



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: February 3, 2021

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VII: Consideration of resolution authorizing submission of grant application to the Environmental Enhancement Mitigation Program for Phase 3 of the Temescal (Hathaway) Ranch acquisition project, and acceptance of said funds, Piru Creek watershed, unincorporated Los Angeles County.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing submission of a grant application to the Environmental Enhancement Mitigation Program (EEMP) for Phase 3 of the Temescal (Hathaway) Ranch acquisition in the Piru Creek watershed project and acceptance of grant funds.

Background: The Trust for Public Land (TPL) successfully gathered funding to protect approximately 2,000 acres of the Temescal (Hathaway) Ranch located just east of Lake Piru. The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) accepted a first phase acquisition in 2018 and a second phase in 2020. TPL is working on securing funding for the final 3,605-acre phase 3 acquisition that it has under contract. An attached map shows the boundaries of all three phases. All of phases 2 and 3 are one hundred percent within the boundaries of the Los Angeles County-designated San Felicia Significant Ecological Area.

In conjunction with TPL, in 2017, the MRCA successfully applied for EEMP funds to contribute to the phase one acquisition funding. The Governing Board adopted a resolution in June of 2016 authorizing acquisition of the entire ranch holding. The proposed action authorizes the MRCA to apply for a second EEMP grant and to accept the funds if awarded the grant. It also authorizes entering into any necessary grant agreements.