A panel of three speakers will provide their perspectives on general fire impacts (Mr. Buegge), land management impacts, and needs (Ms. Carter), and community need assessment (Ms. Young).	INFORMATION/ DISCUSSION

ITEM #

RECOMMENDATION

- +6. FY 08 LAND MANAGEMENT GRANTS: ELIGIBILITY AND PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA (Keith Greer, SANDAG)

DISCUSSION/ POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS

On December 11, 2007, the EMPWG voted to recommend \$2.9 million for land management activities. The Working Group will review the eligibility and prioritization criteria used for the FY 06 land management "Call for Projects" and evaluate if any changes are needed. In addition, the Working Group will establish a selection committee of members not seeking funding to evaluate proposals received during the Call for Projects.

- +7. CONSERVED LANDS DATABASE STATUS (Sue Carnevale, SANDAG)

INFORMATION/ DISCUSSION

The EMPWG recommended, and the SANDAG Board approved, funding to develop a comprehensive database on lands conserved in the region. Ms. Carnevale will provide a status report on the conserved lands database. She will present a brief background, current status, challenges, and future objectives.

- 8. ADJOURN

INFORMATION

The next EMPWG meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2008, from 1 to 3 p.m.

+ next to an item indicates an attachment

San Diego Association of Governments
ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM
WORKING GROUP

January 15, 2007

AGENDA ITEM NO.: **2**

Action Requested: APPROVE

SUMMARY OF DECEMBER 11, 2007, MEETING

File Number 3002700

Members in Attendance:

Carrie Downey (Chair), City of Coronado
Tom Oberbauer (Vice Chair), County of San Diego
Matt Adams, Building Industry Association
Craig Adams, San Diego Conservation Network
Bruce April, Caltrans
Michael Beck, Endangered Habitats League
Patti Brindle, City of Poway, North County Inland
Bill Gallup, Wildlife Conservation Board (alt)
Marissa Lundstedt, Chula Vista, South County
David Mayer, Department of Fish and Game
Carlton Rochester, USGS (alt)
Kathy Viatella, Nature Conservancy
Jim Whalen, Alliance for Habitat Conservation
Susan Wynn, US Fish and Wildlife Service

SANDAG Staff in Attendance:

Keith Greer
Kevin Wood

Others in Attendance:

Anne Fege, San Diego Natural History Museum
Chris Brown, USGS
Barbara Kus, USGS
Trish Boaz, County of San Diego
Scott Grimes, Endangered Habitats League
Dahvia Lynch, County of San Diego
Jerre Stallcup, CBI
Mike Hastings, Los Penesquitos Lagoon Foundation
Justin Fischbock, Helix Environmental
Randy Rodriguez
David de Cordova, City of Encinitas

1. Welcome and Introductions

Carrie Downey, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m., welcomed the group, and introductions were made. Ms. Downey welcomed alternates in attendance and reminded members to designate alternates, if needed.

2. November 13, 2007, Meeting Summary

Michael Beck, Endangered Habitats League, motioned to approve the November 13, 2007, meeting minutes. Jim Whalen, Alliance for Habitat Conservation, seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Public Comments and Communications

Members of the public had the opportunity to address the Environmental Mitigation Program Working Group (EMPWG) on any issue within the jurisdiction of the Working Group.

Chair Downey noted that Working Group members had received an e-mail from Diane Nygaard, who was unable to attend the meeting (Attachment 1). Ms. Nygaard requested to add an incentive for completion of sub-area plans, tie level of funding to some assurances about provision of a regional funding source, and add funds for wildlife movement and monitoring.

Jerre Stallcup from the Conservation Biology Institute noted that she served on the ad hoc committee to make management and monitoring budget recommendations and that post-fire recovery should be a priority, including public access control to the more sensitive areas. Ms. Stallcup handed out information related to reconsideration for the distribution of funding for land management and monitoring as proposed in Item 5 (Attachment 1). She also thought specific management and management for the cactus wren, burrowing owl, and butterflies should be a priority. She also recommended looking for more grant money to supplement regional funding.

Anne Fege from the San Diego Natural History Museum said that post-fire recovery was a great opportunity for different groups to work together. She said that a common methodology and a citizen science process are needed so we can involve everyone in the recovery process. She also invited Working Group members to the workshop being put on by San Diego State University on December 18 at Mission Trails Regional Park on their monitoring program, including methods recommendations by the statistician who leads the project. Keith Greer, SANDAG clarified that the presentation was 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

No other public comments were made.

4. *TransNet* Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP) Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)

Chair Downey noted that many people had worked very hard over the last year on the MOA, including the staff at the wildlife agencies and at SANDAG. Mr. Greer noted that this Working Group was first approached about a year ago on what was then called the Master Agreement on how *TransNet* funding could fund early acquisition of land and obtain assurances as mitigation for future projects. Since that time, there have been numerous meetings with stakeholders and an

agreement has been reached between the signatory parties of that agreement (SANDAG, Caltrans, United States Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS) and the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG)). The agreement (Attachment 2) and a flowchart illustrating key concepts were provided to the EMPWG and members of the public.

The EMP is an important part of the *TransNet* Ordinance Extension since mitigation will be required for all the transportation projects whether major highway and transit projects or local streets. The total estimated mitigation cost for all the projects would be \$850 million, but by buying land early and in large chunks, an approximate \$200 million savings can be realized. The program benefits conservation by ensuring the large-scale acquisition and management of critical habitat area and transportation by creating a reliable approach to funding required for mitigation for future transportation improvements.

The MOA is a processing agreement with a ten-year time span. It guarantees that mitigation for transportation projects will be properly funded and executed. It also includes progress reports starting in the third year and then every two years afterwards to analyze the progress of the MOA in implementing the goals of the EMP. At the end of ten years, a comprehensive analysis of the agreement will be conducted, and the MOA will be amended as necessary. As specific agreements are reached on a project-level or series of projects during the ten years of the MOA, funding would be released to acquire the necessary mitigation land. Separate from the mitigation of projects, \$4 million will be released annually for ten years for regional management and monitoring. At the end of the ten years, cost savings will be determined on how well the MOA provided economic benefits and that money would go back into the regional habitat conservation fund for future acquisition, restoration, management, and/or monitoring efforts.

The Independent Taxpayers Oversight Committee (ITOC) will have to approve the SANDAG Plan of Finance on January 9, 2008, which includes changes due to the MOA. The EMP is just a small part of the overall Plan of Finance, which includes capital projects, transit operations, and other programs. The MOA also will need to be approved by the Regional Planning Committee at their meeting of February 8, 2008. Both these items will go to the SANDAG Board of Directors on the 22nd of February. The Conservation and Mitigation Strategy, specific agreements, and the implementation of the five-year management and monitoring strategy will be worked on if the SANDAG Board approves the MOA.

Ms. Downey noted that although we would like get the funding out sooner along with all the approvals needed, money is going to be released as soon as possible. It was noted that contract preparations could start, so projects were ready to go when everything was approved.

There was a question as to how the EMP priorities compare with the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) priorities. The MOA indicates that Early Action Program (EAP) projects are the first priority for mitigation and then the revenue-constrained projects. Early Action Program and revenue-constrained projects are nearly 75 percent of all projects in the RTP, so we can expect to need mitigation for those impacts, including a large amount of coastal wetlands. One piece of land may mitigate for multiple projects, and there is enough flexibility in the agreement to do this. Susan Wynn, USFWS, reiterated the need to look at the whole portfolio in terms of impacts and see which opportunities fulfill which needs. We should not get locked into an acre-for-acre approach.

