



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: January 4, 2017

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item IX: Consideration of resolution authorizing an agreement with and acceptance of funds from the Department of Fish and Wildlife for Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve signage and fencing maintenance.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing an agreement with and acceptance of funds from the Department of Fish and Wildlife for Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve signage and fencing maintenance in the amount of \$109,999.91.

Background: The Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve (Wetlands) is a 600-acre area of protected land that is the largest and most promising opportunity for coastal wetland restoration in Los Angeles County. Acquired by the State of California in 2004, the property is owned by the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) and the State Lands Commission.

In 2015, through grants from the California Coastal Conservancy and the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission, MRCA completed a series of signage, fencing, and other access improvements in and around the Wetlands. This work was completed in partnership with DFW. Once the work was finished, DFW continued the maintenance of the Wetlands and of the MRCA's improvements. It was understood that, without additional funding, the MRCA no longer had the resources to continue to do work in the Wetlands.

MRCA staff was recently approached by DFW to provide maintenance services to the Wetlands existing signage and fencing in order to protect the site's existing natural resources. The Agreement would be for the duration of 2 years and would grant \$109,999.91 to MRCA for on-call services. See attached draft agreement. MRCA staff will work at the direction of the DFW to conduct repairs and replacements to the Wetlands signs and perimeter fencing, as necessary.

Consideration: The proposed action authorizes an agreement and accepts \$109,999.91 for maintenance at the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve.