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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 12, 2013

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

- **SAN DIEGO FORWARD: THE REGIONAL PLAN: KEY POLICY ISSUES AFFECTING REGIONAL HABITAT CONSERVATION**
- **SAN DIEGO MSCP SPECIES STATUS REPORT: 1997 - 2011**
- **FISCAL YEAR 2013 LAND MANAGEMENT GRANTS: EVALUATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

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ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM WORKING GROUP

Tuesday, March 12, 2013

ITEM #		RECOMMENDATION
1.	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS (Chair Carrie Downey)	Estimated Start Time: 1:00 – 1:05
+2.	SUMMARY OF JANUARY 8, 2013, MEETING Review and approve the meeting summary of the January 8, 2013, meeting.	APPROVE Estimated Start Time: 1:05 – 1:10
3.	PUBLIC COMMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS 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.	COMMENT Estimated Start Time: 1:10 – 1:15
+4.	SAN DIEGO FORWARD: THE REGIONAL PLAN: FINAL WORK PROGRAM AND SCHEDULE (Phil Trom, SANDAG) On February 22, 2013, the Board of Directors reviewed the final work program and schedule for the 2050 Regional Plan, which integrates the next updates of the Regional Comprehensive Plan and Regional Transportation Plan and its Sustainable Communities Strategy. Mr. Trom from SANDAG will walk through the schedule and highlight key milestones in the development of San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan.	INFORMATION Estimated Start Time: 1:15 – 1:30
+5.	SAN DIEGO FORWARD: THE REGIONAL PLAN: KEY POLICY ISSUES AFFECTING REGIONAL HABITAT CONSERVATION (Keith Greer, SANDAG) The Work Program for San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan includes the creation of white papers on key policy questions within the San Diego Region. Habitat conservation will be an element of the Healthy Environment section of the Regional Plan. SANDAG staff is requesting that the EMPWG review the key policy issues proposed to be addressed in the habitat conservation portion of a future white paper and provide feedback.	DISCUSSION Estimated Start Time: 1:30 – 1:50

ITEM #**RECOMMENDATION**

6. **SAN DIEGO MSCP SPECIES STATUS REPORT:1997- 2011**
 (Susan Wynn, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Ms. Wynn will discuss the release of the San Diego MSCP Status Report prepared jointly by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the San Diego Management and Monitoring Program. The report is a summary of the efforts to assemble the MSCP Preserve, the conservation status of each Covered Species, as well as the evolution of the MSCP monitoring program since 1997. The report is available at <http://www.sdmp.com/> under Reports and Products.

INFORMATION

Estimated Start Time:
 1:50 – 2:10

+7. **FISCAL YEAR 2013 LAND MANAGEMENT GRANTS: EVALUATION**
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS (EMP Working Group Vice-Chair,
Mike Grim, City of Carlsbad; and Katie Levy, SANDAG)

On September 28, 2012, the SANDAG Board of Directors approved a Call-for-Projects for land management grants totaling \$2 million. On January 29, 2013, 34 applications were received by SANDAG as a result of a Call-for-Projects. The applications were sent to an evaluation committee for review and evaluation against criteria adopted by the SANDAG Board of Directors. Mr. Grim and Ms. Levy will provide a report on the recommendations from the evaluation committee.

RECOMMENDATION

Estimated Start Time:
 2:10 – 2:55

8. **NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting of the EMP Working Group is scheduled for Tuesday, May 14, 2013, from 1 to 3 p.m.

Tentative topics include: Preserve Management Standardization Plan and South County Community Outreach Project.

INFORMATION

Estimated Start Time:
 2:55 – 3:00

+ next to an agenda item indicates an attachment

San Diego Association of Governments
ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM WORKING GROUP

March 12, 2013

AGENDA ITEM NO.: **2**

Action Requested: APPROVE

JANUARY 8, 2013, MEETING SUMMARY

Members in Attendance:

Carrie Downey (Chair), City of Coronado
Anne Harvey, San Diego Conservation Network
Bill Tippets, The Nature Conservancy
David Mayer, CA Department of Fish and Wildlife
Emily Young, The San Diego Foundation
Glen Laube, Chula Vista, South County
James Whalen, Alliance for Habitat Conservation
Jeanne Krosch, City of San Diego
Karen Miner, Department of Fish and Wildlife
Kim Smith, Caltrans
Matthew Adams, Building Industry Association
Megan Cooper, California Coastal Conservancy
Michael Beck, Endangered Habitats League
Michelle Mattson, Army Corps of Engineers
Robert Fisher, USGS
Susan Wynn, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Others in Attendance:

Barbara Kus, USGS
Betsy Miller, City of San Diego
Bruce Posthumus, San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (SDRWQCB)
Christina Schaefer, ESA
Don Omstead, Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation
Emily Perkins, USGS
Erin Beller, San Francisco Estuary Institute
Fred C. Sanquist, Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation
Gabriel Buhr, California Coastal Commission
Kim Roland, City of San Diego
Kris Preston, San Diego Management and Monitoring Program
Megan Hamilton, San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation
Mike Hastings, Los Peñiquitos Lagoon Foundation
Robin Grossinger, San Francisco Estuary Institute
Ron Rempel, San Diego Management and Monitoring Program
Sarah Krejca, San Diego Habitat Conservation
Sean Baumgarten, San Francisco Estuary Institute

Susan Carter, San Dieguito River Park
Teri Fenner, AECOM
Terri Stuart, Department of Fish and Wildlife
Tim Dillingham, California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Tom Oberbauer, AECOM
Vivi Mai, City of Carlsbad

SANDAG Staff in Attendance:

Alex Samarin, SANDAG
Becca Grover, SANDAG
David Hicks, SANDAG
Grace Chung, SANDAG
Keith Greer, SANDAG
Sarah McCutcheon, SANDAG

ITEM #1: WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Carrie Downey called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

ITEM #2: SUMMARY OF NOVEMBER 13, 2012, MEETING

James Whalen, Alliance for Habitat Conservation, motioned to approve the meeting summary from November 13, 2012, and Bill Tippetts, The Nature Conservancy, seconded the motion. The motion carried without opposition.

Note: After the meeting, Susan Carter noted that her attendance in the previous meeting's minutes should read San Dieguito River Park, not San Diego River Park.

ITEM #3: PUBLIC COMMENTS/ COMMUNICATIONS/ MEMBER COMMENTS

Keith Greer announced a change in the Environmental Mitigation Program Working Group (EMPWG) committee members. Marisa Lundstead accepted a job with Oceanside's City Planning Department, and Glen Laube, City of Chula Vista, joined the EMP Working Group as the South County Communities representative.

ITEM #4: REGIONAL PLAN: DRAFT PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN (DAVID HICKS, SANDAG)

David Hicks, SANDAG, presented on updates to SANDAG's Regional Plan: Draft Public Involvement Plan (PIP). SANDAG recently updated the PIP, which sets the overall goals for public outreach. The Draft PIP is specific to the Regional Plan effort. The SANDAG team is participating in many forms of outreach, including reaching out to the working groups, in order to develop a program based on community advice. Meeting the community members at a place that is familiar to them and using technology to reach out to the youth are additional types of outreach methods being considered. The draft plan was released on January 7, 2013, and will circulate for one month for public review before going to the SANDAG Board of Directors for approval and then implementation.

EMPWG members shared several comments:

- Bill Tippetts, The Nature Conservancy, commented that the plan is a great way to integrate the green aspect with the developed areas. He asked for the results from the first public meeting that SANDAG held in October.
- Mr. Hicks replied that the October 21, 2012, stakeholders meeting had over 120 people in attendance. At the meeting, attendees participated in several facilitated sessions where groups talked about the contents of the Regional Plan and how the outreach will be conducted. The results from the meeting are posted on the SANDAG Web site under [sandag.org/regional plan](http://sandag.org/regional-plan). Mr. Hicks informed that there will be at least two or three more similar outreach meetings. Mr. Hicks explained that the principles drawn out in the Public Involvement Plan are to help develop more effective outreach strategies. An example of this may be holding outreach meetings for separate sections of the Plan instead of the whole Plan all at once.
- Mr. Greer added that the Environmental Planning team promoted the ideas of having a separate meeting just for the “Healthy Environments” component of the Regional Plan. The Healthy Environments component would include energy, climate change, air quality, water quality, and habitat preservation. The Environmental Planning team is still in the formulation process and using the PIP tools.