Members had a few concerns with the MOA. Jim Whalen, Alliance for Habitat Preservation, thought that some of the items in the agreement were lacking detail and were too open-ended. He also said that the Coastal Commission should be involved since they will have to grant permits for some of the coastal projects. Matt Adams, Building Industry Association (BIA), thought that Item 9 might not provide sufficient assurances that additional compensatory mitigation would not be required and that the dispute resolution identified in Item 10 needs strict deadlines to prevent problems.

Ms. Downey noted that this agreement might not be as comprehensive as some would have liked, but further negotiations would likely increase any assurances. Specific needs will get addressed in subsequent specific agreements. She also stated that the EMPWG technically does not have to approve this agreement, but it would be beneficial when this issue goes before ITOC and Board meeting to say that this Working Group supports the MOA.

Mr. Whalen has moved that this Working Group support the MOA as drafted, with the understanding that there will be comments and possible edits made, and presuming that they do not change the flavor, intent, or goals of this MOA, the Working Group supports it.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Oberbauer and passed unanimously.

5. FY 08 Management and Monitoring Recommendations

Mr. Oberbauer commenced the discussion. There was an ad hoc subcommittee to develop land management and monitoring Recommendations for FY 08. This included \$1.3 million from FY 07 that was allocated, but not expended and \$4.0 million for FY 08. There were a number of diverse opinions at the meeting.

Mr. Greer gave some additional background on the budget. Of the \$2 million budgeted for FY 07, only \$700,000 was spent, since the remainder was contingent on an executed agreement with the wildlife agencies. That leaves \$1.3 million from FY 07 and \$4 million from FY 08 to allocate, for a total of \$5.3 million.

Ms. Downey asked if the \$650,000 allocated for fire recovery and access control would actually cover the cost given the number of acres burned. Ms. Wynn stated that there is some overlap between invasive control and fire recovery. She also noted that the Working Group will soon start the process of making recommendations for FY 09 and can ramp up activities like replanting and access control.

Craig Adams, Conservation Resources Network, thought that there was too much focus on biological monitoring and not enough for land management. He would like to see consideration of another alternative, which takes money from the Program Developer position and post-fire monitoring and puts it into post fire-restoration and access control. Kathy Viatella, The Nature Conservancy, also expressed concern that the budget as presented did not adequately cover all the needs for post-fire recovery. Ms. Wynn noted that there were other sources of management and that the federal government will be performing fire-recovery activities on Bureau of Land Management, BIA, and forest service lands. She suggested that the Working Group maintain flexibility in their own budget while examining where federal dollars go, so we can fill in the gaps. It was noted that the USFWS will not receive money for non-listed species. Carlton Fisher, USGS, noted that the \$650,000 for post-fire monitoring was not simply a continuation of what was done

previously, but would expand on this work. The final report/manuscripts are under review, but would be released soon.

Mr. Beck noted that the fires decimated the habitat of the coastal cactus wren, and that more study was not needed to know that immediate action was necessary to re-establish habitat for the cactus wren. He noted that the Multiple Species Conservation Program said that no species would go extinct, and we need to provide the funding to prevent it from happening. Ms. Wynn indicated that the mapping of cactus was necessary before anything could be done to work on habitat and that there may be state and federal funds available for the cactus wren and other sensitive species.

Matt Adams expressed concern that this budget did not meet the bare minimum management standards. Ms. Wynn indicated that the budget recommendations were a pragmatic attempt to deal with the highest priority issues given the money we have without linking it to management standards. Ms. Boaz noted that the County and other jurisdictions were responsible for general management and monitoring and should make sure that they share all their data. It was noted that the budget put the regional infrastructure in place to ensure long-term monitoring and management while looking at specific species that have immediate needs.

Ms. Downey noted that with the concern about flexibility, the opinion seemed to be consensus to combine 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4 into a category called "invasive control, fire recovery, and access management." Items in section 3 (regional monitoring) were discreet projects that should not be moved. She asked if a motion could be made.

Susan Wynn made a motion to combine 2.2, 2.3, and 2.4 and to shift \$150,000 from the program developer position (Item 1.1) to the newly combined category for a total of \$2.9 million. The motion was amended noting that all other categories would stay the same. Mr. April motioned to approve the amended motion, and Mr. Oberbauer seconded. The motioned passed 12-1-1 with abstention from Mr. Beck and opposition from Mr. Craig Adams.

FY 08: Summary of Proposed Recommendations
Revised per Working Group Discussions 12/11/07

Regional Coordination	
1.1 Program Developer (2 yr contract)	\$300,000 \$150,000
Regional Management	
2.1 Management Coordinator	\$150,000
2.2 Implement Invasive Control and Removal/ <i>Fire Recovery/Restoration and Access Management</i>	\$2,100,000 \$2,900,000
2.3 Fire Recovery/Restoration	\$350,000
2.4 Access Control/Management	\$300,000
Regional Monitoring	
3.1 Monitoring Coordinator	\$150,000
3.2 Updated Vegetation Mapping and Database	\$150,000
3.3 Pilot Testing and Refinement of Vegetation Monitoring	\$145,000
3.4 Rare Plant Monitoring Protocols	\$100,000
3.5 Gnatcatcher Monitoring Continuation	\$440,000
3.6 Post-fire Monitoring Continuation	\$650,000
3.7 Invasive Species Mapping	\$200,000
3.8 Cactus Wren Habitat Mapping	\$150,000
3.9 Burrowing Owl Distribution	\$65,000
3.10 Rare Butterfly Surveys	\$50,000
TOTAL	\$5,300,000

6. Adjourn

Ms. Downey adjourned the meeting at 3:09 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 15, 2008, from 1 to 3 p.m. The January 15, 2008, meeting was subsequently canceled.

Request for re-prioritization of 2008 Transnet funding

When the reserve design was finalized and approved for the MSCP and MHCP, it was acknowledged that, because of the degree of urbanization, fragmentation, and small habitat patch size, intensive management would be the only way to sustain populations of the covered species. At that time, we recognized and enumerated all the threats we are facing today, including catastrophic events such as wildfire, and obligated ourselves to manage and monitor the resources to address these threats. *In fact, these were permit criteria for regulatory coverage.*

For the past decade, our region has not funded management or monitoring to the extent called for in the MSCP and MHCP plans. With the catastrophic fires in 2003 and again in 2007, we are obligated to assist the habitats in recovery. We are well aware of the impacts that invasive species and human land uses have had on the ecoregion and covered species. We cannot delay any longer in managing against the cumulative effects of fire, invasive species, and inappropriate public uses of the reserves.

