

DATE: September 25, 2005

TO: RMC Governing Board

FROM: Belinda V. Faustinos, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Item 10L: Consideration of resolution recommending that the Watershed Conservation Authority (RMC) approve a contract with Conservation Strategies Group.

RECOMMENDATION: That the WCA award a contract for professional services to Conservation Strategy Group, LLC in the amount of \$24,000 to assist with both programmatic and funding opportunities to benefit projects identified by the WCA

BACKGROUND: WCA staff prepared a request for qualifications (RFQ) for this work and sent the request to six firms with relevant experience. The RFQ was also posted in major newspapers consistent with applicable laws. However, only one proposal was received. The only other respondent, Gualco Group, declined to submit a proposal. As the RMC is aware the WCA authorized a contract last year with Conservation Strategies Group and has received tremendous benefits from that contract.

It should be noted that this contract will provide for two one year extensions provided that the additional work is required and funding is available. Attached is the proposal received from CSG and on of their recent reports.

FISCAL: Funds for this contract will be allocated from the contribution made by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District to the WCA. It may be possible at later in the year, once the status of RMCs budget is know relative to expenditures for rent, etc., that the RMC may be able to contribute additional funds to this contract.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY AND RMC ADOPTED POLICIES/AUTHORITIES: On April 24, 2003 the RMC adopted Resolution 03-11 authorizing a Joint Powers Agreement between the RMC and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District establishing the Watershed Conservation Authority created for the purposes of providing a comprehensive program to expand and improve the open space and recreational opportunities for the conservation, restoration and environmental enhancement of the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers Watershed area consistent with the goals of flood protection, water supply, groundwater recharge and water conservation. The requested action is consistent with the terms of the agreement.

September 13, 2006

Belinda Faustinos, Executive Officer
Watershed Conservation Authority
900 S. Fremont Avenue, Annex 2nd Floor
Alhambra, CA 91802

Re: Statement of Qualifications for Conservation Strategy Group, LLC

Dear Ms. Faustinos:

Conservation Strategy Group (CSG) is pleased to submit our statement of qualifications to provide professional services to the Watershed Conservation Authority (Authority).

We believe that we can help the Authority achieve its funding and programmatic goals. CSG has been very successful in assisting clients to develop strategies to gain funding from various state agencies including the Wildlife Conservation Board, the Coastal Conservancy, the Department of Conservation, the Department of Parks and Recreation, the State Water Resources Control Board and the Department of Water Resources. Over the past several years, CSG has played a key role in creating new funding sources for resources projects, working on the development and passage of Propositions 12, 13, 40 and 50. CSG is currently leading efforts to pass Prop 84 on the November, 2006 ballot. We also work with the state legislature to create implementing legislation for grant programs funded by these measures. CSG works closely with state agencies in the creation and implementation of funding programs.

As well as looking at current funding opportunities, we believe that we can be helpful to the Authority over the long term by creating and implementing a plan to ensure that future funding measures are designed with the Authority's projects in mind.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Joe Caves
Partner

**STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATION
FOR
CONSERVATION STRATEGY GROUP, LLC**

1. Description of Services:

Conservation Strategy Group (CSG) will work with the Watershed Conservation Authority (Authority) to identify long term funding and programmatic needs of the Authority. CSG will identify existing and potential state and other funding opportunities that can meet the Authority's needs and will develop and propose to the Executive Officer of the Authority, strategies to meet the funding and programmatic goals of the Authority and will, within the limitations of the contract, implement those strategies under the direction of the Executive Officer.

2. Statement of Qualifications / Firm Experience:

CSG's partners have over 50 years of combined experience in legislative and administrative advocacy and in the development and implementation of funding strategies for public agencies and non-profit organizations. The firm specializes in natural resources, land conservation and water policy and funding. CSG represents non-profit and local agencies before the state legislature and state administrative agencies and works with clients to develop policy approaches and funding strategies that can take advantage of the latest directions in state policy and decision-making.

Much of the funding for natural resource projects in California has come from bond measures developed by the Legislature, by initiative and local governments. CSG and its partners have played a key role in designing and passing many of these measures, including:

Proposition 84 (on November 2006 ballot): Developed and written by CSG partners, Joe Caves and Leslie Friedman Johnson, this \$5.4 billion clean water, parks and coastal protection bond is currently on the ballot and will be voted on by California voters in November, 2006. Prop 84 contains funding for many programs of interest to the WCA, including River Parkways, Integrated Regional Water Management, many water quality programs and funding directly to the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers and Mountains Conservancy for LA River and watershed work.

Proposition 50 (November 2002): Developed and written by CSG partners, Joe Caves and Leslie Friedman Johnson, this \$3.4 billion water bond has provided virtually all the water project funding available to the state in the last two years. CSG also organized and coordinated the campaign for passage of the measure.

Proposition 40 (March 2002): This \$2.6 billion park and water bond was drafted by CSG which also managed the successful lobbying effort to put the measure on the ballot.

Measure O, City of Los Angeles (November 2004): CSG, under contract with the City of Los Angeles, managed the polling and research and helped develop the measure. CSG also provided fundraising and political consultation to assist in passage.

Proposition 13 (March 2000): CSG partners served as the principal lobbyists for environmental groups such as the Nature Conservancy and the American Land Conservancy. We negotiated provisions related to the River Protection and Flood

Corridor Protection Programs. CSG also assisted in the formation and management of the campaign for passage of the measure.

Proposition 12 (March 2000): CSG partners were responsible for key amendments that increased funding for Natural Community Conservation Plans, WCB and other environmental priorities.

Specific Project Related Experience:

CSG has been involved in funding efforts for dozens of major projects all over the state. Below are some selected examples of CSG project funding efforts:

City of Rancho Palos Verde, NCCP Funding: CSG, working with the City, secured commitments of approximately \$12 million in public funding from the State Coastal Conservancy and the Wildlife Conservation Board for completion of the Cities NCCP. 2005.

Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, Ahmanson Ranch: This \$150 million project was funded by grant from the WCB to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and then to the MRCA. CSG worked on every phase of the funding strategy to secure this property. 2001-2004.

Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST): Over the past 5 years, CSG has helped POST obtain millions in state funding for the acquisition and conservation of key properties along the San Mateo coast including: Driscoll Ranch, Bolsa Point Ranches and Rancho Corral de Tierra. 2001-2005.

City of Los Angeles, Urban Park Funding: CSG advised the City of Los Angeles on the development of proposals for competitive urban park programs, reviewed and critiqued the proposals that subsequently secured approximately \$24 million in additional urban park grants for the city. 2003-2004.

City of Los Angeles, Griffith Observatory: CSG successfully lobbied the Department of Parks and Recreation and the Governor's Office for the inclusion of \$6 million in state funding in legislation for the restoration of Griffith Observatory. 2003.

Marin Municipal Water District, Desalination Project Funding: CSG worked through the regulatory and administrative guideline process at the Department of Water Resources and then guided Marin Municipal Water District in the development of a successful \$3.3 million proposal for funding of the demonstration phase of a major desalination plant on the San Francisco Bay. 2003-2005.

The Nature Conservancy, NCCP Funding: CSG partners successfully lobbied for the inclusion of \$100 million in funding for Natural Community Conservation Plans from Proposition 12. 1999-2000.

3. Resumes:

See Attachment (A).

4. Sub-consultants:

For a contract this size, CSG does not anticipate using any sub-contractors.

5. References: (Description of services noted in Section 2)

Joel Rojas
 Director of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement
 City of Rancho Palos Verdes
 30940 Hawthorne Blvd.
 Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275
 Phone: (310)544-5228
 E-mail: joelr@rpv.com

Joe Edmiston
 Executive Director
 Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
 2750 Ramirez Canyon Road
 Malibu, CA 90265
 Phone: (310)589-3200 x 110
 E-mail: edmiston@smmc.ca.gov

Audrey Rust
 President
 Peninsula Open Space Trust
 3000 Sand Hill Road
 Menlo Park, CA 94025
 Phone: (650)854-7696
 E-mail: arust@openspacetrust.org

Ron Deaton
 General Manager
 Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
 111 N. Hope Street, Room 1550
 Los Angeles, CA 90012
 Phone: (213)367-1338
 E-mail: ron.deaton@ladwp.com

6. Fees for Services:

CSG will provide the services outlined in the scope of work for a monthly retainer of \$2555.56 beginning October 2006 through June 2007. This will include up to 12 partner hours and 15 associate hours per month. CSG's regular hourly fees are \$250 for partners and \$100 for associates. Any work outside of the scope of the contract will be billed, upon prior approval of the Executive Officer, at the hourly rate.

