

**Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC)**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
***The meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy will be held***  
***Friday, September 20, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.***  
**Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area**  
**Community Center**  
**4100 South La Cienega Blvd.**  
**Phone (323) 298-3660**

.....  
**SPECIAL EVENT IMMEDIATELY AFTER PUBLIC MEETING**

**10:00 am to 11:30 pm**

**EASTERN RIDGE FACILITIES DEDICATION CEREMONY**  
**(with light refreshments)**

**Location: Upper Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area**  
**(parking at overflow lot south of Burke Roche Point)**

.....  
**PUBLIC MEETING**

**9:00 am: CALL TO ORDER Allan Kingston, Chairman**

**Teleconference Location:**  
**Natural Resources Agency**  
**1416 Ninth Street, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor**  
**Conference Room 1305**  
**Sacramento, CA 95814**

**MEETING AGENDA**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA OR NON-AGENDA ITEMS WILL BE CALLED PRIOR TO ACTION ITEMS**

***Public Comment and Time Limits: If you wish to speak on an agenda item cards are available near the door to the meeting room. Individuals wishing to comment will be allowed up to three minutes to speak. Speaker times may be reduced depending on the number of speakers.***

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes (June)
3. Consideration of a resolution authorizing a matching grant in an amount not to exceed \$141,000 of BHC Prop 84 funds to the University of Southern California (Spatial Sciences Institute) for the Urban Biodiversity Assessment: Baldwin Hills Biota Update – David McNeill, Executive Officer
4. Discussion and possible action on the Baldwin Hills Conservancy 2013 Strategic Plan Update - David McNeill, Executive Officer
5. Ad Hoc Committee Reports -  
Board Development – Allan Boodnick

6. Executive Officer Report –
  - Project Status Update – Gail Krippner
  - Fiscal Update – David McNeill
  - Legislative Update – David McNeill

7. Board Member announcements or agenda items for future meetings

Next meeting is tentatively scheduled for November, 1 2013 at 10:00 am.

#### **ADJOURNMENT FOR DEDICATION CEREMONY AT THE EASTERN RIDGE**

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, if you require a disability related modification or accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please call Gloria Dangerfield at the Conservancy at (323) 290-5270 at least five days prior to the meeting. For more information about the Conservancy, you may visit our website at **[www.bhc.ca.gov](http://www.bhc.ca.gov)**



*Please Join*

**Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation  
Baldwin Hills Conservancy  
Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office  
Los Angeles County Department of Public Works**

*for the*

## **❖EASTERN RIDGELINE TRAIL DEDICATION❖**

*With Invited Representatives*

**Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chairman Mark Ridley-Thomas  
California State Assemblymember Holly J. Mitchell  
California State Assemblymember Reggie Jones-Sawyer Sr.  
Former Mayor, City of Los Angeles, James K. Hahn  
Los Angeles City Councilman Curren D. Price**

***Friday, September 20, 2013***

***10:00 a.m. light refreshments, meet and greet  
ceremony begins promptly at 10:30 a.m.***

**Upper Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area  
4100 S. La Cienega Blvd, 90056**

**Parking available at the Overflow Lot south of Burke  
Roche Point Picnic Area**

***Attire: Please wear comfortable walking shoes.***

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING  
of the  
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY  
JUNE 28, 2013**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The public meeting of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy was assembled on June 28, 2013, and was called to order at 10:12 a.m. by Chair Allan Kingston. The meeting was held inside the Community Room at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, at 4100 South La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90056

**II. Roll Call:**

**Members Present:**

Julie Alvis, Allan Boodnick, Lloyd Dixon, Jacquelyn Dupont-Walker, Karen Finn, Yolanda Gorman (arrived after roll) Russ Guiney (arrived after roll) Robert Jones, Chair Allan Kingston, Vice Chair Starlett Quarles, Craig Sap, and Sara Amir..

**Members Absent:**

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Joan Cardellino, Jason Marshall, Patricia O'Toole, Patrick Reynolds, Barbara Romero, and Marina Voskanian.

**Staff Present:**

David McNeill, Gail Krippner, Rosana Miramontes and Gloria Dangerfield.