ITEM#5: TransNet ECONOMIC BENEFIT TIMELINE (KEITH GREER, SANDAG)

Mr. Greer presented the TransNet Economic Benefit Timeline. In November 2012 the EMPWG recommended the adoption of 11 policy points for economic benefit. Those points are now going to SANDAG’s Policy Action Committees and the SANDAG Board of Directors. Page 11 of the agenda packet includes a timeline for the meetings and informs when people can participate in the discussion of those issues. Working Group participation at those meetings will be important since Economic Benefit is a difficult concept to some members of the committees. Between now and mid-February the Memorandum of Agreement Draft will go out to the member agencies who signed it (SANDAG, Caltrans, Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Fish and Wildlife Service) for revisions along with the Plan of Finance Update on March 1, 2013. Representatives from the Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW), and the Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) are invited to participate as advisory members to the Regional Planning Committee. The Independent Tax Oversight Committee (ITOC) meets on Wednesday, March 13, 2013, and the Transportation Committee meets on Friday, March 15, 2013. The Draft will then go to the SANDAG Board of Directors on Friday, March 22, 2013. Note: A change in timing occurred after the meeting. There will be a joint Regional Planning and Transportation Committee to discuss this topic on March 1, 2013. All Working Group members were notified.

An EMPWG member shared a comment:

- Mr. Adams asked if anyone had questioned whether the economic benefits have been achieved.
- Mr. Greer suspects that question will come up at the meetings, especially ITOC, and is prepared to answer it. Marney Cox, SANDAG’s Chief Economist, will also be at the meeting

to explain the set-up of the ordinance and how the economic benefit was defined in the ordinance.

ITEM #6: AD HOC GRANT EVALUATION COMMITTEE

SANDAG staff requested that members of the EMPWG volunteer for the Ad Hoc Committee to evaluate the Land Management Grants. Mike Grim had already volunteered to chair the committee. Working Group members James Whalen, Kim Smith, Bill Tippetts, David Mayer, Susan Wynn, and Megan Cooper volunteered to be on the evaluation committee. The Request for Proposals for the Land Management Grants closes on Tuesday, January 29, 2013.

ITEM# 7: DRAFT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC PLAN (RON REMPEL, SAN DIEGO MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING PROGRAM)

Ron Rempel, San Diego Management and Monitoring Program (SDMMP), gave a presentation on the Draft Management Strategic Plan (MSP). The MSP was posted on the SDMMP's Web site on Thursday, January 8, 2013. The MSP is for conserved lands in western San Diego only. Lands planned for conservation, but not yet conserved are not addressed. Updates will be done periodically, and the document will be available for download on the SDMMP Web site (SDMMP.com). Comments on the Draft MSP can be sent to Ron Rempel, rrempel@usgs.gov. In particular, SDMMP is looking for input on goals and objectives, and clarifications. SDMMP would ideally like to have received all comments by the middle of February.

The MSP utilizes four different scales of land management. The first level is the Management Strategic Plan Area (MSPA) which is the conserved lands within the San Diego NCCP planning boundary. Next is the management unit scale which is subregion of the planning area that have similar ecological and management needs. A finer level of management consists of a complex of several preserves that are adjacent or nearly adjacent areas that need to be managed as a vegetation community or complex. The Preserve level is the last scale level. Preserve does not infer a size, but instead infers a piece of property that is managed by a single entity.

The MSP started off with 118 species covered in the MSCP south, MHCP, and proposed MSCP north. Ten were removed due to extirpation or taxonomic uncertainty and one other was added. Of the remaining 109 species, two were deferred due to insufficient data, and another two are to be addressed directly by the wildlife agencies (clapper rail and snowy plover) which have long, ongoing efforts. Thirty-one species have species specific management, and nine species have a combination of species and habitat-level management, which are primarily vernal pool complexes. Sixty-one species are to be management as part of their vegetation community, and eight species were deferred to later due to a lack of data. The 109 species were put into one of two groups. Group A species are those that could go extinct or be extirpated in the plan areas. Group B species are those populations that are at risk. Splitting the species into one of the two groups helps to highlight what species need more attention.

Some of the challenges faced when developing the MSP were figuring out just exactly what lands have been conserved, who the actually owner of the lands were, and who is the land manager. SDMMP is working to improve SANDAG's Conserved Lands Database to create a better picture of conserved lands. In addition, SDMMP is working on developing vegetation community goals and objectives. There are recommendations in the MSP, which includes additional protocol

development, the development of a preserve level plan, and the development of important Best Management Practices (BMPs).

EMPWG members shared several comments:

- Matt Adams, Building Industry Association, asked why, now that growth is focused towards existing urban cores and is trending in a vertical development, are plans like the MSP still in need of completion. Mr. Adams asked if finishing the remaining plans ensures the viability of the whole system and more than just what we have now.
- Mr. Rempel responded that there are two reasons why. One reason is that blocks of habitat will not provide the anticipated benefit if they do not receive the connection that they need over the long term. The second is that there are species that would be easier to manage if they were actually on conserved land. This would reduce long-term management needs, and in turn reduce costs. Mr. Rempel explained that there are some species on the MSCP covered species list that will be expensive and difficult to maintain in the system if the MSCP North and MSCP East was not adopted. With the East and North County plans it will be much easier to maintain those species in the system.
- Mr. Greer added that many people are concerned as to whether management is being done correctly and whether TransNet funding is being prioritized correctly. The MSP helps to prioritize the management of those conserved lands.
- Susan Wynn, USFWS, explained that infrastructure planning needs to be done on a large scale. It would not make sense to stop the last part of a regional habitat conservation planning efforts when you have all other parts completed. The whole will not work as envisioned if you do not complete the other parts.
- Robert Fisher, USGS, commented that, even though the plan is 15 years late, monitoring and adaptive management will be done the way that it was committed to many years ago.
- Mr. Rempel said that there would be a time and strongly recommended that more land managers get involved.

ITEM #8: NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY LAGOONS HISTORICAL ECOLOGICAL STUDY (ROBIN GROSSINGER AND ERIN BELLER, SAN FRANCISCO ESTUARY INSTITUTE)

Robin Grossinger and Erin Beller, researchers from the San Francisco Estuarine Institute (SFEI), presented on their study of the ecological history of lagoons in North San Diego County. They are still in the collecting and analyzing stage of their study, but an introduction was given of what research had been done to date. This included a description of the historical ecology of the lagoons, which is not just studying the past but also exploring potential options for how things currently work and allows exploration from a broader spatial and temporal prospective.

Coastal "T-sheets", found on Caltsheets.org, are historical survey maps of Southern California, and include historical wetlands of the Southern California coast. They are a source of record for coastal studies in the United States. However, those maps are just one point in history, so they hold limited value.

There are three goals of the historical ecological study of the wetlands. The first goal was to address the regional data gap, the second was to improve the t-sheet mapping, and the third was to provide a deeper functional understanding of system evolution and dynamics- the “way things work” and change over time.

In the data collection process, the researchers are looking for photographs (landscape, aerial, and obliques), maps (plat maps, railroad maps, t-sheets, USGS quads, and soil surveys), and texts (archeology and paleontological data, explorers accounts). The expected products of the project will be a historical habitats map, an illustrated report, an analysis /conceptual model, and an emerging findings study. The final findings report is expected to be completed in late 2013.

EMPWG members shared several comments:

- Emily Young, The San Diego Foundation, asked how the findings of this study could be relevant to beach sand replenishment projects.
- Mr. Grossinger explained that people may be able to infer information based on the opening and closing process about the lagoon sedimentation rate. He informed that the SFEI will be exploring the topic to some degree.
- Mr. Whalen asked if there was any way to understand what the changes in fresh water could be based upon this information.
- Mr. Grossinger responded that, while the dream would be to have a water budget for past, present, and future, they will not be able to research that level of detail, but they will be able to infer some information about the water budget.
- Michelle Matteson, Army Corps of Engineers, added that the watershed base historic ecology may be more related to freshwater input, but those studies aren't funded.
- Mr. Tippets added that with energy and water conservation there may be a big push to have a lot less water going into those watersheds.
- A member of the public asked if the study could predict what watersheds would look like today if it did not have a weir built across it, like Buena Vista Lagoon. If you were to draw conclusions today on how restoration might occur based on historical and current conditions, it seems like it would be a difficult process for Buena Vista since the present conditions are so artificial.
- Mr. Grosslinger responded that the researchers are not sure how far they will get in their research, and that they have not started any of the proposed conceptual models.

ITEM #9: NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2013, from to 1 to 3 p.m. Tentative Topics: Regional Plan: Discussion of Regional Habitat Conservation Goals and Objectives.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m., by Chair Downey.



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FEBRUARY 22, 2013**

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 13-02-12
ACTION REQUESTED - INFORMATION**

**SAN DIEGO FORWARD - THE REGIONAL PLAN:
FINAL WORK PROGRAM AND SCHEDULE**

File Numbers 3100000/3100400

Introduction

Last month, the SANDAG Board of Directors received a report on what we have been hearing from the public and our local jurisdictions on the regional plan, now branded as San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan. The branding of this plan was the result of a culmination of events that began last year when the Board of Directors approved merging the Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) update with the next Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS). Combining these two major planning efforts will give citizens a single, easily accessible document that includes an overall vision for the San Diego region, as well as a concrete implementation program for a large portion of that vision. Following this action, staff prepared a draft work program and schedule for the combined regional plan slated for adoption in July 2015 and presented these items to the Board on September 28, 2012. Presentations to the various SANDAG Policy Advisory Committees, working groups and community-based organizations followed with a community workshop held on October 19, 2012. These interactions generally validated the approach developed in the initial draft work plan.