After the fire, habitats in the reserves need to heal without being trampled by off-highway vehicles or even by well-meaning hikers and bikers unable to find the designated trails covered by ash. Our responsibilities are clear:

1. Control and manage public access within the reserves—hire staff to patrol and enforce compatible public uses.
2. Control and manage exotic species to encourage recovery by native species—invest in existing infrastructure (Weed Management Areas) to eradicate, control, and monitor invasive species.
3. Control and manage erosion to protect both terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems—install fences, signage, and appropriate erosion control and restoration measures.
4. Monitor the status of key covered species that are most at risk of extirpation as a result of human land uses and prevailing threats, and for which the program has regulatory obligations, e.g., cactus wrens, burrowing owls, gnatcatchers, and rare butterfly species. Direct active habitat restoration efforts to support these species.
5. Educate the public as to our obligations and to what is at stake—engage the citizen beneficiaries in stewarding the reserve system in their backyards.
6. Continue cooperative efforts to leverage the regional Transnet funding to procure outside funds to maintain the long-term scientific monitoring databases we are building.

In this time of triage we must prioritize limited *regional* funds toward active management of our reserves and monitoring to inform the persistence and management of individual species at risk. The levels of funding currently proposed in the 2008 Transnet budget for management and focused monitoring are not adequate to address these conservation priorities in light of the impacts of the 2003 and 2007 fires. I request that the EMP Working Group reevaluate management and monitoring priorities for 2008 in response to the wildfires and other identified threats.

Greer, Keith

From: diane nygaard [dandd2@peoplepc.com]
Sent: Monday, December 10, 2007 9:07 PM
To: Greer, Keith; Alfredo Gonzalez; Barbara Redlitz; Bruce April; Carrrie Downey; Craig Adams; Craig Benedetto; David Mayer; Deborah Ruddock; Debra Townsend; Emily Young; Jeanette Baker; Jeanne Krosch; Wiley, Julie; Karen Bane; Kathy Viatella; Kevin Mallory; Libby Lucas; Marisa Lundstedt; Matt Adams; Melanie Johnson Rocks; Michael Beck; Mike Grim; Patrick Murphy; Patti Brindle; Robert Fisher; Susan Wynn; Susanne Glasgow; Tom Oberbauer; Trish Boaz; Andrew Malk; Anne Fege; Bill James; Bill Tippets; Bill Toone; Leiter, Bob; Bob Stewart; Brenda Johnson; Clare Billett; Clark Winchell; Courtney Coyle; Craig Scott; Dahvia Lynch; Dave DeCordova; David Younkman; Deborah Lee; Debra Jayne; Diane Conklin; Don Neu; Don Rideout; Doug Stow; Doug Williford; Ed Almanza; Elizabeth Goldman; Eric Loft; Gail Presley; Greg Thompson; Boda, Jack; Clough-Riquelme, Jane; Jeff Opdycke; Jerre Stallcup; Jerry Backoff; Jerry Hittleman; Jim Sandoval; Jim Whalen; John Conley; Kirk, John; John Snyder; Jonathan Hardy; Karen Scarborough; Keith Pezzoli; Kelly Hendrickson; Kevin Hunting; Kim Kilkenny; Larry Eng; Lenore Volturmo; Maeve Hanley; Mark Carpenter; Mark Tucker; Markus Spiegelberg; Cox, Marney; Mary Ellen Mueller; Mary Niez; Matt Rahn; Megan Johnson; Michael Mulligan; Michael White; Mike Kelly; Muggs Stoll; Native American Environmental Coalation; Niall Fritz; Pat Atchinson; Paul Michel; pepac@palatribe.com; Chavez, Richard; Rundle, Rob; Robert Smith; Ron Remple; Scott Grimes; Tucker, Shelby; Sherilyn Sarb; Sherry Theresa; Steven Schwarzbach; Carnevale, Sue; Susan Carter; Teri Fenner; Terri Stewart; Therese O'Rourke; Tim Cass; Yvonne Moore
Cc: Mary Clarke; Dave Grubb
Subject: EMP Working Group Agenda Dec 11 - Draft MOA and Monitoring Plan

Mr Greer

I am unable to attend the meeting tomorrow to address the EMPWG. Please make sure the EMPWG members have received the following.

Thank you
 Diane Nygaard

Dear EMPWG

I very much appreciate the effort that has gone in to preparing these materials to get the EMP program moving .

Please consider the following as you review the proposed draft and make your decision tomorrow:

- add an incentive for completion of sub-area plans

There is general language about this, but no real connection between having an approved plan and receiving funding for acquisition and management. SANDAG has used financial incentives with other programs- such as no transportation funds without an approved Housing Element. We urge you to develop similar financial incentives for completion of the remaining sub-area plans. It has been over four years since the MHCP was adopted- time enough.

- tie level of funding to some assurances about the provision of a regional funding source

The transnet measure assumed that the regional habitat management funding source would be in place by now- and yet there remains no real schedule or funding amount assured. The funding for transportation projects needs to be approved/withheld in some relationship to the provision of the regional funding source. If habitat that is already supposed to be managed is being degraded then we should not allow further habitat to be impacted. The EMP funds will address the proportionate additional habitat for additional roadway project impacts. But this still leaves all the underfunded impacts from the past.

- add funds for wildlife movement monitoring to the MMP

The regional plans have identified the key wildlife movement corridor linkages. However in many areas these corridors have been significantly compromised, and have not been ground truthed. Existing high speed roads with no crossing provisions have created serious roadkill problem areas, fences and other physical barriers impede movement, and unauthorized clearing in other areas has removed critical cover. Please add sufficient funds to analyze the functionality of the remaining existing linkages, and to develop recommendations for improvement as needed.

Thank you for considering these comments

Diane Nygaard

1 **Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)**
2 **among the San Diego Association of Governments (“SANDAG”), the California**
3 **Department of Fish and Game (“CDFG”), the California Department of Transportation**
4 **(“Caltrans”), and the United States Fish & Wildlife Service (“USFWS”) (collectively “the**
5 **signatories”) regarding the mitigation for transportation projects under the *TransNet***
6 ***Extension Ordinance Environmental Mitigation Program***
7
8

9 WHEREAS, in April 2003 the SANDAG Board of Directors (SANDAG Board) adopted the 2030
10 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) entitled *MOBILITY 2030, The Transportation Plan for the*
11 *San Diego Region*;

12
13 WHEREAS, the RTP includes a list of transportation network improvements and other
14 transportation programs that are intended to improve mobility of people and goods through the
15 region;

16
17 WHEREAS, the *TransNet Extension Ordinance and Expenditure Plan* (Commission Ordinance
18 04-01) was adopted by the SANDAG Board on May 28, 2004, to provide for continuation of the half-
19 cent transportation sales tax for 40 years to relieve traffic congestion, improve safety, and match
20 state/federal funds;

21
22 WHEREAS, the *TransNet Extension Ordinance and Expenditure Plan (TransNet Extension)*
23 was approved by the voters on November 2, 2004;

24
25 WHEREAS, the *TransNet Extension* included the establishment and implementation of an
26 Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP), including 11 principles that further defined the major
27 elements of the EMP;

28
29 WHEREAS, mitigation, which means for this MOA, the early acquisition, creation,
30 restoration, enhancement and/or management of high quality habitat, is more cost-effective and
31 more biologically beneficial than the mitigation of habitat based on a project-by-project approach
32 to mitigation;

33
34 WHEREAS, the *TransNet EMP* is intended, in part, to provide for early large-scale acquisition
35 and management of important habitat areas and to create a reliable approach for funding required
36 mitigation for future transportation improvements, thereby enabling the purchase of habitat that
37 may become more scarce in the future, reducing future costs and accelerating project delivery;