**III. Approval of Meeting Minutes (May) G. Allan Kingston, Chair**

The Chair called for the motion to approve May's meeting minutes. Member Dupont-Walker made the motion to approve. Member Boodnick stated that on the last page of the minutes, under "Member Boodnick spoke about ...," asked should he submit to the Conservancy's secretary some changes that would clarify his comment or if the board needed to hear it stated now? The Chair asked if there were any objections to allow Member Boodnick to adjust his own comments in the minutes. Hearing none, the Chair called for a motion to approve. Motion was moved by Member Boodnick moved to approve, motion seconded and carries.

**IV. Consideration of a Resolution Rescinding Resolution 12-09 for the BHC Prop 40 Hetzler Road Pedestrian Path Project at the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook – Gail Krippner, Grant Program Manager**

Mr. McNeill stated that the grant was approved last year for the Hetzler Road improvements at the Baldwin Hills scenic Overlook for L.A. Conservation Corps and was approved based upon a grant match application from the L.A. Conservation Corps. Due to their budget, the L.A. Conservation Corps has had to withdraw from the project. The Chair called for the motion to approve. Member Jones moved that the resolution be approved. Motion seconded and carries.

**V. Consideration of a Resolution Approving an Amendment to the Performance Period, Scope, and Budget for Agreement #BHC110000 with Los Angeles Infrastructure Academy – David McNeill, Executive Officer**

Mr. McNeill noted that the grantee (L.A. Infrastructure Academy aka Generation Water) has worked on the habitat restoration project is now having difficulty in their cash flow and have had to relieve their operational staff. The resolution would re-allocate the costs within scope of work for a shortened performance period and revised deliverables. The Chair called for the motion to approve. Member Dupont-Walker moved that the resolution be approved. Motion seconded and carries.

## **VI. Consideration of a Resolution Approving Staff Comments for the Greater Los Angeles County Integrated Regional Watershed Management Plan – David McNeill, Executive Officer**

Mr. McNeill stated this group led effort represents multiple watersheds in the greater Los Angeles area and he attended their meeting to look at the plan moving forward (update the 2006 plan to 2013). The plan will address run off and water quality issues in Los Angeles County. The resolution would approve comments adding the Baldwin Hills Conservancy and its plans to the document to make sure that the Baldwin Hills Conservancy and its territory is well represented. The Chair called for the motion to approve. Member Gorman moved that the resolution be approved. Motion seconded and carries.

## **VII. Executive Officer Report – BHC Staff Representatives**

### **Project Status Update**

Ms. Krippner reported that:

- The Eastern Ridgeline –Contractor had some delays regarding fencing materials. They are moving quickly towards a completion deadline of August 1.
- Norman O Houston Park Improvements – The City is still in the plan approval stage but still expect to at least start the sewer construction by August.
- Milton Street Project – Pre-construction meetings will be announced by MRCA, plan review with DOT is underway.
- Contract documents for the Stoneview Nature Center have been completed; construction drawings and site interpretive elements are still evolving.
- Contract documents for the Park-To-Playa section at Stocker Corridor are under development.

### **Fiscal Update**

Fiscal Month 10, the ELPF funds for support staff remain within budget. The Prop 84 position is still vacant, however the eligibility list of applicants has been received and interviews could start next month. The capital outlay local assistance funds for Prop 84 are being encumbered including another two million dollars for the Milton Street project. Prop 40 balance does not reflect two recent projects just encumbered funds for the Stoneview Nature Center and Stocker Corridor, so the balance will be reduced by six million dollars. The Conservancy's goal is to utilize the bond funds with ongoing consideration for acquisitions as fund balances get smaller. Bond Cash balances are being reduced; however timing makes it difficult to spend if there's no bond cash available. Agencies continue to cooperate and cash balance transfers can be made when money is needed.

In conclusion of his report, Mr. McNeill announced that:

- Thursday, July 4, at Norman O. Houston Park, will have live music, "Jazz On the Hill," from 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. There will be free parking/shuttle bus service to the park from the church by Windsor Elementary School.
- Christmas in July will be held Saturday, July 13, sponsored by Assemblymember Holly Mitchell's office (AD 54).
- Bike to Ballona Creek, Saturday, June 29, from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The event begins at the Expo Line in Culver City and continues all the way out to the Creek. The event is being sponsored by Walk and Rollers in partnership with Metro Transit Authority.