Discussion

SANDAG Policy Advisory Committees and Working Group Comments - September and October 2012

The draft work program was presented to the Transportation, Regional Planning, and Borders Committees and to 15 working groups and committees in September and October 2012. Members included planning and public work directors, traffic engineers, and representatives with expertise in active transportation, public health, housing, habitat, energy, air quality, and social services as well as partners from tribal governments, neighboring counties, and Mexico. Comments made at these meetings included:

- The plan should appeal to the average person
- Look at the region within the context of its borders and obtain input from neighboring agencies as the plan is developed
- Identify issues for a potential future infrastructure funding initiative
- Consider the national trend related to public health
- Allow ample time in the schedule for in-depth policy discussions

Based on working group feedback, the final work program shows the borders policy area as its own category.

Correspondence Received

Move San Diego submitted a comment letter at the joint meeting of the Regional Planning and Transportation Committees in September 2012. The letter states support for the development of the first fully integrated RCP and RTP and provides comments on transportation and land use scenarios as well as phasing of smart growth projects and infrastructure funding needs.

San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan Work Program

The RCP and current 2050 RTP/SCS were adopted in 2004 and 2011, respectively. Federal law requires that SANDAG prepare a long-range transportation plan and make an air quality conformity determination every four years. SANDAG staff has developed a detailed work program and schedule for the San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan that incorporates a variety of planning efforts. In accordance with state and federal guidelines, the plan is scheduled for adoption by the Board of Directors in July 2015. The final work program and schedule are included as Attachments 1 and 2.

San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan Public Involvement Plan

SANDAG regularly involves the public in regional planning efforts. A comprehensive public involvement plan (PIP) that includes a tribal consultation plan was prepared to help develop the regional plan. A process to engage low-income and minority populations through community-based organizations also is under way. The draft PIP provides an extensive menu of options for involving the public and receiving input on the work products and plan, including a series of public workshops, use of social media, visualizations, and other means. Comments on the draft PIP have been addressed in the final PIP, which is included as Agenda Item No. 13.

San Diego Forward Environmental Impact Report (EIR)

The EIR for the San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan requires analysis beyond what has been included in previous RTP EIRs. A programmatic EIR would collectively cover the topics of the entire regional plan. The Notice of Preparation for the EIR was released on December 14, 2012, for a 60-day comment period that closed on February 15, 2013. A public scoping meeting was held on January 10, 2013, at SANDAG. Approximately 25 individuals attended the meeting. SANDAG staff provided an overview of the plan and the environmental review process. Attendees asked questions about the relationship of the proposed plan to the 2050 RTP/SCS that was adopted in October 2011. In addition, attendees wanted to ensure issues such as greenhouse gas emissions, sea level rise, public health, and enhanced bicycle and pedestrian facilities would be addressed in the plan and EIR.

San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan Roles and Responsibilities

Attachment 3 outlines the roles and responsibilities of the working groups, Policy Advisory Committees, and the Board of Directors related to the development of the San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan.

Next Steps

The Board of Directors will be asked to consider the vision, goals and policy objectives for San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan. To complement this discussion, a regionwide, statistically significant poll will be conducted. The poll questions will be discussed at the March Board Policy meeting and the results are expected to be available this spring as the Board deliberates on the vision, goals, and objectives that will provide the policy foundation for the plan.

GARY L. GALLEGOS

Executive Director

Attachments: 1. San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan - Final Work Program
2. Final San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan Schedule
3. Final San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan Roles and Responsibilities for Working Groups and Policy Advisory Committees

Key Staff Contact: Phil Trom, (619) 699-7330, Phil.Trom@sandag.org

SAN DIEGO FORWARD: THE REGIONAL PLAN – FINAL WORK PROGRAM

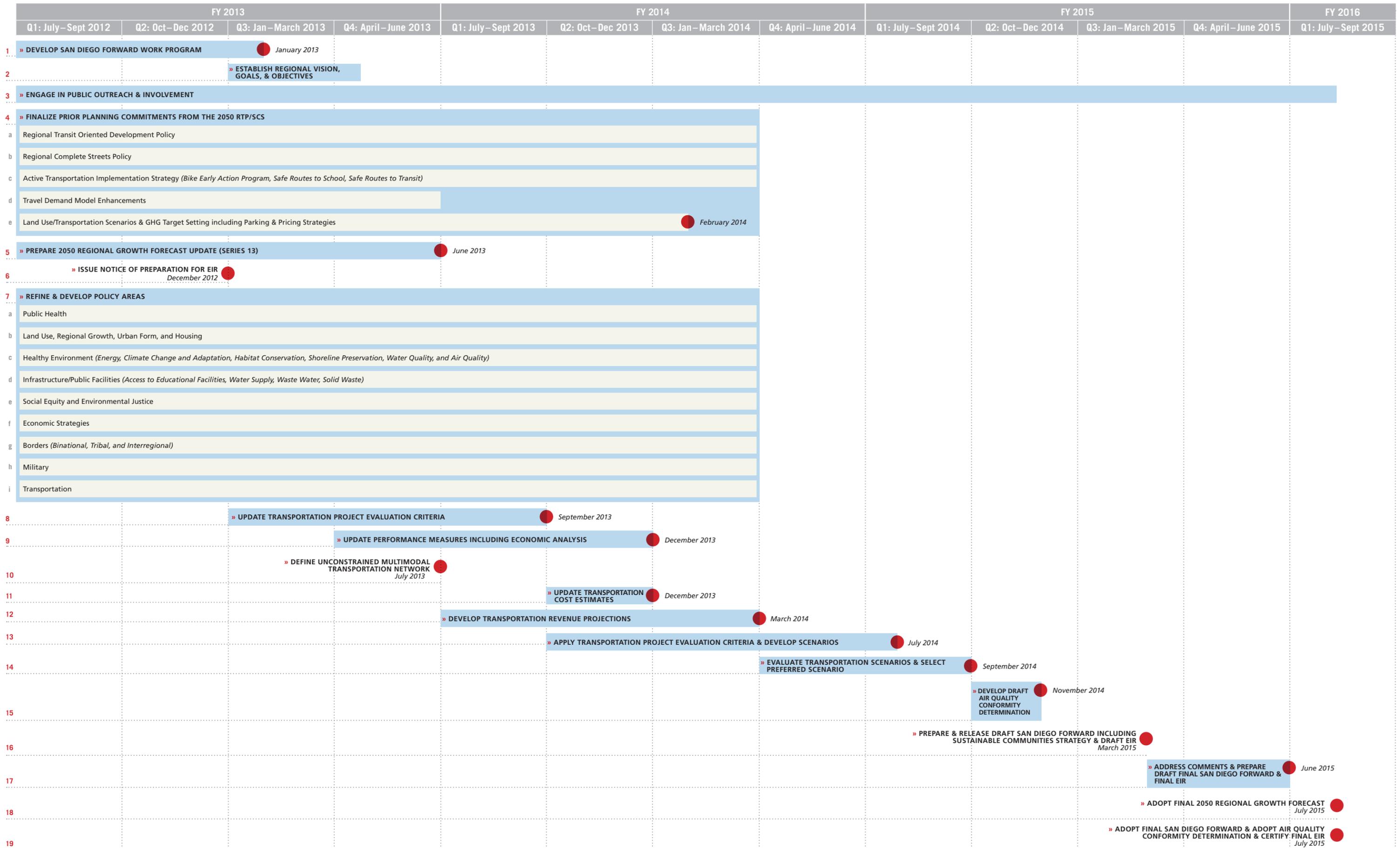
1. Develop Regional Plan Work Program
 - Review work program with core working groups, Policy Advisory Committees, and Board of Directors
2. Establish San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan Vision, Goals and Policy Objectives
 - Review existing Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and Regional Comprehensive Plan (RCP) documents
 - Monitor and incorporate new transportation act/bill provisions and other legislation, including Senate Bill 375 (Steinberg, 2008) (SB 375) (as needed)
 - Monitor and incorporate updated California Transportation Commission RTP Guidelines (as needed)
 - Monitor and incorporate new federal transportation bill (Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century or MAP-21) implementation guidelines (as needed)
3. Engage in Public Outreach and Involvement
 - Establish education and marketing plan for San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan
 - Set up San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan website and maintain throughout its development and adoption
 - Issue request for partners and contracts with community-based organizations to engage low income and minority populations in the planning process
 - Develop Public Involvement Plan (PIP) and Tribal Consultation Plan that meets federal transportation bill requirements and SB 375
 - Schedule events and develop outreach products
 - Conduct subregional workshops (3) on Draft San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan
 - Conduct public hearings (2) on Draft San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan
 - Analyze ongoing feedback and respond to comments received online, phone, e-mail, etc.
4. Finalize Prior Planning Commitments from the 2050 Regional Transportation Plan/ Sustainable Communities Strategy (RTP/SCS)
 - Regional Transit Oriented Development Policy
 - Regional Complete Streets Policy
 - Active Transportation Implementation Strategy
 - Bike Early Action Program
 - Safe Routes to School
 - Safe Routes to Transit