38
39 WHEREAS, proactive mitigation of transportation projects would provide an opportunity to
40 implement the *TransNet EMP* by providing opportunities for early large-scale conservation, permit
41 streamlining, and establishing certain cost savings;

42
43 WHEREAS, the need for biological monitoring and management of the habitat preserve
44 areas is critical to maintain habitats and ecosystem processes for the persistence and resilience of
45 native flora and fauna;

46
47 WHEREAS, the signatories to this MOA agree that a *TransNet Plan of Finance (POF)* will be
48 adopted which reflects the capacity for funding up to \$440 million (nominal dollars) over ten years,

LEGAL REVIEW BY SIGNATORIES STILL REQUIRED

49 and provide funding of four million dollars annually for 10 years for management and monitoring
 50 as the approach toward the timing and expenditure of funds under the EMP;
 51

52 WHEREAS, the parties have determined that entering into this MOA does not constitute the
 53 adoption of, or a commitment to carry out, the concept plan as those terms are used in the
 54 California Environmental Quality Act, public resource code section 21000, et seq. ("CEQA"), that
 55 entering into this agreement does not constitute a major federal action significantly affecting the
 56 human environment as those terms are used in the National Environmental Policy Act, 42, U.S.C.
 57 section 4321, et seq. ("NEPA"), and that completion of CEQA and NEPA compliance are conditions
 58 precedent to any party being committed to carry out any obligations set forth in this agreement for
 59 which such compliance is required;
 60

61 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the signatories agree to implement the EMP,
 62 through the provisions of this MOA, as follows:
 63

- 64 1. The signatories agree to implement the Conservation and Mitigation Strategy (CMS)
 65 (Attachment A, and incorporated by reference) as the method for identifying priority
 66 habitat acquisition, creation and restoration opportunities which will be designed to fully
 67 mitigate the range of anticipated wildlife habitat, natural communities, fisheries, and
 68 sensitive species¹ impacts resulting from the adopted RTP Mobility Network as well as
 69 *TransNet* funding for local transportation projects. The CMS aligns the estimated impacts of
 70 a RTP project(s), to mitigation opportunities, and the types of agreements identified under
 71 number 6, below, which will provide regulatory assurances under the authority and
 72 jurisdiction of the signatory agencies.
 73
- 74 2. SANDAG agrees to update the *TransNet* Plan of Finance (POF) adopted on December 15,
 75 2006 , within three months of signing of this MOA to reflect a cash flow for mitigation of
 76 *TransNet* regional and local transportation projects totaling \$440 million (nominal dollars²)
 77 over the next ten years pursuant to the following schedule:

FISCAL YR	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
MOA YR	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total
EAP	30	60	60	30	30	15	15	15	15	10	280
Any RTP	40	40	40	40							160
Total	70	100	100	70	30	15	15	15	15	10	440

78 A total of \$160 million will be made available, as needed, for EAP and non-EAP mitigation³
 79 and according to the priorities under number 7 below. For financial analysis purposes, these
 80 funds are to be assumed to be spread out over 4 years; however, should an opportunity
 81 arise as identified and agreed to by the signatories that would require a change in the cash
 82 flow; money could be made available as needed as approved by the SANDAG Board. Funds
 83 are to be allocated and spent for three primary purposes (1) acquisition, (2) restoration and
 84 enhancement, and (3) monitoring and management, as required to meet each
 85

¹ Sensitive species are generally those which have been covered, or anticipated to be covered, by approved or in progress NCCP/HCP planning efforts.

² These values are held constant for the year they are expended.

³ Mitigation is the acquisition, creation, restoration, enhancement and/or management of habitat lands.

LEGAL REVIEW BY SIGNATORIES STILL REQUIRED

86 transportation project's full mitigation needs. Funds not utilized in any given year could be
 87 rolled over into the next fiscal year. Borrowing to the degree necessary to meet this
 88 objective would be implemented consistent with the adopted POF, with debt service to be
 89 paid from annual EMP revenues. Up to 82 million in interest-free fund transfers from
 90 transportation categories would be provided as a loan to finance the early acquisitions as
 91 provided by the schedule above. And 30 million in debt-service assistance as identified in the
 92 ordinance would also be provided. Interest-free fund transfers from transportation project
 93 categories would be allowed in such a way that transportation projects are not delayed.
 94 Such transferred funds would be returned for use on transportation projects by end of the
 95 program.

- 96
- 97 3. The signatories agree to update the POF to allocate \$4 million, escalated annually for
 98 inflation, beginning in FY 2008 until FY 2018 to be used for regional management and
 99 monitoring. The source of the funds allocated for regional management and monitoring are
 100 attributed to the Regional Conservation Fund as described in *TransNet* Extension EMP
 101 Principle 4.
 102
- 103 4. Upon execution of this MOA, SANDAG will release \$1.3 million approved by the SANDAG
 104 Board on December 15, 2006, for regional management and monitoring activities in
 105 addition to the \$4 million pursuant to number 3, above. Yearly accounting and an analysis
 106 of the expenditures and their effectiveness in implementing the management and
 107 monitoring goals of the regional habitat conservation plans will be completed by SANDAG
 108 staff, in consultation with the signatories.
 109
- 110 5. Starting in 2010, and then once every two years thereafter, SANDAG will develop a report
 111 card to analyze the status and progress of the MOA in implementing the goals of the
 112 *TransNet* EMP for presentation to the SANDAG Board as apart of the update to the Regional
 113 Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP).
 114

115 The signatories agree to evaluate and modify, if necessary, the POF no later than ten years
 116 after execution of this agreement to accommodate potential variations in funding, changes
 117 to the adopted RTP, and changes to the CMS. This could be done before, and/or apart, from
 118 the required *TransNet* 10-year Comprehensive Review.
 119

- 120 6. EMP funds will be made available according to the schedule described in the POF. The
 121 release for advance mitigation will be contingent upon executed agreements intended to
 122 establish the mitigation of *TransNet*-funded regional and local transportation projects as
 123 identified in Attachment B (incorporated by reference). The agreements may take various
 124 forms and address a range of actions from project-specific to more programmatic-level
 125 approaches towards mitigation and conservation actions. Types of agreements could
 126 include, but are not limited to:
 127
- 128 a. Advanced Mitigation Agreement (e.g., Bolsa Chica)
 - 129 b. Wetland Mitigation Banking Agreement (e.g., Rancho Jamul)
 - 130 c. Conservation Banking Agreement (e.g., Rancho San Diego)
 - 131 d. Programmatic Consultation (e.g., Rail Corridor from Orange County to Oceanside)
 - 132 e. Early Section 7 Consultation
 - 133 f. Project(s) Specific Agreement(s)

