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# MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA

## ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM WORKING GROUP

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

Tuesday, March 8, 2011

1 to 3 p.m.

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

Staff Contact: Keith Greer  
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### AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

- **STATUS OF VEGETATION CLASSIFICATION AND MAPPING EFFORT**
- **OPEN SPACE ENFORCEMENT PILOT PROGRAM**

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# ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM WORKING GROUP

Tuesday, March 8, 2011

<b>ITEM #</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>
1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (Chair, SANDAG Board Member, Carrie Downey, City of Coronado Council Member)	
+2. SUMMARY OF THE JANUARY 11, 2011, MEETING	APPROVE
Review and approve the meeting summary of the January 11, 2011, meeting.	Estimated Start Time: 1:00 – 1:05 p.m.
3. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS	COMMENT
Members of the public shall have the opportunity to address the Environmental Mitigation Program Working Group (EMPWG) on any issue within the jurisdiction of SANDAG that is not on this agenda. Anyone desiring to speak shall reserve time by completing a “Request to Speak” form and giving it to the EMPWG coordinator prior to speaking. Public speakers should notify the EMPWG coordinator if they have a handout for distribution to EMPWG members. Public speakers are limited to three minutes or less per person. EMPWG members also may provide information and announcements under this agenda item.	Estimated Start Time: 1:05 – 1:10 p.m.
4. HONORING FORMER VICE-CHAIR THOMAS OBERBAUER (Chair, SANDAG Board Member, Carrie Downey, City of Coronado Council Member)	INFORMATION
After 35 years with the County of San Diego, Thomas Oberbauer has retired. Tom was the first vice-chair of the EMPWG and held that position for five-years. The EMPWG would like to recognize his efforts.	Estimated Start Time: 1:10 – 1:15 p.m.
5. SELECTION OF LAND MANAGEMENT GRANT EVALUATION SUBCOMMITTEE (Keith Greer, SANDAG)	DISCUSSION/ POSSIBLE ACTION
SANDAG Staff will be sending out a Request for Land Management Grant projects in March. Mr. Greer will go over the draft timeline, including some new tools for grant applicants, and requests that the Working Group develop an ad hoc evaluation committee as has been done in previous grant cycles.	Estimated Start Time: 1:15 – 1:25 p.m.
+6. SANDAG BOARD SUMMIT – QUALITY OF LIFE DISCUSSION AND STATUS (Rob Rundle, SANDAG)	INFORMATION
The topic of the Quality of Life funding strategy was discussed at the annual SANDAG Board Summit. Chair Carrie Downey and SANDAG staff will provide a brief overview of the Board’s direction on this strategy.	Estimated Start Time: 1:25 – 1:35 p.m.

<b>ITEM #</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>
<p>7. STATUS OF VEGETATION CLASSIFICATION AND MAPPING EFFORT (Jonathan Dunn, AECOM)</p> <p>A new vegetation classification system has been developed for Western San Diego County through <i>TransNet</i> EMP funding. Mr. Dunn will provide highlights of the new system, discuss training that will be provided in March, discuss the spring mapping efforts, and go over an interactive application to assist field mapping efforts.</p>	<p>INFORMATION</p> <p>Estimated Start Time: 1:35 – 1:55 p.m.</p>
<p>+8. OPEN SPACE ENFORCEMENT PILOT PROGRAM (Sergeant Rick Turvey, Sheriffs OHV Enforcement (Confirmed) and Lieutenant Mike Ference, California Department of Fish and Game (Invited))</p> <p>Last year the EMPWG recommended that a one-year pilot project be initiated to look at increased enforcement as a way to deter illegal activities in open space systems that degrade habitat values. Sergeant Rick Turvey and Lieutenant Mike Ference have been engaged in this effort over the last year and will provide a presentation of the successes, challenges, and recommendations to the Working Group for future efforts.</p>	<p>INFORMATION/ DISCUSSION</p> <p>Estimated Start Time: 1:55 – 2:40 p.m.</p>
<p>9. NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT</p> <p>Next meeting of the EMPWG has been scheduled for May 17, 2011, from 1 – 3 p.m. Note: This is the third Tuesday of the month.</p> <p>Tentative Topics: Status of cactus wren mapping efforts, rare plant monitoring protocols, and discussion of FY 12 budget allocation process.</p>	<p>INFORMATION</p> <p>Estimated Start Time: 2:40 – 2:50 p.m.</p>