- Travel Demand Model Enhancements
 - Alternative Land Use and Transportation Scenarios and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Target Setting
 - Create and test alternative land use and transportation scenarios to further reduce GHG emissions after 2035 beyond the reductions achieved in the 2050 RTP/SCS, including pricing and parking strategies
 - Conduct public workshops including visualizations for select alternative land use and transportation scenarios
 - Use the scenarios to assist with the next target setting process with the California Air Resources Board (CARB)
5. Prepare 2050 Regional Growth Forecast Update (Series 13)
- Collect land use inputs including general plan, zoning, and permitted projects (i.e. "site spec")
 - Develop regionwide growth projections (population, housing, jobs, and other economic and demographic variables)
 - Generate new subregional Growth Forecast (population, housing, jobs, land use)
 - Review results with local jurisdictions and other land use authorities
 - Finalize 2050 Regional Growth Forecast Update
6. Refine and Develop San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan Policy Areas
- Public Health
 - Land Use, Regional Growth, Urban Form and Housing
 - Healthy Environment (Energy, Climate Change and Adaptation, Habitat Conservation, Shoreline Preservation, Water Quality and Air Quality [AQ])
 - Infrastructure/Public Facilities (Access to Educational Facilities, Water Supply, Waste Water and Solid Waste) Social Equity and Environmental Justice
 - Economic Strategies
 - Borders (Binational, Tribal, and Interregional)
 - Military
 - Transportation
7. Incorporate Recommendations from Regional/Corridor/Subregional Studies into Development of Transportation Networks
- Studies include the Feasibility Assessment of Trucks on Managed Lanes, Regional Transit Oriented Development Strategies, Active Transportation Implementation Strategy (including Bike Early Action Program, Safe Routes to Transit, and Safe Routes to School), State Route 78 Corridor Study, San Ysidro Intermodal Transportation Center Study,

Transit Plan Advanced Planning, Transportation Demand Management (TDM) studies/strategies, Transportation Systems Management (TSM) studies/ strategies, State Route 11 and Otay Mesa East Port of Entry Financing Strategy, California-Baja California Border Master Plan Update, Interstate 8 Corridor Study, Freight Gateway Update, Coordinated Plan, The San Diego Regional Connected Vehicle Program etc. (as needed)

8. Develop Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) and Alternative Planning Strategy (APS) (if needed)
 - Conduct workshop for SB 375 Implementation/GHG Regional Targets/SCS development
 - Information meeting(s) with elected officials to obtain input on SCS
 - Develop draft SCS
 - Generate alternative(s) land use/transportation scenario for an APS (if needed)
 - Develop draft APS if the SCS does not meet the regional GHG targets (if needed)
9. Update Revenue and Cost Projections for Projects and Services
 - Develop or revise cost estimates for all Unconstrained highway and transit projects, including operations and maintenance, TDM and TSM projects and programs, goods movement projects, regional rail grade separation projects, and active transportation projects and programs based on requirements from federal transportation bill
 - Incorporate revised cost estimates for local streets and roads projects provided by the local jurisdictions
 - Develop initial revenue projections for the various local, state, and federal revenue sources for the financial scenarios
 - Refine and finalize initial revenue projections and cost estimates for the Revenue Constrained scenario
10. Update Regional Arterial System (as needed)
11. Update Airport Multimodal and Rail Planning
 - Incorporate recommendations from the Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor Agency Corridorwide Strategic Implementation Plan
 - Incorporate recommendations from the California High-Speed Rail Program Revised 2012 Business Plan
 - Incorporate recommendations from the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority's Airport Development Plan and SANDAG Intermodal Transportation Center advanced planning studies.
12. Update Transportation Project Evaluation Criteria
 - Re-evaluate and update criteria with a focus on Regional Plan goals and policy objectives

13. Update Performance Measures for San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan
 - Re-evaluate and update performance measures to be consistent with the San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan goals and policy objectives, including Environmental Justice/Social Equity, Economic, and Environmental indicators
14. Develop Unconstrained Multimodal Transportation Scenario
 - Refine multimodal (transit, High Occupancy Vehicle, Managed Lanes, highway, active transportation, TDM, TSM) network in conjunction with SCS/APS
15. Apply Evaluation Criteria to Assist In Project Selection for Financial Scenarios
16. Develop and Analyze Financial Scenarios and Select Preferred Revenue Constrained Transportation Scenario for San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan
 - Perform travel forecasts and evaluate overall performance, including economic analyses
 - Develop Draft Preferred Scenario for review, including phasing
17. Perform Air Quality (AQ) Forecasts
 - Discuss conformity criteria and procedures with San Diego Region Conformity Working Group
 - Monitor and address new U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirements for AQ analysis (as needed)
 - Prepare draft AQ conformity determination for Draft San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan for review
 - Prepare final AQ determination
18. Produce Draft San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan
 - Release Draft San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan for Public Comment
 - Address Public Comments and Prepare Draft Final San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan
19. Prepare Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
 - Prepare and circulate Notice of Preparation for EIR
 - Create EIR Alternatives
 - Produce Draft EIR
 - Release Draft EIR for Public Comment
 - Address Public Comments and Prepare Final EIR
20. Adopt Final San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan and certify Final EIR
21. AQ Conformity Determination by U.S. Department of Transportation
22. CARB Determination on the adopted SCS



LEGEND: » Major Task Sub-Task ● Milestone

FINAL SAN DIEGO FORWARD: THE REGIONAL PLAN ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR WORKING GROUPS AND POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEES

	SANDAG WORKING GROUPS*								POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEES			BOD
	CTAC	TWG	CWG	ATWG	TRIBAL TWG	RHWG	ITOC	PHSG	BC	RPC	TC	
MAJOR TASKS												
San Diego Forward Work Program	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Public Outreach, Education, and Involvement	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Vision, Goals, and Objectives	•	•										•
Prior Commitments from the 2050 RTP/SCS												
<i>Regional Transit-Oriented Development Policy</i>	•	•		•		•		•		•	•	•
<i>Regional Complete Streets Policy</i>	•	•		•				•		•	•	•
<i>Active Transportation Implementation Strategy</i>	•	•		•			•	•			•	•
Bike Plan Early Action Program	•	•		•			•				•	•
Safe Routes to School	•	•		•			•	•		•	•	•
Safe Routes to Transit	•	•		•			•	•			•	•
<i>Travel Demand Model Enhancements</i>	•	•				•				•	•	•
<i>Land Use/Transportation Scenarios & Greenhouse Gas Target Setting</i>	•	•				•				•	•	•
2050 Regional Growth Forecast Update		•	•		•	•				•		•
Transportation Project Evaluation Criteria	•	•		•	•		•	•			•	•
Performance Measures and Economic Analysis	•	•		•	•		•	•		•	•	•
Policy Areas												
<i>Public Health</i>	•	•			•			•		•	•	•
<i>Land Use, Regional Growth, Urban Form, and Housing</i>		•			•	•				•		•
<i>Healthy Environment (habitat, energy, etc.)</i>		•			•					•		•
<i>Infrastructure/Public Facilities (waste water, solid waste, etc.)</i>	•	•		•						•		•
<i>Social Equity and Environmental Justice</i>	•	•			•	•		•		•	•	•
<i>Economic Strategies</i>	•	•		•	•	•		•	•	•	•	•
<i>Borders (Binational, Interregional, and Tribal)</i>	•	•			•				•	•	•	•
<i>Military</i>	•	•			•				•	•	•	•
<i>Transportation</i>	•	•		•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•
Initial San Diego Forward Network Scenarios	•	•		•	•		•		•	•	•	•
Final San Diego Forward Network Scenarios	•	•	•	•	•		•			•	•	•
Draft San Diego Forward, Environmental Impact Report (EIR), and Air Quality (AQ) Conformity	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Proposed Changes for the Draft Final San Diego Forward	•	•	•	•	•	•				•	•	•
Adopt Final 2050 Regional Plan/EIR/AQ Conformity												•

COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS		
Board of Directors (BOD)	Working Groups	Specific tasks will be presented to these groups as needed:
Policy Advisory Committees	Active Transportation Working Group (ATWG)	Committee on Binational Regional Opportunities (COBRO)
Borders Committee (BC)	Cities/County Transportation Advisory Committee (CTAC)	Environmental Mitigation Program Working Group (EMP)
Regional Planning Committee (RPC)	Public Health Stakeholders Group (PHSG)	Freight Stakeholders Working Group
Transportation Committee (TC)	Regional Planning Technical Working Group (TWG)	Military Stakeholders Working Group
	Regional Housing Working Group (RHWG)	Regional Energy Working Group
TransNet Independent Taxpayer Oversight Committee (ITOC)	San Diego Region Conformity Working Group (CWG)	San Diego Regional Traffic Engineers Council (SANTEC)
	Tribal Transportation Technical Working Group (Tribal TWG)	Social Services Transportation Advisory Council (SSTAC)
		Quality of Life Stakeholders Working Group
		Community Based Organizations

* Working Groups will provide input that will be used in the staff recommendations to the Policy Advisory Committees and the Board of Directors

San Diego Association of Governments
ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM WORKING GROUP

March 12, 2013

AGENDA ITEM NO.: **5**

Action Requested: DISCUSSION

SAN DIEGO FORWARD: THE REGIONAL PLAN:
KEY POLICY ISSUES AFFECTING REGIONAL HABITAT CONSERVATION

File Number 3200100

Introduction

On February 22, 2013, the Board of Directors reviewed the final work program and schedule for the 2050 Regional Plan, which integrates the next updates of the Regional Comprehensive Plan and Regional Transportation Plan and its Sustainable Communities Strategy. The proposed plan, San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan, will address key policies areas within the region. One of the proposed policy areas that will be address is "Healthy Environment"; habitat conservation is a key aspect of the Health Environment section.