LEGAL REVIEW BY SIGNATORIES STILL REQUIRED

- 134 g. Natural Community Conservation Plan/Habitat Conservation Plan (NCCP/HCP)
 135 h. Regional General Permits (e.g., Contra Costa County)
 136
- 137 7. The focus of the initial mitigation efforts under this CMS will be on those RTP projects
 138 identified and approved by the SANDAG Board of Directors as Early Action Program projects
 139 then projects that belong to the “revenue constrained” scenario of the RTP. Mitigation
 140 opportunities for the remaining transportation projects will be initiated if the signatories of
 141 this MOA agree that an environmental mitigation opportunity has arisen to satisfy a non-
 142 Early Action Program project(s) consistent with number 2 above. SANDAG will work with
 143 the local jurisdictions to develop a similar approach for local transportation projects
 144 evaluating the early and longer-term mitigation needs.
 145
- 146 8. Ten years after signature of this MOA by all parties, if actual direct costs for mitigation of
 147 upland and wetland impacts of the transportation projects that have received all of the
 148 permits are less than those that were estimated by SANDAG (Attachment B) the unused
 149 balance and any economic benefit generated over the ten year period shall be transferred
 150 to the RHCF for projects. These funds would be made available for regional habitat
 151 acquisition, management, and monitoring as described in the *TransNet* EMP Principle
 152 number 8. SANDAG and Caltrans will actively partner with USFWS and CDFG during the
 153 permitting process for *TransNet* projects impacting wetlands, and waters of the U.S.
 154 regulated by the USACOE, EPA, RWQCB, CDFG and California Coastal Commission.
 155
- 156 9. If a project(s) conforms to the scope, general alignment, and biological effects analysis
 157 described in an executed agreement, no additional compensatory mitigation to satisfy the
 158 Endangered Species Act (ESA)—California Endangered Species Act (CESA), California Natural
 159 Community Conservation Planning Program (NCCP), Fish and Game code section 1600 et
 160 seq.,— are anticipated..
 161
- 162 10. Project(s) will be reviewed by the Wildlife Agencies to determine consistency with approved
 163 agreements. The Wildlife Agencies will contact, in writing, the signatories within 60 days
 164 regarding conformance with the executed agreements. If the project does not conform, the
 165 Wildlife Agencies will identify necessary actions for the issuance of permits under the
 166 executed agreement. For projects that conform to the executed agreements, the Wildlife
 167 Agencies will expedite issuance of the permits, as staffing allows.
 168
- 169 11. Principals of the federal “Safe Harbor” agreements pursuant to ESA § 17.22(c) (d) and
 170 17.32(c) (d) may be included in any agreement that improves resources in advance of project
 171 impacts that may be affected by the project (e.g., coastal lagoon restoration).
 172
- 173 12. Assurances for local transportation projects will be, or are already, provided through the
 174 local jurisdictions’ HCP/NCCP permits and implementing agreements (e.g., Cities of
 175 Chula Vista, San Diego, La Mesa, Poway, Carlsbad, and the County of San Diego). Other
 176 jurisdictions could be provided the assurances upon adoption of their subarea plans and
 177 subsequent implementing agreements and HCP/NCCP permits.
 178
- 179 13. Advance mitigation for projects identified in Mobility 2030 (2004) may be available for
 180 other *TransNet* projects as identified in the RTP. Substituted projects must have impacts

LEGAL REVIEW BY SIGNATORIES STILL REQUIRED

181 equal to or less than the original project and the exchange must be approved by the
182 Wildlife Agencies. . The amount of use of mitigation credits would be addressed by
183 subsequent agreements as identified under number 6 above.
184

185 14. USFWS and CDFG will actively partner with SANDAG and Caltrans during the permitting
186 process for *TransNet* projects impacting wetlands, and waters of the U.S. regulated by the
187 USACOE, EPA and RWQCB and CDFG through wetland banking agreements, master
188 streambed alteration agreements, regional general permits, or other appropriate
189 mechanisms. The signatories support wetland creation and restoration projects for use as
190 advance mitigation and will mutually assist with identifying and obtaining funding for
191 planning and permitting of the creation and restoration projects.
192

193 15. USFWS will support and/or present the federal consistency determination for federal
194 projects to the California Coastal Commission for coastal wetland restoration agreement(s)
195 should the projects meet the consistency determination requirements.
196

197 16. SANDAG acting as the San Diego County Regional Transportation Commission is
198 accountable for all *TransNet* expenditures pursuant to the *TransNet Extension Ordinance*. As
199 such, SANDAG is responsible for the expenditure of funds for advanced mitigation through
200 the execution of the agreements described in number 6, above. It is SANDAG's intent to
201 continue to utilize the capabilities and expertise of Caltrans staff, a SANDAG-contracted
202 independent third-party, or itself to acquire real property and develop and implement
203 restoration plans. The Wildlife Agencies will identify opportunities and priorities pursuant
204 to the CMS.
205

206 17. The signatories agree in good faith to provide the legal, financial, technical, and staff
207 resources necessary to implement the provisions of this MOA. However, nothing in this MOA
208 shall be construed as obligating the signatories to expend funds, or for the future payment
209 of money, in excess of appropriations authorized by law, nor does this MOA guarantee the
210 final issuance of permits.
211

212 18. The signatories agree to review and modify this MOA, if necessary, after ten years from its
213 signature by all parties based upon its performance in providing advanced mitigation,
214 enhanced project delivery, and overall availability of *TransNet* funding. Based upon the
215 results of this review, all signatories retain the right to obtain mitigation of individual
216 projects on a project-by-project basis pursuant to Section D and Principle 11 of the *TransNet*
217 *Extension Ordinance* and the FESA and CESA.
218

219 19. Nothing in this MOA shall supersede those provisions adopted by the voters in November
220 2004 under the *TransNet Extension Ordinance*.
221

222
223 (SIGNATURE BLOCKS FOR ALL PARTIES TO BE INCLUDED)

***TransNet* Conservation and Mitigation Strategy (CMS)**

The goal of the *TransNet* Conservation and Mitigation Strategy (CMS) is to: (1) identify conservation opportunities for habitat acquisition, creation, and restoration that promotes regional habitat conservation planning, and (2) align these opportunities in such a way to fully mitigate the range of potential wildlife habitat, natural communities, fisheries, and sensitive species impacts resulting from transportation projects in the adopted 2030 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

Identification of Conservation Opportunities

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Game (Wildlife Agencies) will partner with SANDAG and Caltrans to identify conservation opportunities that promote the regional conservation of biodiversity, thereby implementing San Diego's regional habitat plans that have been adopted (or will be adopted) under the Natural Community Conservation Planning Act (NCCP), and as Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) under the Endangered Species Act. Implementation of these NCCPs/HCPs will collectively promote the San Diego Regional Comprehensive Plan (2004) policy objective to "*Preserve and maintain natural biological communities and species native to the region* (p. 153)," and will also provide certainty and streamlined regulatory permitting of future transportation projects.

The opportunities would consist of identification of land acquisitions, upland and wetland restoration and creation, and other specific actions that will contribute to the goal of "*maintain[ing] and enhance[ing] biological diversity in the region and conserving viable populations of endangered, threatened and key sensitive species and their habitat, thereby preventing local extirpation and ultimate extinction* (MSCP Biological Goals and Standards)."

In assisting with the development of the conservation opportunities the Wildlife Agencies will use the basic fundamental tenets of habitat reserve design based upon the recommendations of the NCCP scientific advisors⁴, and specific objectives⁵ based upon the current needs of the regional NCCPs/HCPs, as well as the opportunities to leverage *TransNet* funds with non-*TransNet* funding. While the fundamental tenets would not change over time, the objectives will be subject to periodic reassessments as the regional NCCP/HCP matures.