+ next to an item indicates an attachment

**San Diego Association of Governments**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM**  
**WORKING GROUP**

March 8, 2011

AGENDA ITEM NO.: **2**

**Action Requested: APPROVE**

SUMMARY OF THE JANUARY 11, 2011, MEETING

File Number 300270

**Members in Attendance:**

Carrie Downey (Chair), City of Coronado  
Mike Grim (Vice Chair), City of Carlsbad, North County Coastal Communities  
Bruce April, Caltrans  
Michael Beck, Endangered Habitats League  
Megan Cooper, California Coastal Conservancy  
Megan Hamilton, County of San Diego  
Ann Harvey, San Diego Conservation Network  
Marisa Lundstedt, Chula Vista, South County Communities  
Jim Lyon, City of Poway North Inland Communities Alternate  
Kevin Mallory, City of Santee, East Suburban Communities  
David Mayer, California Department of Fish and Game  
Carlton Rochester, U.S. Geological Survey  
Jim Whalen, Alliance for Habitat Conservation  
Susan Wynn, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Emily Young, The San Diego Foundation

**Others in Attendance:**

Coleen Kattenthaler, Volcan Mountain Foundation  
Libby Lucas, California Department of Fish and Game  
Kevin Wood  
Ron Rempel, San Diego Management and Monitoring Program  
Elise Watson, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**SANDAG Staff in Attendance:**

Grace Chung  
Keith Greer  
Katie Levy  
Alex Samarin  
Midori Wong

## **1. Welcome and Introductions**

Chair Carrie Downey, City of Coronado, called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m., and welcomed the group. She invited members and guests to introduce themselves. Chair Downey announced the new alternate representative for the Eastern Communities, Jim Lyon of the City of Poway.

## **2. Meeting Summary of September 28, 2010**

Susan Wynn, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, clarified the minutes that she did not propose elimination of both the monitoring and management coordinators positions permanently. She indicated that the coordination functions for Fiscal Year 2011 could be combined and revisited in future budget years. Mike Grim, City of Carlsbad, motioned to approve the meeting summary from September 28, 2010, and Ms. Wynn seconded the motion. The motion carried without opposition.

## **3. Public Comments/Communications/Member Comments**

Keith Greer, SANDAG, congratulated Bruce April on his new promotion as Caltrans District Deputy Director for Environmental. Kim Smith, will serve as Mr. April's alternate for Caltrans and that Megan Hamilton will now be the primary member representing the County of San Diego.

## **4. Selection of New Vice Chair**

Chair Downey announced that after 35 years with the County of San Diego and five years as the Vice Chair for the EMPWG, Thomas Oberbauer has retired, and a new Vice Chair must be selected by the EMPWG members. Ms. Wynn nominated Mike Grim, and Chair Downey seconded the nomination. No additional nominations were made and Mr. Grim was elected as the new Vice Chair of the EMPWG without opposition.

## **5. SWG Report to 2011 Annual Board of Directors Summit**

Midori Wong, SANDAG, provided a status update on the Quality of Life Stakeholder Working Group (SWG) Report that will be presented at the 2011 Annual SANDAG Board of Directors Summit in February. Ms. Wong summarized that the SWG has been meeting for the past year and has developed eleven criteria sets for each of the four Quality of Life elements being considered: habitat conservation, shoreline preservation, water quality enhancement and public transit. The draft report is set to be released on January 12th for public review and the EMPWG was asked for input and suggestions on key areas related to the Funding Strategy that they would like to communicate to the AD Hoc Steering Committee and the SANDAG Board.

Chair Downey asked if there will be a meeting held by the Quality of Life SWG will be meeting before the Board Summit and Ms. Wong confirmed that the SWG will be meeting on January 19th and that the Quality of Life Ad Hoc Steering Committee will meet on January 28th.

Mr. Michael Beck, Endangered Habitats League, commented on the approach that the four focused areas took in determining their funding need. Habitat funding was based on a very concerted effort done by the EMPWG. Shoreline preservation, a small cost, is also very specific in their needs. The original range from the water quality working group was from \$15-\$26 billion for a needs assessment. After some very hard work by the water quality working group a more modest

\$5 billion proposal was offered. Mr. Beck indicated in his opinion that in contrast the \$11 billion for the transit needs assessment was not justified as the other elements. Mr. Beck stated that the EMPWG assessment of habitat costs is a hard number with 20 years of history in contrast to the water quality assessment which did the best they could in the given time, or the transit operation which he felt was unsupported. He expressed concern that the habitat funds will be viewed as a negotiable number in the future and not a hard cost.