## **VIII. Board Member Announcements or Agenda Items for Future Meetings**

Member Dupont-Walker asked the Executive Officer to come back with recommendations for the dealings with match options for non-profits to reduce barriers and create a win-win situation.

Member Gorman stated that in her work with non-profits, when they don't have the cash match; they find other ways and then end up in situations where they are unable to perform. Understanding what the non-profits are fiscally capable of is important.

VIII. Board Member Announcements or Agenda Items for Future Meetings (cont'd)

Member Boodnick stated the Baldwin Hills Conservancy is about to end another year with vacant appointments, he asked if the current Chair, Executive Officer or a former Chair could contact the Governor's appointment secretary again to check on the status.

Member Guiney reported Los Angeles County Parks has started their summer programs are in full swing. One of the most interesting is their "parks after dark" programs. They have six parks doing activities on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights, to help keep kids off the streets. Last night they had service night, held at Jesse Owens Park, which was a huge success. If anyone's interested in these events, he will send the schedule.

Member Dixon announced that he, David McNeill, and Chair Allan Kingston gave a fifteen minute presentation to Culver City's city council a couple weeks ago and were warmly received and the Council was very appreciate of the work that the Conservancy is doing.

**IX. Adjournment**

There being no further business brought before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Approved:

G. Allan Kingston  
Chairman

## BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY

5120 West Goldleaf Circle, Suite 290

Los Angeles, CA 90056

Ph: (323) 290-5270

Fx: (323) 290-5278

www.bhc.ca.gov

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### Memorandum

**To: Governing Board**

**Fr: Grant Review Ad Hoc Committee – Lloyd Dixon, Chair**

**Date: September 20, 2013**

**Re: Item 3:** Consideration of a resolution authorizing a matching grant in an amount not to exceed \$141,000 of BHC Prop 84 funds to the University of Southern California (Spatial Sciences Institute) for the Urban Biodiversity Assessment: Baldwin Hills Biota Update

**SUPPLEMENT** - Ad Hoc Committee Review of the Urban Biodiversity Assessment – Baldwin Hills Biota Update

**Background:** Member Lloyd Dixon convened with ad hoc committee member Allan Boodnick and staff to review the grant proposal submitted by USC's Spatial Sciences Institute. The committee assessed the proposal using criteria adopted by the Governing Board in April of 2011.

The project application (see attachment #1) requests a 50% funding match in the amount of \$140,794 to implement the proposed \$281,549 project.

The committee's assessment of the project description and narrative yielded the following top goals of the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan and the BHC's Strategic Plan: 1) Protects and restores natural habitat; 2) Protects watersheds connecting to Santa Monica Bay; 3) Emphasizes connections between existing parks, trails and urban streams; 4) Restores industrial lands to park and open space purposes

**Baldwin Hills Parklands Habitat Restoration  
University of Southern California  
Spatial Sciences Institute**

**PROP 84 LOCAL ASSISTANCE GRANT PROJECT REQUIREMENTS**

(For use in the determination of the priority of Conservancy grants and projects authorized under Division 22.7 of the California Public Resources Code)

**STANDARD REQUIREMENTS**

**a. Located within the BHC territory**

Site map and narrative identify project within the Conservancy territory and boundaries as described in PRC 32553 (a).

**b. Promotion of the Conservancy's statutory programs and purposes**

*PRC 32565.5 (a):* Conservancy to develop and coordinate an integrated program of resource stewardship so the entire Baldwin Hills area is managed for optimum recreational and natural resource values based upon the needs and desires of the surrounding community.

*PRC 32565.5 (b):* Give priority to related projects that create expanded opportunities that provide recreation, aesthetic improvement, and wildlife habitat in the Baldwin Hills area.

**c. Consistency with purposes of Prop 84 statute**

*PRC 75060:* Bond funds are available for projects to protect and restore natural habitat values in coastal waters and lands in the Ballona Creek Watershed.