Alignment with RTP Mitigation Needs

Based upon a review of the RTP projects and the estimated impacts (Attachment B), the Wildlife Agencies will partner with SANDAG and Caltrans, and other federal and state regulatory agencies, to align mitigation needs of the RTP project(s) with the identified conservation opportunities, with emphasis on transportation projects belonging to the Early Action Program then projects that belong to the "revenue constrained" scenario of the RTP. The conservation opportunity shall meet the mitigation needs of the project(s) and be formalized in an appropriate agreement as identified in the MOA prior to the release of funds for acquisition of such property. The Wildlife Agencies will not mandate a specific opportunity as the required mitigation, but instead provide a range of options for SANDAG and Caltrans to consider based upon cost, timeliness, and respect for private property rights, other state and federal regulatory requirements, and other considerations.

⁴ Southern California CSS NCCP Conservation Guidelines (1983). California Department of Fish & Game and California Resources Agency.

⁵ Specific objectives could include, as examples, preservation of vernal pool and maritime succulent scrub habitat, restoration of quino checkerspot butterfly and burrowing owl habitat, and creation of coastal wetland habitat.

Conceptually, conservation opportunities that achieve the mitigation for estimated RTP project(s) impacts can be grouped into coastal wetlands, jurisdictional freshwater wetlands, uplands, and species specific. Habitat acquisition, restoration, creation, and species-specific enhancement will all be considered, as appropriate.

It is expected that in order to implement this approach, some projects may require additional biological analysis to provide more specificity on the habitats and species that could be impacted and conservation opportunities as a follow-up to confirm the assumptions of executed agreements as described in the MOA.

	2030 RTP Project	From	To	Coastal Wetlands	Non-Coastal Wetlands	Uplands	Mitigation Costs (TPMF)
Mobility 2030 Timeline	Major Regional Projects						
EAP	I-5	SR 56	Vandegrift Blvd.	20	0	60	\$76,000,000
EAP	I-5/I-805	Port of Entry–Mexico		0	1	0	\$555,000
EAP	I-5/I-805	HOV Connectors		0	1	0	\$555,000
EAP	I-805	SR 905	SR 54	0	2	5	\$2,360,000
EAP	I-805	SR 54	I-8	0	1	2	\$1,055,000
EAP	I-805	Mission Valley Viaduct		0	2	0	\$1,110,000
2030	SR 11	SR 905	Mexico	0	2	10	\$3,610,000
EAP	SR 52	I-805	I-15	0	0	2	\$500,000
EAP	SR 52	I-15	SR 125	0	1	5	\$1,805,000
EAP	SR 76	Melrose Drive	Mission Road	0	25	60	\$28,875,000
EAP	SR 76	Mission Road	I-15	0	45	110	\$52,475,000
EAP	Coastal Rail Doubletracking			20	0	20	\$66,000,000
EAP	Mid-Coast Light Rail			0	5	10	\$5,275,000
2010	I-5/SR 56	Freeway Connectors		0	2	0	\$1,110,000
2010	SR 54/SR 125	I-5	SR 94	0	2	5	\$2,360,000
2010	SR 905	I-805	Mexico	0	6	80	\$23,330,000
2020	I-5	SR 54	SR 163	0	1	0	\$555,000
2020	I-5	I-805	SR 56	0	1	0	\$555,000
2020	I-5	SR 905	SR 54	0	1	2	\$1,055,000
2020	I-5	SR 163	I-8	0	1	0	\$555,000
2020	I-5	I-8	I-805	0	1	5	\$1,805,000
2020	I-5/I-8	Freeway Connectors		5	0	0	\$15,250,000
2020	I-5/SR 78	Freeway Connectors		0	2	0	\$1,110,000
2020	SR 94/SR 125	Freeway Connectors		0	1	0	\$555,000
2020	Oceanside to Escondido Transit Enhancements			0	2	10	\$3,610,000
2030	I-8	SR 125	Los Coches Road	0	1	10	\$3,055,000
2030	I-15	SR 94	SR 163	0	5	10	\$5,275,000
2030	I-15/SR 78	HOV Connectors		0	1	0	\$555,000
2030	I-15/SR 94	HOV Connectors		0	1	2	\$1,055,000
2030	I-805	I-8	I-5	0	2	10	\$3,610,000
2030	I-805/SR 52	HOV Connectors		0	1	2	\$1,055,000
2030	SR 52	I-5	I-805	0	1	2	\$1,055,000
2030	SR 56	I-5	I-15	0	1	5	\$1,805,000
2030	SR 67	Mapleview Street	Dye Road	0	5	150	\$40,275,000
2030	SR 75/SR 282	Glorietta Blvd.	Alameda Blvd.	0	1	0	\$555,000
2030	SR 78	I-5	I-15	0	2	5	\$2,360,000
2030	SR 94	Avocado Blvd.	Steele Canyon Rd.	0	5	25	\$9,025,000
2030	SR 94	SR 125	Avocado Blvd.	0	1	0	\$555,000
2030	SR 94/SR 125	I-5	I-8	0	1	5	\$1,805,000
2030	SR 125	SR 905	San Miguel Road	0	1	1	\$805,000
2030	SR 125	San Miguel Road	SR 54	0	1	0	\$555,000
2030	Kearny Mesa Transitway			0	1	5	\$1,805,000
2030	Sorrento Mesa Transitway			0	5	45	\$14,025,000
2030	Sprinter Extension to North County Fair			0	1	0	\$555,000
			Sub-Total	45	142	663	\$381,810,000
			Minor Regional Projects	0	23	136	\$46,765,000
			Sub-Total	45	165	799	\$428,575,000
			Regional Management and Monitoring				\$0
			Sub-Total				\$428,575,000
			Support Costs				\$21,425,000
			Sub-Total				\$450,000,000
			Local Transportation Projects				\$200,000,000
			Total				\$650,000,000

Notes:
 2030 Regional Transportation Plan approved April 2003
 TPMF, Transportation Project Mitigation Fund
 Acreages estimated using Generalized Vegetation mapping from SANDAG's 1995 Regional Vegetation database.
 Cost per acre based on recent mitigation ratios, acquisition, restoration, creation, and endowment costs.
 Costs are in 2002 dollars.
 [shaded box] = Project in Coastal Zone

San Diego Association of Governments
ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM
WORKING GROUP

