



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Officer

DATE: May 4, 2016

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item XIV: Consideration of resolution authorizing the acceptance of a donation of approximately 500 acres (APNs 3209-006-018 and 3209-007-020), Soledad Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the acceptance of a donation of an approximately 425 acres (APNs 3209-006-018 and 3209-007-020) in Soledad Canyon.

Background: The owners of the subject 420 contiguous acres in the Soledad Canyon watershed are interested in donating the property. The property in the Young Canyon tributary is bordered on three sides by Bureau of Land Management property. The more southern 40-acre parcel is located in the Angeles Linkage Conceptual Area Protection Plan. USGS blueline stream channels course through the whole ownership. The MRCA owns two parcels upstream and several hundred acres just over a mile to the west. The Pacific Crest Trail located less than half a mile to the west. A well established dirt road leads to the site from Soledad Canyon Road. The main east-west SCE powerline road, as well as large power lines, course through the site.

The vegetation is principally cismontane scrub with desert and chaparral components. The drainages support substantial areas of riparian vegetation with the most southern reach containing a broad alluvial wash.

In every respect this property is significant ecologically, visually, and recreationally.