We propose to start the contract in October 2006 as CSG has been working successfully in this capacity for the past several months; we believe our knowledge of WCA's priorities makes us a uniquely qualified applicant for this work.

This proposal is a firm offer for a period of 45 days from the date of signature.

Joseph Caves
Partner

Date

Attachment A

Joseph Caves, Partner

Joseph L. Caves is an attorney and registered lobbyist in California specializing in environmental and natural resources law. Before founding Conservation Strategy Group, Mr. Caves was sole proprietor of the lobbying firm Joseph Caves and Associates for 10 years, and prior to that worked for the California Legislature for 13 years as a legislative assistant, committee consultant and legislative staff director.

Mr. Caves has extensive experience with environmental laws and policy legislation dealing with the California Endangered Species Act, the Natural Communities Conservation Planning (NCCP) Act, California Environmental Quality Act, and the California Clean Air Act. His experience with development and passage of resource bonds extends back to 1984. More recently Mr. Caves represented environmental groups in the development and negotiation of Prop 12 and 13 in 2000 and with Mrs. Friedman Johnson, developed Prop 40 and 50 in 2002.

Mr. Caves is a graduate of the University of California at Santa Barbara and of Hastings College of the Law. He is a member of the Environmental Law Section of the California State Bar Association.

Leslie Friedman Johnson, Partner

Leslie Friedman Johnson spent 16 years at The Nature Conservancy of California before forming Conservation Strategy Group with Mr. Caves in 2003. She served The Nature Conservancy in a variety of capacities including state and federal government relations and for 10 years as Water Program Director. She has extensive experience in strategic planning, project management, coalition building, state and federal legislative and administrative lobbying, and creating and obtaining public funding. In addition to helping craft and pass state and federal authorizing legislation and bond measures (see above), she has also worked extensively on state and federal resource policy legislation including the 1990 Department of Defense Legacy Resource Management Act, the 1992 Central Valley Project Improvement Act, and many pieces of legislation related to the CALFED Bay-Delta program. She also has extensive experience developing coalitions of diverse interests in pursuit of public policy and funding, most notably her work with the NCCP 5-County coalition and the CALFED Bay-Delta funding coalition.

Leslie is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley with a degree in Natural Resource Science and Policy.

Tasha Newman, Associate

Tasha Newman, Associate, has worked in the environmental consulting field for more than 17 years. Ms. Newman monitors funding programs and advises CSG clients on program requirements, deadlines and procedures as well as assisting them in proposal development. She has served in this capacity and related jobs with CSG for 5 years.

Prior to joining this firm, Ms. Newman was a manager and project assistant with the Toxics Assessment Group, which provided assistance in regulatory compliance related to hazardous materials. Ms. Newman is a graduate of the California State University at Sacramento.

Reed Addis, Associate

Reed Addis is a consultant specializing in environmental policy, campaign strategy, and corporate social responsibility. Mr. Addis joined Conservation Strategy Group to continue his

work on environmental issues in California. Prior to joining CSG, he consulted as a senior assistant to Assemblymember John Laird in the California State Legislature. Mr. Addis recently returned to the U.S. after working on corporate social responsibility in Europe.

Prior to working in Europe, Mr. Addis worked with Representative Sam Farr and Assemblymember Fred Keeley on issues ranging from ocean policy, flood control and environmental protection to community development, housing and education. He received bachelor degrees in Environmental Studies and Politics from the University of California at Santa Cruz in 1998.



CONSERVATION
STRATEGY GROUP

A Periodic Newsletter about Funding Opportunities for
Natural Resources Projects

Funding Update

September 2006

In the News

*Bond Measures Could Provide Billions
for Natural Resources Projects*

Proposition 84 - The Clean Water, Parks and Coastal Protection Bond

Proposition 84 is a \$5.4 billion bond measure that would provide up to \$1.5 billion for water quality and supply programs and \$800 million for flood control. The bond would provide \$2 billion for rivers, streams, forests, wildlife and coastal protection, and more than \$1 billion for state and local parks, nature centers and sustainable communities.