**d. Consistency with the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan**

*Natural Habitat*, page 43, BHPMP: "Opportunities exist to create connections and produce much larger habitat areas, protect populations of native plants and animals unique to Southern California, establish large natural preserve areas, increase the diversity of plant and animal communities and preserve the overall environmental health of the region. "

**e. Greater-than-local interest**



The land and habitat resources in the Baldwin Hills represent an extraordinarily unique value to the entire state. This project promotes and implements California's watershed conservation policies in one of the most densely populated areas of the country.

**f. Demonstrated expertise in the proposed program area**

University of Southern California has assigned Travis Longcore as the principal investigator and project manager. Professor Longcore has a long history in the Baldwin Hills area conducting biological, air and water studies in collaboration with USC, UCLA, and the Natural History Museum. The Spatial Sciences Institute is a research and educational center for the acquisition, analysis and sharing of earth science data and are uniquely positioned to collect and house the assessment information for public use.

**ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES**

**g. Leverage**

The applicant is facilitating a 100% match from the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority to fully fund the project work plan. USC will also be contributing in-kind services for administration resulting in the savings of \$103,000 in indirect costs. These contributions would leverage public funding within the BHC's territory and demonstrate the BHC's capacity to partner with innovative local agencies.

**j. Resolution of more than one issue**

This project aids in the planning for long term preservation of the natural ecosystems within the last large open space in the Ballona Creek watershed. Training of volunteers on accessing and updating the database will provide internship opportunities for students and teachers. Web-based technology will increase public access to the information and build awareness about local native flora and fauna while recording new data for preservationist to analyze and use in the Baldwin Hills territory or other urban wild lands.

**k. Readiness**

The Spatial Sciences Institute and its project manager have the capacity for the project as well as the list of proposed consultants prepared to meet the 2014-2015 project schedule.

**l. Realization of prior BHC goal**

The project will update the 2002 Biota Study conducted in the Baldwin Hills. Conservancy habitat restoration efforts are linked to the improved health of the ecosystems within the territory. Efforts to improve habitat connectivity, introduce wildlife corridors and protect the biodiversity of the area require intermittent quantification. This project will allow for volunteer inventories of flora and fauna to be conducted and recorded on an ongoing basis.

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### Memorandum

**To: Governing Board**

**Fr: David McNeill, Executive Officer**

**Date: September 20, 2013**

**Re: Item 3:** Consideration of a resolution authorizing a matching grant in an amount not to exceed \$141,000 of BHC Prop 84 funds to the University of Southern California (Spatial Sciences Institute) for the Urban Biodiversity Assessment: Baldwin Hills Biota Update

**Recommendation:** Approve resolution 13-12 authorizing a matching grant of up to \$141,000 in BHC Prop 84 funds to the University of Southern California (Spatial Studies Institute) for the Urban Biodiversity Assessment – Baldwin Hills Biota Update

**Background:** The Spatial Sciences Institute proposes to update the 2001 biota assessment for the Baldwin Hills. The standard criteria requirements were affirmed by the grant review ad hoc committee (see attachment #1). The goals of the update are: 1) to provide more detail where needed to support ongoing efforts to restore native vegetation and control exotic plants in the project area, 2) provide clarity on the presence and distribution of key fauna groups, in particular bats, larger mammals, and reptiles and amphibians, and 3) serve the information in the original report, other surveys (e.g., weed maps), and the update to potential end users through a web map that standardizes, archives, and depicts geographic data about the Baldwin Hills in a manner useful to land managers and the general public.

Deliverables for the update will include:

Technical Reports - For each of the focal survey areas, vegetation, reptiles, and amphibians, bats, and wildlife connectivity (mammals), a technical report will be produced that documents the methodology, results, and conclusions of the surveys.

Progress Reports -USC project managers will report progress to Baldwin Hills Conservancy quarterly to describe work progress and highlight areas of concern and proposed solutions to any challenges.

Final Report - The final project report will summarize each of the technical reports and describe the online tools that have been developed to share and visualize the biota information.

Online Map - Hosted at a web address agreed upon by the sponsors, an online map will be developed that shared biological information about the Baldwin Hills. All data made available on the USC geoportal will be maintained indefinitely. The user interface/web map will be provided to the sponsor at the end of the project or arrangements can be made for long-term maintenance.