Chair Downey asked Mr. Beck if there was a consensus on what the pieces of water quality should be included in the Quality of Life strategy. Mr. Beck indicated that the water quality working group has a deep understanding of the regional needs in this area. He indicated that these included projects that are regional in nature to very specific, local needs. The San Diego River was used as test case for this approach - a watershed approach.

Ms. Wong stated that \$5 billion proposal for water quality is a portion of the identified need of \$24.6 billion. It was estimated by first subtracting out \$6 billion of funding from existing sources leaving a gap of \$18.6 billion. Then the working group determined what they could get for various funding levels - general "buckets" of funding needs were provided, but not project level of details. Mr. Beck stated that the analysis was based on ensuring that \$5 billion gives you something substantive to work from.

Emily Young, The San Diego Foundation, asked how the Transit portion of the Quality of Life is being considered within the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). Ms. Wong responded that the transit piece is developed in conjunction with the RTP, but future funding for transit operations (typically a historic shortfall) were being discussed as part of the Quality of Life effort.

Mr. Beck asked if it was known how the \$11 billion of transit needs would be broken down and when the decision would be made. Ms. Wong stated that similar to water quality, three general buckets of needs have been identified but not a detailed project list. Ms. Wong did not know when any decisions on funding the various elements would be made.

Ms. Young commented there was some polling done initially and asked if there will be follow up calling based on the development of the elements. The answer is yes, once more details of a proposal have been put together.

Mr. Greer stated that this issue is important topic for the Board Summit and will be discussed.

## **6. Status of Management and Monitoring Activities under the EMPWG**

The SANDAG Board of Directors is scheduled to act on EMPWG funding allotments for FY 2011 and the updated Five-Year Funding Strategy on January 28, 2011. Mr. Greer reviewed the status of existing efforts and the direction that will be heading. He additionally stated that within the next year several final reports will be coming in for projects the EMPWG had previously recommended funding. Reports and/or verbal presentations will be provided at future meetings.

Mr. Greer referred the EMPWG to page 21 of the agenda where a matrix of all the Regional Funding Projects (RFP) that has been approved over the years and the status of each.

On January 28, 2011, Mr. Greer will propose to the Board the annual fiscal year funding 2011 recommendations that the EMPWG discussed in September. Additionally, the RFP for Land Management Grants will go out at the end of March.

This coming spring, an updated vegetation mapping will be available which will include invasive plant species and rare plant monitoring.

Additionally, the status pilot project on Enforcement that the EMPWG approved will be presented in March 2011 by the Sheriff's Department and California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) on their results and recommendations for the future.

SANDAG is also under contract with the Institute for Ecological Management and Monitoring Program at San Diego State University to develop standardized preserve level management plans that integrate adaptive management.

Mr. Greer gave an update on the status of ongoing monitoring projects:

1. The California gnatcatcher data is currently being further analyzed;
2. The mapping of nests and habitat areas of coastal cactus wren will be completed by the end of the year;
3. Hermes copper rare butterfly will continue this spring; and
4. Data on Golden eagle was recently received and is being analyzed.

Mr. Beck asked when the hermes data would be available and Mr. Greer responded that this past year's data will be posted to the San Diego Management and Monitoring Web site ([www.sdmmp.com](http://www.sdmmp.com)).

## **7. Connectivity Monitoring Strategic Plan**

Ron Rempel, San Diego Management and Monitoring Program (SDMMP), presented strategic plan for monitoring wildlife connectivity throughout the habitat conservation areas.

He began with a brief description of what connectivity is and why a Connectivity Monitoring Strategy Plan (CMSP) is needed. He explained that connectivity was studied for the planning of preserve systems in the San Diego region to see whether there are connected preserve systems and if fragmented habitats impact biodiversity of species.

Mr. Rempel stated that there are two interconnected goals of connectivity in general:

1. Ensuring persistence of species across the entire preserve system across San Diego, and
2. Preserving the ecosystem functions across the landscape.

Mr. Rempel explained that demographic isolation of species can cause isolation of gene flow and that connective is required for long-term sustainability. Although reintroduction of a species into some of the preserve systems is a potential solution, this would be costly and loss of connectivity should be avoided instead.

Some examples reviewed included:

1. Bobcats in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties – genetic fingerprint data of bobcats in the area was captured and it was found that the genetic dispersal seemed to be a result of the 101 and 23 freeways constraining connectivity.
2. Southern Mule Deer in San Diego County – genetic sampling taken and found that there was less connectivity genetically of the species than was demonstrated in other parts of California, there was restricted movement between fragments, the 15 and 5 freeways are barriers where differences of populations can be found on either side of each freeway, and a recent decline in the Torrey Pines populations.