SANDAG staff is soliciting input from the Environmental Mitigation Program Working Group on the issues related to regional habitat conservation that would be included in a white paper to help define the issue, potential solutions, and SANDAG's potential role.

Discussion

The following four areas have been identified by SANDAG staff as a starting point for discussion by the Working Group. The Working Group's input, along input from other public workshops and policy committee, will refine these policy issues.

Key Policy Issues Affecting Habitat Conservation in the Region for Discussion Purposes

1. Completion of Regional Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs)
 - a. What are the best, cost effective methods for land management and what is the process for communication to the land manager's in the region?
 - b. What are the options for the establishment of regional funding source to promote completion of HCPs?

2. Planning and funding for future wildfire and biodiversity preservation along the urban interface
 - a. How should the region plan for future wildfire among land manager, agencies, fire officials and jurisdictions?
 - b. What information or tools are useful in pro-actively responding to wildfire?

3. How should the region be planning for the potential impacts to habitat conservation from a changing climate (e.g., sea level rise (SLR), extreme heat events, wildfires, more rapid erosion)?

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

San Diego Association of Governments
ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM WORKING GROUP

March 12, 2013

AGENDA ITEM NO.: **7**

Action Requested: RECOMMENDATION

FISCAL YEAR 2013 LAND MANAGEMENT GRANTS:
EVALUATION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

File Number 3200100

Introduction

The TransNet Extension Ordinance and Expenditure Plan, approved by the voters in November 2004, includes the Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP) which provides funding to mitigate habitat impacts from regional and local transportation projects, and provides funding for regional land management and biological monitoring. The EMP is a unique component of the TransNet Extension Ordinance in that it goes beyond traditional mitigation for transportation projects by including a funding allocation for habitat acquisition, management, and monitoring activities to help implement the regional habitat conservation plans. This funding allocation is tied to mitigation requirements and the environmental clearance approval process for projects outlined in the Regional Transportation Plan.

On February 22, 2008, the Board of Directors entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with state and federal agencies on the implementation of the EMP. A provision of the MOA allocates \$4 million annually for ten years to implement regional habitat management and monitoring efforts to help maintain the region's biological integrity, thus avoiding the future listing of endangered species. Allocation of the \$4 million is done on an annual basis by the Board of Directors pursuant to a Five-Year Funding Strategy (originally approved on December 15, 2006, and last updated by the Board of Directors on November 18, 2011). The Five-Year Funding Strategy is designed to strategically allocate funding for land management and monitoring activities under the EMP as approved annually by the Board of Directors.

On September 28, 2012, the SANDAG Board of Directors approved a Call-for-Projects (CFP) for land management grants totaling \$2 million. This report discusses the results of the CFP and the recommendations from an evaluation committee tasked to review and rank the proposed grant projects.

Discussion

On November 1, 2012, a Call-for-Projects (CFP) was issued seeking grant proposals for land management. A total of \$2 million was available to address:

1. Habitat Restoration and Invasive Control (approximately 40% of available funds)
2. Species-Specific Management (approximately 40% of available funds)

3. Habitat Maintenance, Access Control/Management and Volunteer Coordination (approximately 20% of available funds)

On January 8, 2013, the EMP Working Group appointed an ad hoc evaluation committee to review the land management grant applications received by SANDAG under the CFP. The final ad hoc committee consisted of EMP Working Group members: Mike Grim, David Mayer, Kim Smith, James Whalen, Susan Wynn, and SANDAG staff Keith Greer. EMP Working Group Vice Chair Mike Grim chaired the ad hoc committee.

Evaluation Ranking Results

The ad hoc committee had a teleconference on January 25, 2013, to discuss the categories of eligible activities and criteria adopted by the Board of Directors on September 28, 2012 (Attachment 1). On January 29, 2013, 34 applications were received by SANDAG and sent to each committee member to rank and evaluate independently. On February 27, 2013, the ad hoc committee met to review their individual rankings, which were compiled by SANDAG staff based upon their overall cumulative ranks for each of the three categories of eligible activities. The proposals were then collectively discussed regarding merit, shortcoming and conditions, and/or reductions in project funding based upon available funding for this CFP.

In the collective discussion:

1. SANDAG staff confirmed that all projects were eligible under the CFP.
2. For each of the three categories of eligible activities, more funding was requested than funding available, but the proportion of requested funding was closely aligned to the percentage of funding made available by the SANDAG Board of Directors for that category (Attachment 2).
3. Several proposals contained multiple years of funding and/or tasks which the ad hoc committee are recommending reduction in funding as conditions of their recommendation (Attachment 2).
4. Proposals that contained on the ground land management ranked higher than planning and research activities that did not lead to land management.
5. Clearly defined goals were important for ad hoc committee members to determine if projects would be successful.
6. Funding of past successful grant project is important to support prior investments, but projects should also be trending towards self-sustainability.
7. Urgent action needed to be clearly explained.
8. Applicants were available to call if questions arose regarding project proposals.

The ad hoc evaluation committee is recommending that the EMP Working Group recommend to the Regional Planning and Transportation Committees (RPC and TC) to recommend Board of Directors approval of the 15 grants totaling \$2 million for land management grant projects as shown in (Attachment 2).

It is the ad hoc committee's hope that projects that did not receive any funding or less than the requested amount will resubmit proposals in the next CFP for grant funding. Ms. Katie Levy, SANDAG staff, is available to individual applicants to discuss their ranking and proposals.

All applications and evaluation criteria are available in PDF format upon request.

Next Steps

Upon the EMP Working group's recommendation, the ad hoc committee's evaluations and results will be presented for information to the RPC and TC on April 5, 2013. SANDAG staff will return to the RPC and TC on May 3, 2013, for recommendation for Board of Directors approval on May 24, 2013. If approved by the Board of Directors, the selected grantees will be sent Notices of Award with grant agreements and Notices to Proceed anticipated for fall 2013.

- Attachments:
1. FY 2013 Funding for Land Management Grants: Call-for-Projects Memo, Overview and Instructions, and Evaluation and Ranking Criteria
 2. EMP Working Group Ad Hoc Committee FY 2013 Land Management Grant Recommendations: Summary of Evaluation Ranking Results

Key Staff Contact: Katie Levy, (619) 699-7312, Katie.Levy@sandag.org



November 1, 2012

File Number 3200100

401 B Street, Suite 800
San Diego, CA 92101-4231
(619) 699-1900
Fax (619) 699-1905
www.sandag.org

TO: Interested Land Owners and Land Managers

FROM: Charles "Muggs" Stoll, Director of Land Use and Transportation Planning

SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR 2013 FUNDING FOR LAND MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

MEMBER AGENCIES

Cities of
Carlsbad
Chula Vista
Coronado
Del Mar
El Cajon
Encinitas
Escondido
Imperial Beach
La Mesa
Lemon Grove
National City
Oceanside
Poway
San Diego
San Marcos
Santee
Solana Beach
Vista
and
County of San Diego

ADVISORY MEMBERS

Imperial County
California Department
of Transportation

Metropolitan
Transit System

North County
Transit District

United States
Department of Defense

San Diego
Unified Port District

San Diego County
Water Authority

Southern California
Tribal Chairmen's Association

Mexico

On September 28, 2012, the SANDAG Board of Directors approved a competitive grant process to solicit land management proposals to help implement the regional habitat conservation planning efforts. The SANDAG Board allocated \$2 million of *TransNet* Environmental Mitigation Program funds for land management projects that promote: (1) Habitat Restoration and Invasive Control; (2) Species-Specific Management; and (3) Habitat Maintenance, Access Control/Management and Volunteer Coordination.