**Attachment #1****Grant Review Ad Hoc Committee – Lloyd Dixon, Chair**

Ad Hoc Committee Review of the Urban Biodiversity Assessment – Baldwin Hills Biota Update

Member Lloyd Dixon convened with ad hoc committee member Allan Boodnick and staff to review the grant proposal submitted by USC's Spatial Sciences Institute. The committee assessed the proposal using criteria adopted by the Governing Board in April of 2011.

The project application on the following pages requests a 50% funding match in the amount of \$140,794 to implement the proposed \$281,549 project.

The committee's assessment of the project description and narrative yielded the following top goals of the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan and the BHC's Strategic Plan: 1) Protects and restores natural habitat; 2) Protects watersheds connecting to Santa Monica Bay; 3) Emphasizes connections between existing parks, trails and urban streams; 4) Restores industrial lands to park and open space purposes

**Baldwin Hills Parklands Habitat Restoration**  
**University of Southern California**  
**Spatial Sciences Institute**

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(For use in the determination of the priority of Conservancy grants and projects authorized under Division 22.7 of the California Public Resources Code)

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*PRC 32565.5 (b):* Give priority to related projects that create expanded opportunities that provide recreation, aesthetic improvement, and wildlife habitat in the Baldwin Hills area.

**c. Consistency with purposes of Prop 84 statute**

*PRC 75060:* Bond funds are available for projects to protect and restore natural habitat values in coastal waters and lands in the Ballona Creek Watershed.

**d. Consistency with the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan**

*Natural Habitat*, page 43, BHPMP: "Opportunities exist to create connections and produce much larger habitat areas, protect populations of native plants and animals unique to Southern California, establish large natural preserve areas, increase the diversity of plant and animal communities and preserve the overall environmental health of the region. "

**e. Greater-than-local interest**

The land and habitat resources in the Baldwin Hills represent an extraordinarily unique value to the entire state. This project promotes and implements California's watershed conservation policies in one of the most densely populated areas of the country.

**f. Demonstrated expertise in the proposed program area**

University of Southern California has assigned Travis Longcore as the principal investigator and project manager. Professor Longcore has a long history in the Baldwin Hills area conducting biological, air and water studies in collaboration with USC, UCLA, and the Natural History Museum. The Spatial Sciences Institute is a research and educational center for the acquisition, analysis and sharing of earth science data and are uniquely positioned to collect and house the assessment information for public use.

## **ADDITIONAL PRIORITIES**

### **g. Leverage**

The applicant is facilitating a 100% match from the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority to fully fund the project work plan. USC will also be contributing in-kind services for administration resulting in the savings of \$103,000 in indirect costs. These contributions would leverage public funding within the BHC's territory and demonstrate the BHC's capacity to partner with innovative local agencies.

### **j. Resolution of more than one issue**

This project aids in the planning for long term preservation of the natural ecosystems within the last large open space in the Ballona Creek watershed. Training of volunteers on accessing and updating the database will provide internship opportunities for students and teachers. Web-based technology will increase public access to the information and build awareness about local native flora and fauna while recording new data for preservationist to analyze and use in the Baldwin Hills territory or other urban wild lands.

### **k. Readiness**

The Spatial Sciences Institute and its project manager have the capacity for the project as well as the list of proposed consultants prepared to meet the 2014-2015 project schedule.

### **l. Realization of prior BHC goal**

The project will update the 2002 Biota Study conducted in the Baldwin Hills. Conservancy habitat restoration efforts are linked to the improved health of the ecosystems within the territory. Efforts to improve habitat connectivity, introduce wildlife corridors and protect the biodiversity of the area require intermittent quantification. This project will allow for volunteer inventories of flora and fauna to be conducted and recorded on an ongoing basis.

