



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area  
401 West Hillcrest Drive  
Thousand Oaks, California 91360-4207

In reply refer to:  
L1425 (SAMO/104-74)

August 3, 2007

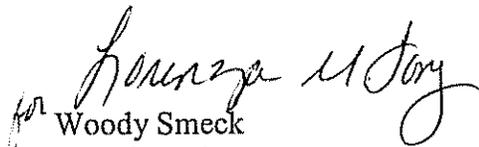
Board of Directors  
Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority  
5750 Ramirez Canyon Road  
Malibu, CA 90265

Dear Board Members:

On behalf of the National Park Service, I would like to express our support for the MRCA's acquisition of the "Mora" property, Item X on the August 8, 2007, Board meeting. Ten acres would be acquired under the proposed acquisition agreement. It is critical to acquire the Mora property to secure the public right-of-way for the 65-mile Backbone Trail system. Other alternatives for routing the trail across the remaining 1.6-mile gap are not feasible.

Thank you for making this acquisition possible. If you have questions, please call Melanie Beck at (805)370-2346.

Sincerely,

  
for Woody Smeck  
Superintendent