February 12, 2008

AGENDA ITEM NO.: **6**

Action Requested: DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION

FY 08 LAND MANAGEMENT GRANTS:
ELIGIBILITY AND PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA

File Number 3002700

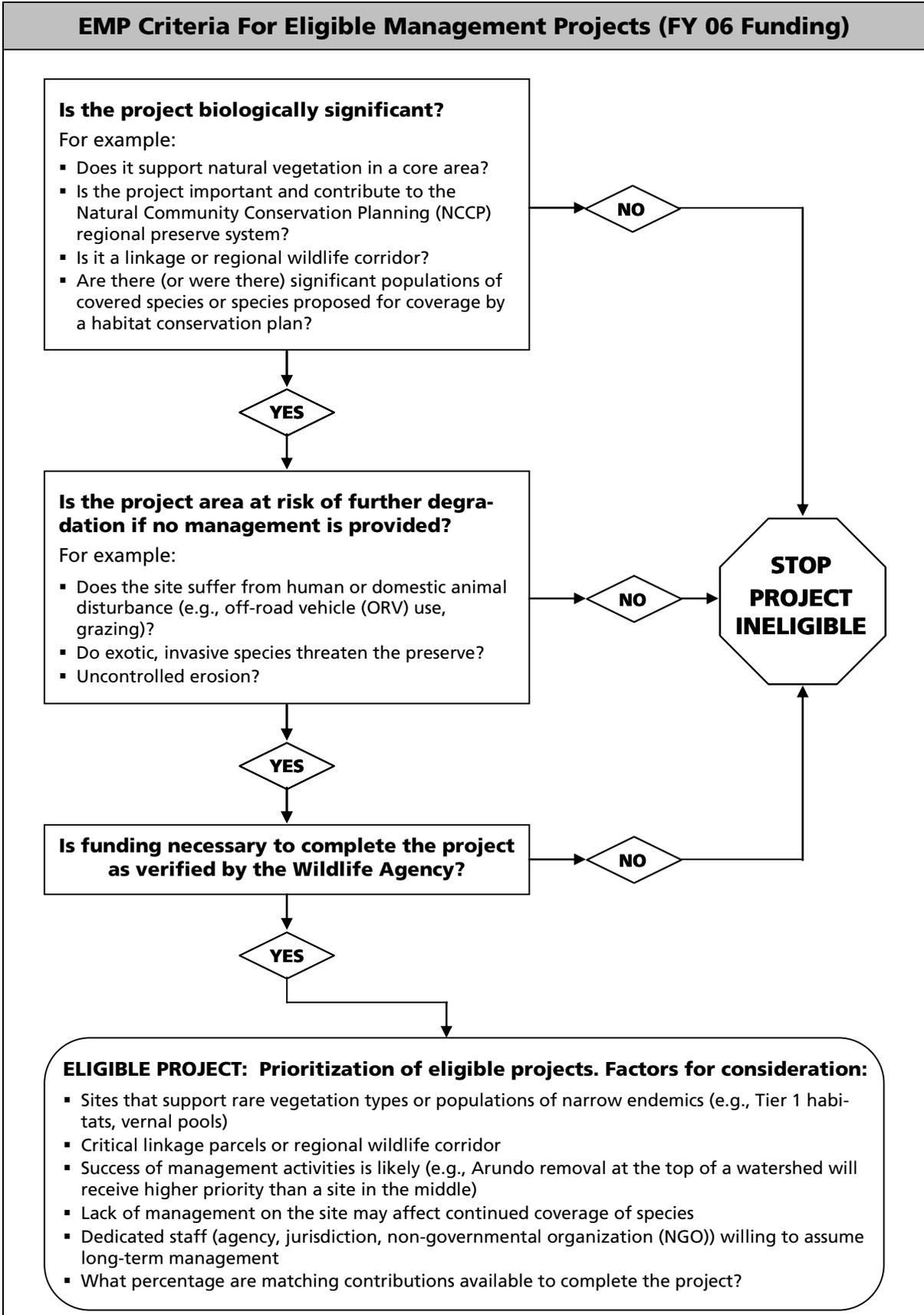
On February 22, 2008, the SANDAG Board will take action on a set of recommendations from the Regional Planning Commission on land management and monitoring activities for FY 08. This includes, if approved, \$2.9 million for land management activities related to “invasive control, post-fire recovery, restoration, and access control.” In FY 06, an allocation of \$750,000 was approved by the SANDAG Board for land management activities using established eligibility and prioritization criteria. A select group of Environmental Mitigation Program Working Group (EMPWG) members who were not seeking funding on behalf of their organization and SANDAG staff, reviewed and ranked the proposals. The list of ranked projects were recommended by the EMPWG and the Regional Planning Committee, and ratified by the Board of Directors.

The EMPWG is requested to review the FY 06 Call for Land Management Projects (Attachment 1) and determine: (1) if they would like to recommend any changes to the eligibility or prioritization criteria, (2) select an ad hoc group of EMPWG members who were not seeking funding to work with SANDAG staff on ranking the proposals, and (3) determine if the prioritized list of projects should be limited to the proposed FY 08 funding (\$2.9 million), or also be used for any FY 09 funding for land management funding approved by the SANDAG Board. The later approach would develop a ranked list of projects for funds allocated in FYs 08 and 09. This would avoid the need for a Call for Projects in FY 09.

The SANDAG Board will need to approve any eligibility or prioritization criteria prior to a Call for Projects. The SANDAG Board also would need to ratify the list of prioritized projects.

Attachment: 1. FY 06 ELIGIBILITY AND PRIORITAZATION CRITERIA FOR LAND
MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

Key Staff Contact: Keith Greer, (619) 699-7390, kgr@sandag.org



PROJECT SUBMISSION FORM
For Consideration for Transnet EMP Funding
for Land Management
(FY06 Funding Only)

General Information on the Property

Click on the fields below to begin typing. Please use as much space as is needed.

Applicant Name

Address:

Name of Property

General Location:

Jurisdiction:

Total Acres:

Acres Requiring Management:

Owner(s) of Property:

Land Manager(s) of Property (include name(s), years of experience managing habitat lands, existing land management responsibilities, and references):

** If the applicant is not the landowner, please submit a letter from the land owner granting permission to perform the land management duties as outlined in the application. Failure to provide the letter will lead to disqualification of the application.

Please provide a page-size map showing the general location of the property and a copy of the habitat management plan.

Funding Needs

1. How much money is being requested for this year? \$
2. Are there matching funds available? **Yes** or **No**
If yes, please provide the source of funds and dollar amount \$
3. What management activities will be done on the property? Please list each activity and its associated cost, and an implementation schedule including time frames for each activity:

Are there any federal or state permits required for these activities? **Yes** or **No**

If so, are there associated costs for these permits? **Yes** or **No**

If so, are the permit costs included in the request? **Yes** or **No**

Criteria for Project Eligibility

Biological Significance

1. Does the property support natural vegetation in a core area? **Yes or** **No**
If yes, list the habitats contained on the property:
2. Does the property contribute to the NCCP regional preserve system? **Yes or** **No**
3. Is the property a linkage or regional wildlife corridor? **Yes or** **No**
4. Are there or were there significant populations of covered species or species proposed for coverage by a habitat conservation plan? **Yes or** **No**
If yes, please list the species:

Risk

1. Does the site suffer from natural, human, or domestic animal disturbance (e.g., off-road vehicle use, grazing, fire, flooding, and/or feral cats)? **Yes or** **No**
If yes, list the type(s) of disturbance:
2. Do exotic, invasive species threaten the preserve? **Yes or** **No**
If yes, list the species:
3. Is there uncontrolled erosion? **Yes or** **No**
If yes, identify the source if possible:

Project Eligibility Evaluation and Ranking

Note: Do not fill out this section. This section is to be used by the project evaluation committee

Name of Property: _____

Name of Reviewer: _____

Project Evaluation Criteria	Point Range	Weight	Maximum Score Possible	Total Score
Site supports rare vegetation types or populations of narrow endemics (e.g., Tier 1 habitats, vernal pools).	0-5	4	20	
Critical linkage parcels or in regional wildlife corridor.	0-5	4	20	
Long term success of management activities is likely.	0-5	4	20	
Lack of management on site may affect coverage of species.	0-5	5	25	
Dedicated staff (agency, jurisdiction, NGO) willing to assume long-term management.	0-5	3	15	
Sufficient matching funds available to complete the project?	0-5	2	10	
Total			110	

San Diego Association of Governments
ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM
WORKING GROUP

February 12, 2008

AGENDA ITEM NO.: **7**

Action Requested: INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

CONSERVED LANDS DATABASE STATUS

File Number 3002700

On December 15, 2005, the SANDAG Board approved funding for the development of a comprehensive conserved lands database for the region. Ms. Sue Carnevale of SANDAG staff will provide a status report on the conserved lands database. She will present a brief background, current status, challenges, and future objectives.