The CMSP and appendices can be found at [www.SDMMP.com](http://www.SDMMP.com). The objectives of the CMSP were:

1. To evaluate core area functional connectivity.
2. Inform adaptive management decisions - identify where the issues are.
3. Test multiple connectivity monitoring methods – that genetics is an important piece, but there are other approaches as well.
4. Five functional groups were identified: Animals-that move across the landscape on the ground, Animals-that move along water columns, Birds, Invertebrates, and Plants.

Some focal species that were identified were deer, mountain lions, badgers, bobcats, road runners, grey fox, orange throated whiptail, San Diego horned lizards, dulzura kangaroo rats, California Ground squirrels, coastal cactus wren, California gnat catchers, least Bell's vireos, Southwestern willows, flycatchers and burrowing owls.

Mr. Beck asked if actions had been identified and budgeted. Megan Cooper, California Coastal Conservancy, asked if the CMSP would be looking at invertebrates between lagoons and if clapper rails would be a focal species. Mr. Rempel responded that invertebrates would be looked at, but that clapper rails haven't been studied within the context of genetic connectivity.

There has been \$300,000 in funds made available for the CMSP. \$100,000 will be dedicated to specific management plans such as fencing, culvert cleaning and improving connectivity. Monitoring of species was prioritized based on urgency, cost, synergy, feasibility and tested approaches. Based on this analysis, for large animals mountain lions were identified as Priority 1 species while deer and bobcats were identified as Priority 2 species. Additionally, for birds coastal cactus wren and California gnat catchers were identified as Priority 1 species and a request was placed to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and California CDFG for Section 6 funding for the California gnat catcher work. Mr. Rempel noted that the CMSP will re-evaluate data, objectives, priorities and actions annually and update the CMSP every three years.

Jim Whalen, Alliance for Habitat Conservation, stated that there was already an issue with City of San Diego owned culverts not getting cleaned and if this would be a good mitigation project for the region. Mr. Rempel noted that all chokepoints would be identified and prioritized based on areas which have the highest wildlife connectivity. Other questions emerged about funding sources, building new culverts, prioritization of species and whether statewide agencies and Caltrans are looking into mitigation projects.

Mr. April responded that Caltrans does have projects with the CDFG regarding connectivity. Mr. Rempel stated that within species functional groups, Priority 2 species will not be looked at until Priority 1 species are addressed, but funding for Priority 2 species between functional groups is not dependent - Priority 2 species from one functional group may be funded before a Priority 1 species from another functional group. Also, that the \$300,000 budget is pending SANDAG Board approval.

A member of the public commented that there is a statewide connectivity report completed by Caltrans and if it is possible to have a white paper done for the San Diego region. Mr. Rempel responded that the statewide report was not based on actual data, but on modeling based on patch sizes of protected habitats and not what is being planned for in San Diego. He indicated that the funding would be better spent to collect data on where wildlife movement is actually observed.

Mr. Beck asked if Caltrans analyzes if road expansion or improvements that could affect genetic diversity is taken into consideration in the CEQA analysis is taken into account for wildlife movement. Mr. April responded that SANDAG determines within the RTP where future roads will be built and not Caltrans. Mr. Greer stated that connectivity is an issue that is analyzed within CEQA documents for road expansion, but loss of potential gene flow has never been addressed to his knowledge. The CMPS will allow the San Diego region to evaluate connectivity issues at finer scale.

## **8. Evaluation of Data Management Systems for the San Diego Region**

Elise Watson, USFWS, under contract to SANDAG to coordinate the review, development and implementation of a regional database management system in coordination with the USFWS and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) presented her recommendations to the EMPWG.

Ms. Watson began by providing a background on the different systems that she evaluated system structure, ease of use, accessibility and data analysis capabilities:

1. CDFG – BIOS
2. SANBIOS
3. USGS – Multi-Taxa Database (MTX)

Chair Downey suggested that any grantees that are awarded EMP grant funds should be required to submit data. Mr. Greer agreed that moving forward this should become a requirement of grantees as currently they complete projects and take data gathered resulting in data being lost. He further explained that Ms. Watson's objective included determining which database system should be used for management and monitoring for the San Diego region, how to get information uploaded, and distributed from the database.

Chair Downey asked for clarification on if the EMPWG was being requested to vote on this item. Mr. Greer stated that Ms. Watson was here to present a status update on her findings and recommendations and the EMPWG is being provided information only, not being requested to take action on this item.