## **BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY (BHC)**

### **RESOLUTION 13-12**

#### **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A MATCHING GRANT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$141,000 OF BHC PROP 84 FUNDS TO UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (SPATIAL STUDIES INSTITUTE) FOR THE URBAN BIODIVERSITY ASSESSMENT – BALDWIN HILLS BIOTA UPDATE**

WHEREAS, under Division 22.7 of the California Public Resources Code, the Baldwin Hills Conservancy was created to acquire open space and manage public lands within the Baldwin Hills area and to provide recreation, restoration and protection of wildlife habitat within the Conservancy territory; and

WHEREAS, Public Resources Code 32569 (a) states the Conservancy may award grants to non-profit organizations for the purposes of its division; and

WHEREAS, the University of Southern California is a non-profit organization under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Public Resources Code 75060, funds from the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 are available for projects in the Baldwin Hills and Ballona Creek Watershed to promote access to and enjoyment of the coastal resources of the State; and to prevent contamination and degradation of coastal waters and watersheds; and

WHEREAS, the University of Southern California has submitted a \$141,000 matching grant application for BHC's Prop 84 local assistance grant program for biota studies and web-based user interface data collection and storage of habitat information within the Baldwin Hills Territory; and

WHEREAS, the estimated project cost is \$281,589, a required match of an additional \$141,000 must be secured from the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority prior to execution of a grant agreement from the Conservancy; and

WHEREAS, the proposal has been reviewed by a grant review ad hoc committee and has been found consistent with the funding source and grant requirements adopted by the BHC under resolution 10-06; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Public Resources Code 32565.5 (b) the Baldwin Hills Conservancy shall give priority to related projects that create expanded opportunities that provide recreation, aesthetic improvement, and wildlife habitat in the Baldwin Hills area; and

WHEREAS, as under Public Resources Code 15333 this action is exempt from the environmental impact requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THE BHC GOVERNING BOARD:**



1. AUTHORIZES A MATCHING GRANT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$141,000 OF BHC PROP 84 FUNDS TO UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (SPATIAL STUDIES INSTITUTE) FOR THE URBAN BIODIVERSITY ASSESSMENT – BALDWIN HILLS BIOTA UPDATE
2. ADOPTS THE COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS DATED SEPTEMBER 20, 2013 FOR THIS ITEM
3. APPOINTS THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER, AS AGENT TO CONDUCT ALL NEGOTIATIONS, EXECUTE AND SUBMIT ALL DOCUMENTS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO AGREEMENTS, PAYMENT REQUESTS, AND CERTIFICATIONS WHICH MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE AFOREMENTIONED PROJECT(S)

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the  
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY

on \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Allan Kingston  
Chair

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosana Miramontes  
Deputy Attorney General

August 28, 2013

Sponsor: Baldwin Hills Conservancy

Proposal entitled: "Urban Biodiversity Assessment: Baldwin Hills Biota Update"

Principal Investigator:	Travis Longcore
Time Period:	1/01/2014 – 6/30/2015
Total Cost:	\$140,795.00

On behalf of the University of Southern California (USC), I am pleased to submit the proposal above referenced. This proposal has been approved by the department of Contracts and Grants on behalf of the administration of the University.

The USC proposal contemplates a project as laid out in the proposal at a cost of \$140,795.00. In the event that an award is made, USC anticipates participating in the project under an agreement that is subject to mutually agreeable terms and conditions and beneficial to both institutions.

Should you have any questions of a business or fiscal matters please contact us at [routtree@usc.edu](mailto:routtree@usc.edu) or by phone at (213)740-1894, our fax number is (213)740-6070.



Katie Rountree  
Principal Contract and Grant Officer

**State of California — The Natural Resources Agency  
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY**

*APPLICATION FOR LOCAL ASSISTANCE GRANT*

PROJECT NAME  Urban Biodiversity Assessment: Baldwin Hills Biota Update	\$ 140,794 GRANT AMOUNT  \$ 281,589 ESTIMATED TOTAL PROJECT COST (State Grant and other funds)	
GRANTEE (Agency and address-including zip code and email)  University of Southern California 3720 S. Flower St. Los Angeles, CA 90089-0701 longcore@usc.edu	COUNTY	NEAREST CITY
	Los Angeles	Los Angeles
	PROJECT ADDRESS	
	3616 Trousdale Pkwy, AHF B55, Los Angeles	
	NEAREST CROSS STREET	
	26	47
	SENATE DISTRICT NO. 37	ASSEMBLY DISTRICT NO.