For information visit: www.yeson84.org

Resources Funding in Other Bonds

The infrastructure bond package also includes funding for natural resources and smart growth projects. Bonds of particular interest are Propositions 1B, 1C and 1E.

Proposition 1B, the transportation bond, has more than \$1 billion for programs to help reduce air pollution, including \$200 million for school bus retrofits.

Proposition 1C, the housing bond, contains \$850 million for infill incentives, of which up to \$200 million may be used for urban parks. There is also an additional

\$200 million for parks related to housing, and \$300 million for transit-oriented development.

Proposition 1E, the flood prevention bond, provides more than \$4 billion for flood protection efforts. Funding includes \$290 million for Flood Protection Corridors and \$300 million for stormwater programs, floodplain management and ecosystem restoration.

UPCOMING DEADLINES

Habitat Conservation Fund
October 2, 2006
Recreational Trails Program
October 2, 2006
River Parkways Grant Program
October 17, 2006

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APPLICATION DEADLINES

The following grant programs have application deadlines coming up in the next month. Detailed information about these programs is also available in the attached program profiles.

Habitat Conservation Fund

- Deadline: October 2, 2006
- Agency: Dept. of Parks & Recreation
- Eligibility: Local government only
- Funds Available: \$2M annually
- Description: Provides local funding assistance for conservation projects in four categories of conservation:
 - (1) Deer and mountain lion habitats
 - (2) Rare, endangered or fully protected Species habitats
 - (3) Wetland habitats
 - (4) Riparian species habitats

For program guidelines, please visit:
www.parks.ca.gov/pages/1008/files/hcfguide.pdf

Recreational Trails Program

- Deadline: October 2, 2006
- Agency: Dept. of Parks & Recreation
- Eligibility: Cities, counties, districts, state agencies and nonprofit organizations with management responsibilities over public lands
- Funds Available: \$5M total
- Description: Provides grants for motorized and non-motorized recreational trails

Note: There is a new procedural guide for 2006 applications.

For program guidelines, please visit:
www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=2434

River Parkways Grant Program

- Deadline: October 17th
- Agency: Resources Agency

- Eligibility: Nonprofit organizations and public agencies
- Funds Available: \$32.5M
- Description: Funding for projects that restore, acquire and/or protect river parkways in California

For more information, please visit:
www.resources.ca.gov/hondsprop50riverparkway.html

PROGRAMS WITH OPEN APPLICATIONS

Clean Beaches Initiative Grants

The State Water Board is currently taking applications for \$5.5M of Prop 40 program funds. There will be subsequent rounds of funding from Props 50 and 13.

Applications for Prop 40 funds will be accepted until all funds are committed or until it becomes impractical to commit funds by the December 31, 2006 deadline (by which time the funds must be encumbered or will revert back to the Legislature).

Program Details

- Agency: State Water Resources Control Board
- Eligibility: Public agencies (state, federal, local) and non-profit organizations.
- Funds Available: \$5.5M
- Description: This program focuses on coastal water quality improvements to reduce beach closures.

For more information, please visit:
www.waterboards.ca.gov/cwphome/beaches/index.html

Urban Forestry Grants

(Green Trees for the Golden State)

CDF is currently accepting applications for Prop 12 Urban Forestry Grants. These funds are available for capital outlay specific to tree planting.

UPCOMING MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES

California and the World Ocean 2006 Conference

- September 17 - 20, 2006 - Long Beach

For details about the California and the World Ocean 2006 Conference, please visit: <http://resources.ca.gov/ocean/cwo06/>

Coastal Conservancy

Board Meetings

- Thursday October 5, 2006 - SF Bay Area
- Thursday November 9, 2006 - Monterey

For details about Coastal Conservancy meetings, please visit: <http://www.scc.ca.gov/Meetings/meetings.htm>

Sierra Nevada Conservancy

- Board Meeting & Field Trip
Scheduled for October 4-5, 2006

For details about Sierra Conservancy meeting, please visit: <http://sierranevadaconservancy.ca.gov/>

Wildlife Conservation Board

Board Meeting

- Thursday November 16, 2006

For details about WCB meetings, please visit: http://www.wcb.ca.gov/Pages/agendas_and_minutes.htm

TIPS FOR APPLYING FOR FUNDING

- **Plan in advance.** Know what potential funding sources are available for the year and plan so that you have plenty of time to put together your application(s). Last minute proposals that aren't a good fit for a particular funding source are generally not successful, but nevertheless burn up precious time and money in their preparation.
- **Know the program:** Get to know the guidelines and the implementing legislation for the particular funding program.