Ms. Elise moved forward to her recommendation that after analyzing the pros and cons of all the databases, she believes that it would be too time consuming to create a new database and the USGS – MTX system would meet management and monitoring data needs because the MTX system:

1. Contains tables and fields for many biological monitoring protocols;
2. Can contain land management table to track land management issues;
3. Can track negative results (where species have not been found in surveys);
4. Can have flexible data standards; and
5. Data can be entered several ways via PDAs, Excel and Access in addition to Web site data entry capability is being developed.

A member of the public asked if MTX allowed the transfer of data from SANBIOS and BIOS into MTX and suggested that SANBIOS and BIOS be used as the preferred method to disseminate data maintained by the SDMMMP to the public. Mr. Rempel commented that there has been data exchanged multiple times between the systems already. Ms. Watson stated that MTX can create queries that can be easily uploaded to SANBIOS and BIOS.

Mr. Beck asked if the annual reports created by the land managers would be standardized so that it would fit into the MTX. Mr. Greer responded that standardization of what data needs to be collected for management and monitoring was the goal, but that in order to create this standardization, the land managers and regulatory agencies need to weigh in on what things were important to collect from a land management perspective. Ms. Yvonne Moore of the SDMMMP is working on the coordination of this issue.

Ms. Cooper asked why when there are several databases available why chose the USGS – MTX database that has a firewall that prevents access by the public. Mr. Rempel stated that USGS cannot give up their firewall, but a “mirror” site can be established that contains the same information and resides outside of the USGS firewall. This is the focus of future efforts with USGS. There was additional concern raised about not being able to access MTX data from a land manager’s point of view. Mr. Rempel stated that the land management component will be added into MTX and data will be brought outside the USGS firewall so managers will be able to access the data. Mr. Greer clarified this by comparing this process to creating an “application” for MTX to allow public access to MTX data.

Mr. Greer clarified that Ms. Watson was directed to identify the best database that was flexible, accessible by the public and would allow a comprehensive look across all species. Although this ideal database does not exist, the MTX is being recommended by Ms. Watson as it has the best opportunity for one place to track and create queries, input data and input out for the public to access.

Ms. Watson concluded with her next steps where she will be uploading land management, species and habitat monitoring and connectivity data into the MTX database. However, that in order to get a better idea of what kind of data is collected, she hopes to work with the land managers.

## **9. Next Meeting and Adjournment**

Chair Downey invited the EMPWG members and the public to notify Mr. Greer if they had any additional topics other than the Review of Open Space Enforcement Pilot Project, Vegetation Mapping Update and Rare Plant Monitoring to be discussed for the next meeting scheduled for March 8, 2011. The meeting was adjourned at 3:01 p.m.



**SESSION C**

Thursday, February 3  
3:00 – 4:15 p.m.  
Oak I Ballroom

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## QUALITY OF LIFE FUNDING STRATEGY UPDATE

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on SANDAG efforts to define and develop a Quality of Life Funding Strategy, and on progress implementing the public involvement and education program.

### **Context for Quality of Life Funding Strategy**

There are many critical infrastructure needs facing the region, with limited resources available to meet them. As the San Diego region continues to change, there must be a regular assessment of the ability of infrastructure to handle that change and to maintain quality of life. Because of the lack of available resources at the national and state levels to help finance local and regional infrastructure needs, regions are increasingly being asked to leverage or match state and federal funds with local money or programs to help fill the gaps.

Since the adoption of the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) and passage of the *TransNet* Extension Ordinance, both in 2004, the SANDAG Board of Directors has been discussing infrastructure needs that are important to maintain and improve the region's quality of life. In particular, the Board has identified four areas that are significantly underfunded and lack dedicated funding streams, and where developing a regional approach may be the most effective: habitat conservation, shoreline preservation, water quality enhancement, and public transit.

In addition, the *TransNet* Extension Ordinance and Expenditure Plan adopted by the Board in 2004 include a set of principles for the *TransNet* Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP). EMP Principle No. 10 required the Board of Directors to "act on additional regional funding measures to meet the long-term requirements for implementing habitat conservation plans in the San Diego region" within the timeframe necessary to allow a ballot measure to be considered by County voters in November 2008. Due to economic conditions and tasks necessary to successfully meet the obligation, the Board approved two amendments to the *TransNet* Ordinance to extend the deadline for compliance with EMP Principle No. 10. Under the current amended Ordinance, the Board must meet this commitment within the timeframe necessary to allow a ballot measure to be considered by San Diego County voters in November 2012.

