

## MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center and Gardens 570 West Avenue 26, Suite 100 Los Angeles, California 90065 Phone (323) 221-9944 Fax (323) 221-9933

## **MEMORANDUM**

To: The Governing Board

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

**DATE:** July 6, 2016

SUBJECT: Agenda Item IX: Consideration of resolution authorizing acceptance of a donation of approximately 41 acres, APN 3210-006-002, Soledad Canyon area,

Santa Clarita.

<u>Staff Recommendation</u>: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing acceptance of a donation of approximately 41 acres, APN 3210-006-002, Soledad Canyon area, Santa Clarita.

<u>Background</u>: The property is open space located along Briggs Road in Long Nellus Canyon near the San Gabriel Mountains in Santa Clarita. It is contiguous with open space owned by both the MRCA and Santa Clarita Watershed Recreation and Conservation Authority. The property has an old stone house that is most likely a tear-down.

The subject property includes over 1600 feet of USGS blueline stream in Nellus Canyon. The drainage is wet enough to support scattered willow and cottonwood trees. The slopes support cismontane scrub with chaparral, sage scrub, and desert elements. The property also contains multiple large rock outcrops that provide specialized habitat for birds, mammals, and reptiles.