Attachments:

1. Regional Conserved Lands Database Project Description
2. Proposed Attributes for Conserved Lands Database
3. Sources of Existing Digital Information

Key Staff Contact: Sue Carnevale, (619) 699-1981, sca@sandag.org

February 14, 2006

**Regional Conserved Lands Database
for both NCCP Permitted Areas and Non-NCCP Permitted Areas
for the San Diego Region**

Objectives of the conserved lands database:

- To provide a comprehensive inventory of land in the region that is conserved for the purpose of protecting open space and natural habitats including lands inside and outside of NCCP areas;
- To assist in identifying gaps in conservation;
- To provide general information on the status of land management ;
- To assist in identifying land areas that need land management plans; and
- Designed to be consistent and integratable with existing and future regional databases.

Definition of conserved land to be included in the regional database:

Conserved lands are those lands that are legally conserved to:

- *Protect natural habitats, species, and open space (including agricultural lands that are important components of the regional habitat preserve design);*
- *Contribute to the existing and planned regional habitat preserve system; and*
- *Managed to protect the open space or natural resources into the future.*

The conservation occurs through public or private acquisitions, conservation easements, land dedications, mitigation, mitigation banks, covenants, or other mechanisms that ensure the land will be not be developed. In order to be part of the regional conserved lands database, lands must meet two of the three criteria identified above.

Definition of conserved lands mapping unit:

The geographic extent of each unit of conserved land to be mapped and tracked will be defined by the primary land owner.

DRAFT**Proposed Attributes for Conserved Lands Database**

February 14, 2006

Bold text indicate proposed information (attributes) to be collected for each conserved land area.
Italicized text indicate the valid values for the attribute, a pick list, no free form entry of information.

Status (*Conserved, Pending, Undergoing Restoration/Revegetation*)

Tracking Number/Unique ID

Name of Conserved Land Area

Owner

Jurisdiction

Date of Conservation

Type of Conservation (*Acquisition, Easement, Dedication, Covenant, Mitigation Bank , Restoration/Revegetation, In-Lieu Fees*)

Management Responsibility (*Federal, State, Local, Private, Non-Profit, Mixed, Unknown, Other*)

Management Agency

APNs of Project (automatically generated by spatial overlay)

Acres (automatically calculated from spatial data)

Date Information Entered (automatically generated by computer)

Date Information Modified (automatically generated by computer)

Information Source

Name of Preserve Unit

Generalized Land Ownership (*City, County, Other Local (Water/Sewer), State, Federal, Non-Profit, Land Conservancy, Homeowners Association, Other*)

Does Property Have a Land Management Plan (*Yes, In-Progress, No, Not Applicable*)

Date of Land Management Plan

Dedicated Funding for Land Management (*Yes, No*)

Type of Management Funding (*Endowment, Annual Appropriation, Mixed, Other*)

Contact Name of Land Manager

Contact Address of Land Manager

Contact Phone Number of Land Manager

Contact E-mail Address of Land Manager

October 24, 2007

**Sources of Existing Digital Information for the
Conserved Lands Database**

Existing Sources	Data Source Code	Format	Date of Data	Parcel Aligned or Parcel Based	Notes
SANDAG land use (passive parks and beaches, open space parks)	LUOWN	Digital	Extract on 9/25/2006	Yes	LU codes 7603 (open space parks, preserves, etc.) and 7605 (passive beaches). Extracted parcel boundaries as well.
SANDAG land ownership (non-urban public land)	LUOWN	Digital	Extract on 4/21/2006	Yes	Own codes 10, 20, 26, 27, 28,29, 30-34, 43-46 (all public land except fire/school district, military, and Indian Reservations) and LU codes 9101 (vacant).
HabiTrak Data (gains/conserved lands)	HT06	Digital	2005	No, not all	City of SD, City of CV, County of SD
City of Carlsbad Draft Open Space Management Plan	CBOSMP	Digital	2006	Yes	
County of SD parks and rec - List of properties owned (w/names and APNs)	COUNTY	Table	2007	APN list by property	Very good data source.
City of San Diego Shapefile of Parks	SDPARK	Digital	2006	No	Useable source of data for Names of properties in the City HT data, and also type of open space or park.
TNC owned properties	TNC	Digital	2006		Good data source. Used to verify inventory of TNC owned properties.
USFWS Refuge Database	NA - Only used to verify land use data	Digital	2007	Yes	Lands owned by FWS, used to verify information in LandCore and to ensure we had all FWS owned properties.
Center for Natural Lands Management	CNLM	Digital	2007	Yes	Very good source to verify lands owned and managed by CNLM.
The Environmental Trust	TET	PDF documents	Unknown	NA	Very helpful in verifying existing TET properties.

Existing Sources	Data Source Code	Format	Date of Data	Parcel Aligned or Parcel Based	Notes
<i>SanGIS parcels with open space land use code (86)</i>	<i>P86</i>	<i>Digital</i>	<i>Copied on 04/10/06</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Some appear to be developed or urban open space types, road ROWs.</i>
<i>SanGIS open space easements</i>	<i>ESMT</i>	<i>Digital</i>	<i>Updated weekly</i>	<i>Mostly</i>	<i>Some appear to be developed or urban open space types, parcels are split, older data may be missing, 1989 (1997?) onward.</i>
<i>SanGIS County parks</i>	<i>COPKS</i>	<i>Digital</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>County owned/managed parks, may contain developed type parks, some data in this database are not in SANDAG's LU database.</i>
<i>SanGIS parks</i>	<i>PKS</i>	<i>Digital</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>Database put together for mapping purposes only, data has problems, much of the data is also in SANDAG's LU database, contains errors (MSCP preserve lands, etc.).</i>
<i>Thomas Bros. open space parks</i>	<i>TB</i>	<i>Digital</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Have access to digital data for internal use only. Lots of info replicated in other data sources. Don't recommend using this source.</i>
<i>CBI protected lands database</i>	<i>CBI</i>	<i>Digital</i>	<i>2004/2005 ?</i>	<i>Some Areas</i>	<i>Database not documented. Many areas not attributed. Looks like it was put together from multiple sources (SANDAG Land Use, HabiTrak data, etc...). Much info is duplicated in data sources above.</i>
<i>TNC protected lands database</i>	<i>TNC</i>	<i>Digital</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>Some Areas</i>	<i>Database not documented. Many areas not attributed. Looks like it was put together from multiple sources (SANDAG Land Use, HabiTrak data, etc...). Much info is duplicated in data sources above.</i>

Notes: Data sources *grayed back and shown in italics* were not used extensively. The data generally overlapped other more complete, documented databases and generally were not well documented or completely attributed, thereby limiting its usefulness.