Attached to this memo are the program description, eligible projects, process for allocating funds, eligibility and evaluation weighting criteria, and schedule (Attachment 1), and an application form (Attachments 2). In addition, a standardized contract agreement and invoicing template is provided for your information (Attachment 3). Your organization will be required to enter into a contract and use the invoice template if your project is selected for funding by the SANDAG Board of Directors. Note that all organizations that require a Board action to accept funds will be required to provide a resolution or similar written authorization two weeks prior to the first SANDAG committee meeting, tentatively scheduled in March 2013.

The Grant Submission application and supporting material are due to SANDAG by 4 p.m. on January 29, 2013. A pre-proposal meeting will be held on December 6, 2012, from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. in the SANDAG Board Room to address any questions from applicants.

The grant proposal must be submitted by the land owner or representative that has legal authority to manage the property. See Attachment 1 for more information on submittal requirements.

Please mail the required signed hard copy and CD to SANDAG, Attn: Katie Levy, 401 B Street, Suite 800, San Diego, CA 92101 by the deadline listed above. For more information, please contact Katie Levy at (619) 699-7312 or Katie.Levy@sandag.org.

KLE/ais

Attachments: 1. EMP FY 2013 Land Management Grant Program Overview and Instructions
2. Grant Application Form
3. Standard Agreement and Invoice Template

Program Description

The TransNet Extension Ordinance and Expenditure Plan, as approved by the voters on November 2, 2004, includes an Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP). The EMP is a funding allocation category for the costs to mitigate habitat impacts for regional transportation projects. The EMP is a unique component of the TransNet Extension in that it goes beyond traditional mitigation for transportation projects by including a funding allocation for habitat acquisition, management, and monitoring activities as needed to help implement regional habitat conservation plans.

On September 28, 2012, the SANDAG Board of Directors approved the Call for Projects for the next cycle of land management and monitoring activities with a budget of \$2 million.

Eligible Projects

SANDAG has allocated \$2 million to address the top concerns related to maintaining the integrity of the regional habitat preserves. This includes invasive species control, restoration of degraded habitat areas, species-specific management to promote threatened species, and management to preclude damage caused by human use. Review of the monitoring data collected since 1997 indicates some species and habitats are at significant risk due to a variety of stressors and that action is needed to reverse downward trends in habitat or species conditions. It is envisioned that the \$2 million would be part of a multi-year strategic approach that includes one or more of the following **eligible activities**:

1. **Habitat Restoration and Invasive Control (approximately 40% of available funds)** – Projects that reduce existing or emerging invasive species that threaten endangered and/or other sensitive species **AND** that engage in active habitat restoration on degraded habitat lands to promote recovery of native vegetation communities and/or threatened, endangered, and other sensitive species habitat. Projects that focus on the following vegetation communities will be given the highest priority for funding:
 - Native Grasslands
 - Maritime succulent scrub/Coastal bluff scrub
 - Coastal sage scrub
 - Vernal pools
 - Associated uplands around bays and lagoons
2. **Species-Specific Management (approximately 40% of available funds)** – Projects that focus on managing species at risk of extirpation to species covered under the regional habitat conservation plans, generally by identifying and reducing threats, and that include monitoring to demonstrate success at increasing or stabilizing populations. The following species have been determined to be the highest at-risk species in the region, where land management activities could benefit existing populations. Projects that focus on the following species will be given the highest priority for funding:

Species	General management Issue to be Addressedⁱ
California least tern	Reduce threats and improve structure of nesting habitat to support > 150 nesting pairs
Western snowy plover	Maintain and enhance nest sites where associated with California least tern
Red legged frog	Manage existing populations, and where appropriate, increase number and size".
Coastal cactus wren	Reduce predation by managing vegetation. Maintain and enhance nesting habitat
Golden Eagle	Repair/replace nests and/or install nest ledges. Reduce threats.
Northern harrier	Create new nesting opportunities. Maintain and enhance existing nesting areas.
Tricolored blackbird	Maintain and enhance nesting areas/water at or near historic nesting sites
American badger	Restore and enhance known nest burrows
Quino checkerspot	Restore and expand suitable habitat
Otay Mesa mint	Increase number and size of populations
California Orcutt's grass	Increase number and size of populations
Spreading navarretia	Increase number and size of populations
Thread-leaved brodiaea	Increase number and size of populations
San Diego thornmint	Increase number and size of populations
Dehesa beargrass	Increase number and size of populations
Nuttall's lotus	Increase number and size of populations
Short-leave dudleya	Stabilize populations have shown declines. Reduce threats.
Orcutt's spineflower	Increase number and size of populations
Willow monardella	Increase number and size of populations

3. **Habitat Maintenance, Access Control/Management and Volunteer Coordination (approximately 20% of available funds)** – Regular day-to-day habitat maintenance, management of public use combined with monitoring of effects on species and habitats, and the coordination of volunteer programs to implement management actions. This includes signage (both interpretive and cautionary), education, erosion control, culvert maintenance, fencing, patrolling public use, costs related to volunteer coordination, law enforcement, and efforts to remove garbage in existing preserve systems to allow habitat areas to recover. Eligible projects also include data collection/monitoring to:
- Determine the effects in public use on species and vegetation communities
 - Track types, quantity, and seasonality of public use
 - Assess areas for compatible public use prior to allowing access

Projects that are not ready to start within 12 months of submission of the application to SANDAG will not be eligible for this funding cycle. Projects approved by the SANDAG Board of Directors for funding, and do not start work within one year, will be at risk of losing their funding. Projects will only be funded for a maximum of **3** years initially. All requests for extensions will be required to follow Board Policy No. 035 with regard to such requests.

Process for Allocating the Funds

SANDAG will accept project proposals from land managers in San Diego County that will benefit regional conservation planning under the Natural Communities Conservation Planning Program. The applicant must own the land, or be designated to manage the land by the land owner by contract or other written form of legal documentation, and should have any applicable state and federal permits prior to the initiation of work. The land must be conserved as open space for natural resources. Representatives of the land owner and land manager must be identified on the application form and be authorized in writing to enter into a contract agreement with SANDAG.

Applicants must complete a Grant Submission application (Attachment 2) that does not exceed 12 pages. The proposal will include the purpose of the project, the scope of work, timeline, and costs. Applicants must clearly identify their proposed tasks in the scope of work, funding requested for each task, start and end dates of the tasks, and deliverables.

All project proposals will be reviewed for eligibility, ranked, and prioritized as described below. A list of recommended projects will be submitted for consideration to the Environmental Mitigation Program (EMP) Working Group and the Regional Planning Committee (RPC), and the projects are subject to approval by the SANDAG Board of Directors.

Successful applicants will then be required to enter into a contract with SANDAG for grant funding. The contract signed by the parties will be in substantially the same form as the contract included in the Call for Projects. Successful applicants will be required to submit quarterly reports on their progress and a final summary report of the project's contribution to promote habitat conservation in the region along with the final invoice.

Who Will Score The Projects?

An evaluation committee will be made up of EMP Working Group members and/or other qualified individuals who do not have an affiliation with any of the proposed projects. The committee will include people with knowledge of the regional preserve system and land management.

Project Evaluation and Ranking

The following evaluation and ranking criteria will be used by the evaluation committee.

Eligible Activity: 1. Habitat Restoration Projects and Invasive Control

Project Evaluation Criteria	Point Range	Weight	Maximum Score Possible	Total Score
Project addresses a focal or other high-priority vegetation community.	0-5	5	25	
Project site is located within an identified habitat linkage or core area.	0-5	5	25	
Long-term success of management activities is likely with clear, measurable positive results. Project includes goals, objectives, and use of conceptual models that identifies proposed management actions. Success criteria have been identified and will be monitored and reported.	0-5	5	25	
Urgent action is needed to address a problem that would severely degrade a sensitive vegetation community.	0-5	5	25	
Project covers a large geographic area and has multiple partners and multiple benefits OR Project is an important part of a larger effort already underway to restore habitat and control invasive species.	0-5	3	15	
Sufficient Matching funds are available to implement the project.	0-5	3	15	
Project promotes public awareness of sustainable land management through public participation.	0-5	3	15	
Total			145	

Eligible Activity: 2. Species-Specific Management

Project Evaluation Criteria	Point Range	Weight	Maximum Score Possible	Total Score
Population is within a major, critical, or core population as identified by the regional habitat conservation plans, or meets the criteria for inclusion.	0-5	5	25	
Project site is located within an identified habitat linkage or core area.	0-5	5	25	
Long-term success of management activities is likely with clear, measurable positive results. Project includes goals, objectives, and use of conceptual models that identifies proposed management actions. Success criteria have been identified and will be monitored and reported.	0-5	5	25	
Project contains multiple partners and multiple benefits AND/OR Project is an important part of a larger effort already underway to recover a priority species.	0-5	3	15	
Matching funds are available to complete the project.	0-5	3	15	
Project promotes public awareness of sustainable land management through public outreach and participation.	0-5	2	10	
Total			115	

Eligible Activity: 3. Habitat Maintenance, Access Control/Management and Volunteer Coordination

Project Evaluation Criteria	Point Range	Weight	Maximum Score Possible	Total Score
The Project activity is located within an identified habitat linkage or core area.	0-5	5	25	
Long-term success of management activities is likely with clear, measurable positive results. (High Cost-Effectiveness)	0-5	5	25	
Action is needed to address a problem that would severely degrade a sensitive vegetation community or species.	0-5	5	25	
Matching funds are available to complete the project.	0-5	3	15	
Project promotes public awareness of sustainable land management through public participation and volunteer coordination.	0-5	5	25	
Total			115	

Proposed Schedule

November 1, 2012 – A Call for Projects is provided to interested stakeholders included in SANDAG’s EMP TransNet EMP stakeholder database. A Call for Projects also will be posted on the SANDAG Web site.