Understanding what the grant program can and will fund is key to success. Make sure that the project you are applying for has the required elements as outlined in the guidelines.

- **Sell them what they're buying:** Design your projects to fit the funding that is available.
- **Piece together funding:** You don't have to fund your whole project from one funding program or agency. Sometimes a large project has elements that are well suited to a variety of programs. Agencies are often willing to fund pieces of larger projects.
- **Know your judges:** Look at how decisions are going to be made for awarding grants. Find out what kind of reviewer or panel will be looking at your application and try to make sure there are elements in your proposal that would impress or appeal to the reviewers.
- **Make sure your project is solid and ready to go:** Project readiness and applicant capability are both very important. Agencies are much more likely to fund an applicant with a solid project plan and proven capability to deliver. Where appropriate, try to have permits, options and other necessary paperwork in order prior to applying for the grant. Of course, this will not always be possible, but it should be your aim. Agencies want to see the fruits of their labor, as do legislators.
- **Cost share:** Include a cost share whether or not one is required. While not all programs require cost sharing, all of them smile upon it.
- **Line up your support:** Letters of support from prominent individuals, elected officials and other organizations, unless expressly prohibited by the program guidelines, are very helpful. In addition, you should activate your champions within the funding agency if you have them.

For questions or comments
contact info@csgecalifornia.com



River Parkways Grant Program

Application Deadline: *October 17, 2006*

Program Description

The California River Parkways Program administered by the Resources Agency is a competitive grant program for river parkways projects.

Eligible projects must provide public access or be a component of a larger parkway plan that provides public access.

Eligible Applicants

Nonprofit organizations and public agencies

Funding Available: \$32.5M

Project Eligibility

Projects must meet two of the following conditions:

- Provide compatible recreational opportunities including trails for strolling, hiking, bicycling, and equestrian uses along rivers and streams.
- Protect, improve, or restore riverine or riparian habitat, including benefits to wildlife habitat and water quality.
- Maintain or restore the open-space character of lands along rivers and streams so that they are compatible with periodic flooding as part of a flood management plan or project.
- Convert existing developed riverfront land uses into uses consistent with river parkways.

- Provide facilities to support or interpret river or stream restoration or other conservation activities.

Grant Range

Open amount, there is no minimum or maximum award cap

Match Requirement

No matching funds are required however, applications with matching funds are more competitive.

Funding Source: Proposition 50

Contact

Grants Administrator: Polly Escovedo,
Phone: (916) 653-5656,
Email: polly.ecovedo@resources.ca.gov

Website: www.resources.ca.gov/bonds_prop50riverparkway.html

Habitat Conservation Fund

Application Deadline: *October 2, 2006*

Program Description

The program provides funds to local governments under the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990. The program requires a dollar for dollar match from a non-state source. Funds conservation projects for four categories: (1) Deer and Mountain Lion habitats, (2) Rare, Endangered or Fully Protected Species, (3) Wetland habitats, and (4) Riparian species.

Eligible Applicants

Local government: Cities, counties, districts, etc.

Funding Available: \$2 million

Project Eligibility

The following types of projects are eligible:

- Acquisition of: deer and mountain lion habitat, including oak woodlands; Habitat for rare and endangered, threatened, or fully protected species; Wildlife corridors and urban trails; Wetlands; Aquatic habitat for spawning and rearing of salmon and trout; Riparian habitat
- Enhancement and restoration of: wetlands, aquatic habitat for spawning and rearing of salmon and trout, and riparian habitat

- Programs that provide for the interpretation of the State's park and wildlife resources, and programs that bring urban residents into park and wildlife areas

Grant Range: \$500,000 cap

Funding Source

Habitat Conservation Fund

Contact

Grants Administrator: Lisa Gipson

Phone: (916) 651-8580

Email: lgipson@parks.ca.gov

(Grant Officers vary by geographical region. For a list of Grant Officers by region, visit the State Parks website, noted below)

Website: http://www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=21361

Recreational Trails Program

Application Deadline: *October 2, 2006*

Program Description

The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) is administered by the Department of Parks and Recreation and provides funds annually for recreational trails and trails-related projects.