### **Quality of Life Stakeholder Working Group (SWG)**

In fall 2009, the Board approved establishment of a Quality of Life SWG to provide input to the Quality of Life Ad Hoc Steering Committee (composed of Board members and local elected officials) on key activities associated with developing a Quality of Life Funding Strategy. SWG members represent a broad range of organizations and interests associated with a potential regional funding strategy. The SWG began meeting in 2010 to complete the following major tasks:

- Receive an overview of the Integrated Regional Infrastructure Strategy (IRIS), 2004 *TransNet* provisions related to habitat conservation funding, and status of ongoing related agency initiatives
- Develop criteria to evaluate program priorities among Quality of Life elements and their appropriateness for funding on a regional basis
- Receive presentations on funding needs, projected costs, and potential benefits of each of the four Quality of Life elements being discussed
- Apply developed criteria to discuss the relative priority of individual program components
- Discuss viability and implementation requirements of potential local and regional funding mechanisms, as well as which may be most appropriate for the various needs
- Discuss overall Quality of Life Funding Strategy and assist preparation of report summarizing SWG feedback on funding priorities and strategies

## **Summary of Quality of Life Elements Being Discussed**

### ***Shoreline Preservation***

Guided by the Shoreline Preservation Strategy (SPS), the region's long-term planning framework guiding shoreline management decisions, and recommendations from the SANDAG Shoreline Preservation Working Group (SPWG), the following programs have been identified for potential funding through a Quality of Life Funding Strategy.

1. ***Create a sustainable funding source for beach sand replenishment*** to provide regular nourishment (approximately every five to ten years) of 12 sites from Oceanside to Imperial Beach and to provide matching local dollars for federal funding
2. ***Incorporate sediment management devices into shoreline management program***, if proven appropriate and effective, to complement beach nourishment cycle (every ten years if devices are included)
3. ***Continue regional shoreline monitoring program*** to continue data collection for program that began in 1996 measuring beach widths and shore zone volume along the region's coastline

### ***Habitat Conservation***

Inclusion of a habitat conservation element would serve two purposes: first, to fulfill the commitment made by the Board in the *TransNet* Extension Ordinance to act on additional regional funding sources to meet the long-term requirements for implementing habitat conservation plans; and second, to identify an interconnected open space preserve system; balance economic growth and natural resource preservation; streamline development permitting outside preserves; acquire, manage, and monitor inside preserves; and equitably share cost. The EMP Working Group has recommended the following programs for potential funding through a Quality of Life Funding Strategy.

1. **Fund land acquisition, management, and monitoring** to implement Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs)<sup>1</sup> that cover all of San Diego County (i.e., capital cost to conserve lands, manage and maintain long-term biological resources, and periodically monitor infrastructure investment for performing as expected)
2. **Create an endowment** to perpetually fund long-term management and monitoring of the lands included in the HCPs
3. **Create a contingency** to set aside capital for response to unforeseen natural disaster events, breakout of pests and disease, and uncertainty associated with climate change

### **Water Quality Enhancement**

While the development of the shoreline preservation and habitat conservation elements has benefited from the work of the SPWG and EMP Working Group over several years, SANDAG does not have an equivalent stakeholder group related to regional water quality issues. The Water Quality Working Group (WQWG) formed by the County of San Diego has been working since December 2009 to provide guidance on a regional water quality needs assessment report that would be the basis for a water quality component of a potential Quality of Life Funding Strategy. As a result of this process, the water quality element differs from the other Quality of Life elements being discussed in that exact cost estimates and stakeholder group recommendations are still being refined as the WQWG continues to meet. The WQWG has identified the following three categories of Best Management Practices (BMPs) that could be used to achieve these regional water quality goals:

1. **Non-structural solutions** to reduce the opportunity for pollutants to enter the environment (i.e., public education, targeted inspection and enforcement, water quality monitoring)
2. **Structural solutions** that use a physical intervention to improve water quality or reduce runoff volume (i.e., rain barrels, erosion controls, low impact development projects)
3. **Restoration and treatment solutions** (more costly and/or labor intensive; i.e., stream habitat restoration with integrated water quality treatment, urban runoff diversions to the sanitary sewer system, sustainable canyons/open space projects)

### **Public Transit**

Regional transit funding concepts are being guided primarily through the development of the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and the Urban Area Transit Strategy. Consistent with the transit network being developed for the 2050 RTP, three guiding principles underlie the initial transit funding concept for a potential Quality of Life Funding Strategy:

1. **Create a sustainable funding source for backbone transit services** to offset elimination of state funding for public transportation and support frequency enhancements (i.e., 10-15-minute all day service in key corridors and funding of system capital maintenance)

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<sup>1</sup> All of San Diego County is included in one of four habitat conservation planning areas that have been approved or are in process of approval: the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) South (approved in 1997), the Multiple Habitat Conservation program (approved in 2002), the North County MSCP (currently being developed), and the East County MSCP (to be initiated after adoption of the North County MSCP).