December 6, 2012 – A public workshop will be provided to address any questions on the call for projects or the process. Staff from SANDAG will be present to address questions and provide information on the eligibility, approval, contracting and specific requirements of this grant program.

January 29, 2013 – Applications are due to SANDAG.

One signed hard copy (Postmarks will not be accepted in lieu of this requirement):

SANDAG

Attn: Katie Levy

401 B Street, Suite 800

San Diego, CA 92101

and one electronic version e-mailed to katie.levy@sandag.org.

February, 2013 – The evaluation committee will review and rank projects following the criteria above and forward the proposals to the EMP Working Group for consideration.

March, 2013 – The EMP Working Group will recommend a list of prioritized projects to the Regional Planning and Transportation Committees who will be asked to recommend a list of land management projects for funding. The list of projects will be subject to approval by the SANDAG Board of Directors.

ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM WORKING GROUP AD HOC COMMITTEE
FISCAL YEAR 2013 LAND MANAGEMENT GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS
SUMMARY OF OVERALL HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECTS AND INVASIVE CONTROL EVALUATION RANKING RESULTS

PRJ Tracking #	Applicant	Project Summary from Proposal	Requested Grant Amount	Proposed Match Amount	AHC Recommended Funding	SUM of AHC Ranks	Overall Rank	Discussion/Conditions
6_MRCD_San Luis Rey & Santa Margarita	Mission Resource Conservation District	EMP funding is needed to continue re-treatments to allow the program to reach its goal of eradication of invasive non-native Arundo in the Santa Margarita and San Luis Rey Watersheds. Eradication of Arundo currently over 90%.	\$ 261,000.00	\$ 284,000.00	\$ 174,000.00	14	1	Only 10% remaining for invasives in 2 watersheds to be completely eradicated. High proportionate matching funds proposed. Demonstrated previous success and high cost-benefit. Fund for 2 years. MRCD to submit revised SOW, budget, and schedule.
10_Groundwork_Radio-Encanto Phase 3	Groundwork San Diego-Chollas Creek	Monitor recently-created native habitat to implement Phase 3 Radio-Encanto Canyons Restoration/Maintenance/ Monitoring Program. Use matching funds to restore additional habitat in Radio Canyon.	\$ 169,578.00	\$ 138,230.00	\$ 100,316.00	20	2	Important cactus wren habitat location. Great history of public outreach and proposing restoration with matching funds. Eliminate bird monitoring task for all years. Fund 2 years. Groundwork to submit revised SOW, budget, and schedule.
7_CBI_S. County Grasslands Phase 2	Conservation Biology Institute	Implement Phase 2 of South County Grasslands restoration and invasive control. Determine the most effective methods for site preparation, weed management, and seeding to prepare for and inform large-scale grassland restoration.	\$ 585,542.00	\$ -	\$ 272,307.00	21	3	Conservation of large-scale, multi-collaborative effort. \$272,307 recommended. 1 year of funding or alternative proposal by applicant. CBI will submit revised SOW, budget, and schedule using funding available.
3_SDNWR_Shinohara	San Diego National Wildlife Refuge	Shinohara Parcel on SDNWR still has a substantial weed load. Hand weeding within restored pools and herbicide application adjacent to pools to treat weeds that inhibit full ecosystem function.	\$ 95,400.00	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 95,400.00	32	4	Weed maintenance necessary for continued investment of previous successful grant work. Fully fund.
13_County_Sycamore Canyon & Goodan Ranch Preserve	County of San Diego- Dept of Parks & Rec	Treat and remove invasive non-native plant species in order to restore sensitive habitat within the Sycamore Canyon/Goodan Ranch Preserve.	\$ 214,731.00	\$ 17,825.00	\$ 157,977.00	41	5	Proposing recovery in post-fire burn area. Also has good outreach and multiple partners. More discrete goals need to be identified as part of revised SOW. Fund 2 years. County to submit revised SOW, budget, and schedule.
2_LCB_Rose Creek Watershed	Land Conservation Brokerage	Implement Phase 2 effort underway that would supplement treatment of over 30 acres of invasive plants and over 2,000 invasive trees, and restore coastal sage scrub within the Rose-Creek watershed.	\$ 325,000.00	\$ 120,000.00	\$ -	43	6	Funding not available.
8_BLF_North Shore Trail	Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation	Restore habitat along a section of the North Shore Trail in the Batiquitos Lagoon Ecological Reserve (BLER) with a focus on native tree replacement of existing eucalyptus and palms to improve bird nesting, roosting, and foraging habitat. A native plant nursery for harvesting seeds and plants will be established to support future restoration efforts.	\$ 49,312.00	\$ 205,008.00	\$ -	43	6	Funding not available.
9_SDRVC_San Dieguito watershed	San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy	Phase 1 of invasive plant management and habitat restoration of the San Dieguito River and tributaries.	\$ 185,000.00	\$ 39,000.00	\$ -	44	8	Funding not available.
5_SWIA_Tijuana Estuary	Southwest Wetlands Interpretive Association	Restore native habitat within an eight acre site near the main channel of the Tijuana Estuary as part of larger strategic effort involving the entire Tijuana River Valley.	\$ 289,932.00	\$ -	\$ -	45	9	Funding not available. FY 11 had funded for 1 year to see if natural recruitment would occur. Proposed planting not a high-priority habitat. (i.e., elderberry and laurel sumac).
12_County_Invasive plant control	County of San Diego- Dept of Agriculture	Continue invasive control and eradication of spotted knapweed, purple loosestrife and yellow starthistle throughout County.	\$ 119,709.00	\$ 41,844.00	\$ -	53	10	Funding not available.
11_CLC_Dennery Canyon	Chapparal Lands Conservancy	Remove invasive plants and restore 5 acres of coastal sage scrub, maritime succulent scrub, and native grassland vegetation.	\$ 284,534.00	\$ -	\$ -	55	11	Funding not available.
4_OWD_San Miguel HMA	Otay Water District	Invasive plant control and restoration of native grassland habitat in southeastern portion of the San Miguel Habitat Management Area.	\$ 97,465.40	\$ 9,518.03	\$ -	61	12	Funding not available. Project is a mitigation obligation. Long-term management of weeds should already have been addressed.
1_CNLM_Rancho La Costa-Meadowlark Unit	Center for Natural Lands Management	Restore and enhance 10 acres of disturbed habitat to coastal sage scrub on the Rancho La Costa-Meadowlark Unit.	\$ 174,214.00	\$ 660.00	\$ -	64	13	Funding not available.
TOTALS:			\$ 2,851,417.40	\$ 860,285.03	\$ 800,000.00			

Habitat Restoration and Invasive Control	Number Grants	Total Requested Grant Amount	Total Estimated \$ Amount Available	% Requested	% Available
	13	\$2,851,417.40	\$800,000.00	142.57%	40.00%

**ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM WORKING GROUP AD HOC COMMITTEE
FISCAL YEAR 2013 LAND MANAGEMENT GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS
SUMMARY OF OVERALL SPECIES-SPECIFIC EVALUATION RANKING RESULTS**