Total Program Funding: \$5M

\$3.6 million is expected for non-motorized projects and \$1.4 million is expected for motorized projects based on the Federal Fiscal Year 2006 appropriation.

Eligible Applicants

Cities, counties, districts, state agencies and nonprofit organizations with management responsibilities over public lands are eligible.

Project Eligibility

Project eligibility differs between the non-motorized and motorized components of the program. Please see the chart on following page for more information.

Grant Range

Open amount, there is no minimum or maximum award cap

Match Requirement:

Minimum 12% of Project Cost

Funding Source: Federal Budget

Contact:

Grants Administrator:

Kris Howard, Phone: (916) 651-7736
(Grant Officers vary by geographical region. For a list of Grant Officers by region, visit the State Parks website, noted below)

Website: [www.resources.ca.gov/
bonds_prop50riverparkway.html](http://www.resources.ca.gov/bonds_prop50riverparkway.html)

Recreational Trails Program: Project Eligibility Chart

Eligible Non-Motorized Projects	Eligible Motorized Projects
Acquisition of easements and fee simple title to property for Recreational Trails or Recreational Trail corridors. [Must involve a willing seller.]	Acquisition of easements and fee simple title to property for Recreational Trails or Recreational Trail corridors. [Must involve a willing seller.]
Development and Rehabilitation of trails, Trailside and Trailhead Facilities.	Development and Rehabilitation of trails, Trailside and Trailhead Facilities.
Construction of new trails.	Construction of new trails.
	Maintenance of existing trails.
	Purchase and lease of trail construction and Maintenance equipment.
	Assessment of trail conditions for accessibility and Maintenance.
	Development and dissemination of publications and operation of educational programs to promote safety and environmental protection related to trails (including supporting non-law enforcement trail safety and trail use monitoring patrol programs and providing trail-related training).

September 29, 2006, Item 10L

RESOLUTION 2006-46

RESOLUTION OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS
ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (RMC)
RECOMMENDING THAT THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION
AUTHORITY (WCA) APPROVE A CONTRACT WITH
CONSERVATION STRATEGIES GROUP

WHEREAS, the RMC is a state agency created to acquire and manage public lands within the Lower Los Angeles River and San Gabriel River watersheds, and to provide open space, low impact recreational and educational uses, water conservation, watershed improvement and wildlife and habitat restoration and protection; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County Flood Control District ("DISTRICT"), is a flood control district, whose purpose is to provide for the control and conservation of the flood, storm and other waste waters of said district, to conserve such waters for beneficial and useful purposes and to protect from damage from such flood or storm waters, the harbors, waterways, public highways and property; and

WHEREAS, it is the goal of both the RMC and the DISTRICT to provide for a comprehensive program to expand and improve the open space and recreational opportunities for the conservation, restoration and environmental enhancement of the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers Watershed area consistent with the goals of flood protection, water supply, groundwater recharge and water conservation; and

WHEREAS, The Watershed Conservation Authority has been established as a joint powers agency between the RMC and the District to implement projects which will provide open space, habitat restoration, and watershed improvement projects in both the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers watershed; and

WHEREAS, The RMC must approve WCA's budget and related expenditures; and

WHEREAS, This action is exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); and NOW

Therefore be it resolved, that the RMC hereby:

1. FINDS that this action is consistent with the purposes and objectives of the RMC.
2. FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
3. APPROVES the staff report dated September 29, 2006
4. RECOMMENDS that the WCA approve a contract with the Conservation Strategies Group in the amount of \$24,000 from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District contribution to the WCA budget.

~ End of Resolution ~

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the
SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS
CONSERVANCY on September 29, 2006.

Chairperson

ATTEST:

Terry Fujimoto
Deputy Attorney General