2. **Implement “next level” improvements** to increase transit connectivity along key regional travel corridors and increase attractiveness of transit to tap new rider markets (i.e., bus queue jumper lanes, transit priority measures, and other low capital cost projects)
3. **Increase funding for transportation services for seniors and persons with disabilities** to improve coordination of social service agency transportation in order to better utilize existing resources and help offset need for more costly paratransit services.

## **Key Feedback from Quality of Life Stakeholder Working Group**

### ***Quality of Life Elements Being Discussed***

- The SWG determined that all four elements being discussed are regional in nature, underfunded and/or lacking a dedicated funding stream, and deserving of regional funding.
- However, there are differing perspectives on the public transit element, and the SWG at this time has not reached agreement on its inclusion in a regional funding measure.
- Additionally, each element being discussed poses educational challenges and may be difficult to portray as regional and deserving of regional funding; these perceptions have important implications for any educational efforts conducted in support of a regional funding measure.

### ***Timing of a Quality of Life Measure***

- To provide a meaningful amount of funding on a regional scale to the Quality of Life elements under consideration, a sales tax measure is the most feasible mechanism capable of raising the magnitude of needed funding.
- However, the SWG recognizes that the economic climate continues to be quite uncertain.
- If the Board agrees to pursue a sales tax measure, it would be premature to conclude that the November 2012 deadline currently outlined in the *TransNet* Extension Ordinance should not be pursued.
- The SWG agrees it makes sense to continue to stay on a path toward placement of a ballot measure in November 2012 unless and until there is sufficient information to suggest the contrary.

### ***Funding Amounts and/or Division of Funding Among Elements***

- As to the division of funding among different elements, the SWG has not reached firm conclusions or advice.
- The SWG understands that some elements may be perceived as more popular with the electorate than others, and that a less popular element could possibly weigh down the overall chances of approval of a measure that bundles several elements together.
- While it is still too early to know which elements that might be, the SWG believes that the Board may need to make difficult choices in the future about inclusion or exclusion of certain elements, even if the Board and SWG believe an element is deserving of regional funding.

- While each element was examined separately, the SWG often identified interdependency among the elements. As a consequence, potential synergistic effects and mutual benefits between elements should be considered.

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Funds are budgeted in Work Element #3200000

## EXHIBIT A—SCOPE OF WORK

Sample Scope of  
Work and Budget

### *Open Space Enforcement Pilot Program San Diego Sheriff's Department Off-Road Enforcement Team*

#### **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

Illegal activities, such as off-road riding, trespassing, vandalism, and littering have complicated efforts to preserve and manage open space lands in the region of San Diego. Current efforts to compel open space users to comply with open space regulations have not been effective in reducing or deterring these activities because of the low prioritization by jurisdictions to cite open space offenses. Despite passive enforcement efforts, such as signage and access control (barriers and fencing), open space violations continue to persist on both publicly owned lands and privately owned properties.

To address this issue, SANDAG has developed a one-year Open Space Enforcement Pilot Program (Pilot) to coordinate and implement an aggressive multi-agency enforcement effort for conservation and management of the open space in the region. Through a cooperative approach, the Department of Fish and Game, City of San Diego Open Space Division, and San Diego County Sheriff's Department Off-Road Enforcement Team will actively advance the goals of the Pilot, which are:

1. Reduce the negative impacts on open space through increased/enhanced law enforcement services in problematic areas; and
2. Promote open space awareness through public education and outreach.

Each participating agency under the Pilot will develop an open space enforcement plan and conduct enforcement actions that have a nexus and contribute to the protection of open spaces throughout the region as it relates to their investigatory and prosecutorial areas of expertise. Each agency will utilize its unique jurisdictional capabilities to educate and/or enforce state laws and local ordinances within these lands. To the extent possible, agencies shall collaborate on developing joint operational plans and information sharing to enhance the logistical and tactical effectiveness of the Pilot.

Understanding the constraints of an enforcement effort that encompasses all open space areas within the County, participating agencies will primarily focus enforcement operations on identified problematic "hot-spot" areas, as determined by these agencies and SANDAG.

#### **SPECIFIC TASKS**

This scope of work for the San Diego County Sheriff's Department (Sheriff's) Off-Road Enforcement Team (ORET) will primarily focus on increasing law enforcement patrols in open space areas for illegal activity to control damage to property and the environment. ORET has the law enforcement authority and capabilities to support the goals of the Pilot.