PRJ Tracking #	Applicant	Project Summary from Proposal	Requested Grant Amount	Proposed Match Amount	AHC Recommended Funding	SUM of AHC Ranks	Overall Rank	Discussion/Conditions
15_CBI_Dehesa nolina & dudleya	Conservation Biology Institute	Enhance, restore, and protect Dehesa nolina and variegated dudleya on portions of the South Crest property. Develop a science-based Conservation Vision and Management Strategy for Dehesa nolina in Management Unit 3.	\$ 114,810.00	\$ -	\$ 114,810.00	23	1	High-priority species, clear goals. Fully fund.
18_BCLT_SD thornmint & Quino butterfly	Back Country Land Trust	Restore and enhance native grassland habitat populations of San Diego thornmint and plantago plant (host plant for Quino checkerspot butterfly) at Wright's Field.	\$ 108,540.00	\$ 29,625.00	\$ 108,540.00	24	2	Important area. Past grantee. SOW needs to be expanded to include collaboration with CNLM on thornmint enhancement and CBI on grassland management for Quino. Fully fund.
22_SDAS_CA least tern	San Diego Audubon Society	Observe and record predation events in order to provide recommendations for improving efficacy of predator management actions and in turn improve breeding productivity of CA least tern in Mission Bay Park.	\$ 181,674.00	\$ 29,418.00	\$ 58,464.00	30	3	Fund Task 1, Volunteer Predator Monitoring, and Task 4, Grant Administration and Reporting. Eliminate Task 2, Nest Attendance, and Task 3, Video Monitoring, as they are research tasks and should be discussed in a different forum than this land management grants program. SDAS to submit revised SOW, budget, and schedule.
16_OWD_Cactus Wren	Otay Water District	Crete suitable nesting habitat for coastal cactus wren through removal of non-natives, thinning of coastal sage scrub, collection of cactus cuttings for transplanting, and planting coastal cholla within the San Miguel Habitat Management Area.	\$ 88,840.00	\$ 8,675.67	\$ 88,840.00	38	4	Expand goals to coordinate with SDMMMP on how to best site and configure cactus planting. Cactus wren previously occurred on site. Expands existing Sweetwater population. Fully fund.
20_CLC_Rarest Plants	Chapparal Lands Conservancy	Prepare site plans, stabilize, and increase spineflower populations in suitable habitats. Reduce invasive weeds on 2-acres through dethatching/weeding. Provide site protection for spineflower, San Diego thornmint, and dudleya with installation of fencing, signs, and camouflage of unauthorized paths.	\$ 313,146.00	\$ -	\$ 137,610.50	40	5	Only fund spineflower work. Remove Thornmint and Dudleya from SOW and budget and reduce other tasks funding accordingly. Provide funding for fencing and site protection for spineflower, SD thornmint, and dudleya populations. Work with land managers and agencies on locating sites for fencing and protection. CLC to submit revised SOW, budget, and schedule based on total \$137,610.50 available.
26_SEL_Coastal North County Species	San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy	Survey and conduct restoration activities at potential dune habitat between northern Carlsbad and northern La Jolla in order to extend the range and increase the population of dune-dependent species CA least tern, Western snowy plover, and Nuttall's lotus.	\$ 180,144.00	\$ 41,526.00	\$ 180,144.00	40	5	Revise SOW and budget for more on ground restoration work (i.e. 2+ sites to be restored) and less planning. SELC will submit revised SOW, budget, and schedule accordingly. Fully fund in alignment with revised SOW, budget, and schedule.
23_SDNWR_CA least tern	San Diego National Wildlife Refuge	Support the recovery and protection of the CA least tern and western snowy plover through nest site preparation and predator management at the D St Fill.	\$ 276,952.00	\$ 97,482.00	\$ 111,591.50	41	7	Eliminate Task 3, Monitoring and Reporting. Fund 2 years. SDNWR will submit revised SOW, budget, and schedule.
19_City CV_Cactus Wren	City of Chula Vista	Invasive species control, shrub thinning, propagation of coast cholla and coast prickly pear cuttings, and focused cactus wren monitoring within Salt Creek Canyon.	\$ 197,512.00	\$ -	\$ -	42	8	Funding not available.
17_OWD_Southwestern Pond Turtle	Otay Water District	Southwestern pond turtle restoration and invasive species removal within 2 ponds at the San Miguel Habitat Management Area.	\$ 159,196.20	\$ 15,546.37	\$ -	51	9	Funding not available. Work with owner on more comprehensive approach and submit for future grant funding cycle.
21_SDNHM_Gray Vireo	San Diego Natural History Museum	Assess the current population, identify threats, and test methods of recovery of the Gray Vireo.	\$ 88,343.00	\$ 53,005.00	\$ -	51	9	Funding not available.
24_USGS_CA Red-legged frog	US Geological Survey	Re-establish populations of CA Red-legged frog within the San Diego MSCP through selection of donor populations for translocation, habitat assessment of potential translocation sites, and an evaluation of the disease status.	\$ 226,209.73	\$ 9,847.70	\$ -	51	9	Funding not available.
25_WRI_Golden Eagle	Wildlife Research Institute	Prepare baseline of Golden Eagle activities including nesting and breeding failures within in Management Units 8 and 5 in order to direct management implementation.	\$ 187,960.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	53	12	Funding not available.
14_CNLM_Whelan-CAWR	Center for Natural Lands Management	Enhance and expand existing stands of cacti and coastal sage scrub within the Whelan Habitat Conservation Area for coastal cactus wren habitat.	\$ 175,594.00	\$ 7,750.00	\$ -	54	13	Funding not available.
TOTALS:			\$ 2,298,920.93	\$ 295,875.74	\$ 800,000.00			

Species-Specific Management	Number Grants	Total Requested Grant Amount	Total Estimated \$ Amount Available	% Requested	% Available
	13	\$2,298,920.93	\$800,000.00	114.95%	40.00%

**ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION PROGRAM WORKING GROUP AD HOC COMMITTEE
FISCAL YEAR 2013 LAND MANAGEMENT GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS**

SUMMARY OF OVERALL HABITAT MAINTENANCE, ACCESS CONTROL/MANAGEMENT AND VOLUNTEER COORDINATION EVALUATION RANKING RESULTS

PRJ Tracking #	Applicant	Project Summary from Proposal	Requested Grant Amount	Proposed Match Amount	AHC Recommended Funding	SUM of AHC Ranks	Overall Rank	Discussion/Conditions
28_EDI_S. County Community Outreach	Earth Discovery Institute	Expand conservation outreach and education in South County. Conduct interpretive and habitat conservation events to support management goals of agencies; build long-term stewardship through involvement of students; expand volunteer patrols for access control and management; conduct public outreach through quarterly newsletters.	\$ 493,950.00	\$ 262,155.00	\$ 164,650.00	9	1	Good outreach and education events. Can serve as a model for North County. Fund for 1 year. EDI to submit revised SOW, budget, and schedule.
31_SDRPF_SD River Park Watch	San Diego River Park Foundation	Institutionalize, enhance and further grow the San Diego River Park Watch program within Santee's River Park to be more effective. Park watch to patrol for access control, deter illegal lodging and trails, and educate the public on legal uses, sensitive resources, and trails. Conduct river clean-up events and RiverBlitz surveys on preventing pollution, habitat degradation and the aesthetic impairment of Santee's River Park as a resource. Implement invasive non-native plant removal and maintenance as well as trail maintenance.	\$ 145,005.00	\$ 71,287.00	\$ 145,005.00	17	2	Clear goals and deliverables. Builds on past efforts to try and institutionalize Park Watch program. Expand goals to coordinate with City of Santee and County of San Diego law enforcement/code enforcement. Fully fund.
34_LPLF_Los Penasquitos Management	Los Penasquitos Lagoon Foundation	Protect Los Penasquitos Lagoon's biological resources and public use through restoring tidal circulation, buffering sensitive habitats, and removal of urban debris.	\$ 122,800.00	\$ 108,000.00	\$ 90,345.00	24	3	Only \$90,345 available. Most cost-benefit with this proposal given available funding compared to other similarly ranked proposals. LPLF to submit revised SOW, budget, and schedule based available funding.
30_City Carlsbad_Calavera Management & Education	City of Carlsbad	Management, monitoring, and public outreach for 5-acre restoration site in Calavera Preserve.	\$ 146,000.00	\$ 240,870.00	\$ -	24	3	Funding not available. Previous <i>TransNet</i> grant funded contract was for volunteer based monitoring for 2 years after project completion.
32_SDNWR_Bayside & SD Bay Access Control	San Diego National Wildlife Refuge	Restore native vegetation along San Diego Bay, while providing compatible opportunities for wildlife observation, photography, interpretation, and environmental education.	\$ 329,501.00	\$ 250,600.00	\$ -	24	3	Funding not available. Cost-benefit of this proposal lower than other similarly ranked proposals.
33_County_Furby-North Access Control	County of San Diego- Dept of Parks & Rec	Install signage, fencing and gates on Furby-North Property to control unauthorized access. Coordinate with the SANDAG enforcement program to increase patrols and enforce County regulations on the Furby-North Property once signs are installed.	\$ 217,372.00	\$ 10,425.00	\$ -	35	6	Funding not available.
29_SDC_Switzer Canyon	San Diego Canyon Lands	Coordinate volunteers to maintain, restore and enhance coastal sage scrub in Switzer Canyon in the Multiple Species Conservation Planning Area, and increase community-based stewardship and educational opportunities for residents.	\$ 81,403.00	\$ 30,010.00	\$ -	39	7	Funding not available.
27_FLC_Durling Preserve	Fallbrook Lands Conservancy	Create safe and habitat friendly access for habitat maintenance and monitoring. Prohibit vehicle access through installation of gate and signage.	\$ 23,430.00	\$ 1,430.00	\$ -	43	8	Funding not available.
TOTALS:			\$ 1,559,461.00	\$ 974,777.00	\$ 400,000.00			

Habitat Maintenance, Access Control/Management, and Volunteer Coordination	Number Grants	Total Requested Grant Amount	Total Estimated \$ Amount Available	% Requested	% Available
	8	\$1,559,461.00	\$400,000.00	77.97%	20.00%