ORET will provide Off-Highway Vehicle ("OHV") law enforcement services in the four open space areas (Otay Mesa, Proctor Valley, Fanita Ranch, and Eagle's Nest) identified with illegal riding activity, illegal dumping, and trespassing.

ORET's mission, in conjunction with Pilot goals, will help ensure off-road safety and enjoyment, protect private property owners' interests, and sustain OHV recreational opportunities for current and future generations. SANDAG funds will allow the San Diego County Sheriff's Department ORET to continue to provide unique services to the off-road community that otherwise would not be available.

**Task 1: Administrative and Personnel Services**

*Responsible Entity: ORET*

*Schedule: January 1, 2010 – December 21, 2010*

*Cost: \$54,385.93*

ORET will provide increased technical and administrative law enforcement services to reduce negative impacts on the environment. The increased law enforcement will come from existing ORET staff in an overtime capacity. Use of overtime was considered the most cost-effective approach given the current limited resources. As outlined in the above program description, ORET will support open space areas in the region through uniformed patrol and enforcement of OHV and resource-related laws and regulations. These duties include but are not limited to deterring and citing off-road vehicular trespass, illegal dumping, illegal hunting/fishing, illegal drug manufacturing, unlawful trespass, stolen vehicles, vandalism, transient encampments, and destruction of natural resources on open space lands.

To ensure compliance, ORET will educate the public, respond to illegal activity complaints from citizens and public agencies, make arrests, and write citations as needed. ORET will collaborate and coordinate with the California Department of Fish and Game Enforcement Branch (DFG) to ensure the tactical effectiveness of the enforcement plan.

1. Funding will cover overtime costs for one supervisor (145 hours) and four Deputy Sheriffs positions (580 hours) who will work in conjunction with the Sheriff's Reserves assigned to ORET. These funds will also cover the overtime for our ASTREA deputies that provide site surveys and aerial support for locating illegal riders. OHV details will be conducted on an average monthly basis. ORET has surveyed the four open space areas and has developed a plan on how to work the areas.
2. Provide OHV law enforcement services in the four open space areas in the County of San Diego on an overtime basis. ORET will respond to illegal riding activity complaints from citizens and public agencies. To ensure compliance, ORET will provide information on legal riding areas in San Diego County, educate the public, make arrests, and write citations as needed.
3. **Frequency of Details:** A minimum of one 10 hour shift a month with one supervisor and two deputies will be conducted with the frequency of details depending on the amount of OHV activity.
4. **Supervisor/Administration:** ORET has a full-time salaried law enforcement supervisor that administers the ORET program. Funding for this position is not requested for this project. The Sheriff's Department will incur the total cost of this employee for the planning of OHV details and the completion and submission of reports to SANDAG.

1. **Statistical Tracking:** On a quarterly basis, OHV enforcement data obtained from the four (4) open space areas will be tracked and submitted to SANDAG in report form along with the overtime and expenditure reports.
2. **Public Awareness:** In San Diego County, ORET provides the ONLY specialized resource that has the personnel, vehicles, training, and experience to address the myriad of off-road problems that inevitably occur between various legal and illegal interests.
3. **Overtime costs for general Off-Road Enforcement Training:** Training will be on an overtime basis and will consist of Dual Sport Motorcycle, Quad, and 4 X 4 operating and handling for new deputies assigned to ORET. Funds will be used to pay the Sheriff's Department instructors and cover the overtime cost associated with training (24 hours)

**Task 1 Deliverables:**

- Provide dates, agendas, and name of participants for meetings with DFG.
- Monthly identification of the enforcement locations and brief analysis of illegal activities in those areas.
- Quarterly statistical analyses/reports tracking enforcement efforts, staff patterns/deployment, expenditures, and future enforcement plans.
- Final report that includes a summary of the enforcement activities over the year, evaluation of the success of the program, and recommendations for next year.

***Task 2: Equipment, Maintenance, and Fuel***

*Responsible Entity: ORET*

*Schedule: January 1, 2010 – December 21, 2010*

*Cost: \$45,600.00*

This task will cover the purchase, maintenance, and storage of new and/or replacement equipment costs associated with implementing the Pilot. Four (4) new Dual Sport motorcycles shall be purchased and shall be used during OHV missions and training. This new equipment will replace the four Dual Sport motorcycles that are eight (8) years old and currently in use. Funds in the amount of \$6,000 will be used to maintain this equipment during the project period.

**Task 2 Deliverable:**

- ORET will account for and provide hard copies of paid invoices of expenditures under this task