Grantee's Representative Authorized in Resolution:

Katie Rountree,	Principal Contracts & Grants Officer,	213-740-1894
Name (type)	Title	Phone

Person with day-day responsibility for project (if different from authorized representative):

Travis Longcore, Associate Professor (Research), 213-821-1310		
Name (type)	Title	Phone

Brief description of project:

Update information about the distribution of species and habitats in this region -- focusing on vegetation, reptiles and amphibians, bats, and mid-sized mammals -- and disseminate and archive this information in an online format that is readily accessible to park visitors, land managers, and researchers.

For Dev. projects Land Tenure – Project is: _____ acres: _____ Acres owned in fee simple by Grant Applicant _____ Acres available under a _____ year lease _____ Acres other interest (explain) _____	For Acquisition projects-Projects will be _____ acres _____ Acquired in fee simple by Grant Applicant _____ Acquired in other than fee simple (explain) _____ _____ _____
--	---

I certify that the information contained in this project application form, including required attachments, is accurate.

Signed _____	8/28/2013
Grantee's Authorized Representative as shown in Resolution	Date

**Urban Biodiversity Assessment:  
Baldwin Hills Biota Update**

**Scope of Work**

**Proposal to:  
Baldwin Hills Conservancy  
5120 Goldleaf Circle, Suite 290  
Los Angeles, CA 90056**

## PROJECT NARRATIVE AND TIMELINE

In the years since release of the 2001 Biota Report for the Baldwin Hills (Molina et al. 2001), the landscape for managing protected lands in this area has changed significantly. First, the oilfield has gone from being a site eyed for acquisition and transformation to parkland to the epicenter for conflict around hydraulic fracturing (fracking) in southern California. Second, the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook has been purchased as public land. Third, many small restoration and landscape projects have been undertaken that have incrementally changed the natural landscape. Fourth, the opportunities for communication with the public have undergone a revolutionary change, with most park and open space visitors carrying a device with them capable of accessing information at any location at any time. Taken together, these developments indicate the need to update information about the distribution of species and habitats in this region and to develop pathways to communicate this knowledge to visitors that take advantage of the ubiquity of mobile telecommunications devices.

In February 2001, the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County and Community Conservancy International released *The Biota of Baldwin Hills: An Ecological Assessment* (Molina 2001). The report contained chapters on vegetation, arthropods, reptiles and amphibians, birds, and mammals. Although the distribution of species in the Baldwin Hills is not expected to have changed dramatically since 2000, various advances in survey techniques and improved local expertise make it worthwhile to revisit specified topic areas. This is needed to provide baseline information at a scale that is suitable to track restoration of vegetation, to ascertain the status of taxonomic groups left out of previous efforts, and to clarify the status of species in some groups for which previous survey efforts were insufficient.

**Vegetation.** The 2001 biota report uses a modified vegetation classification scheme that is useful to identify vegetation types of interest, but is not well suited to use as baseline information to track restoration progress. The resolution of the mapping units is coarse and does not follow current California Native Plant Society (CNPS) vegetation classifications (Sawyer et al. 2009), which are also those recognized by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. The 2001 map does not include the oil field because access was not available. Using remote sensing techniques (e.g., LIDAR, and multispectral imaging), a reasonable map of those areas could be created even if access were still not granted. A new vegetation map that covers the oil field, uses CNPS Alliance classifications, and incorporates other existing mapping efforts (e.g., weed maps), would dramatically improve the tools available to managers and to inform the general public.

**Arthropods.** Although additional surveys throughout the year would enhance knowledge of arthropod groups, this is not a priority. The 2001 survey provided an excellent snapshot of arthropod diversity and no sensitive species require additional focus at this point.

**Reptiles and amphibians.** The 2001 report includes the results of visual encounter surveys for reptiles and amphibians. Because of the weather during the surveys and the lack of other sampling methods, key species were missed (e.g., salamanders). Further investigation into the reptile and amphibian fauna is warranted, especially since some park officials have warned hikers of the possible presence of rattlesnakes. It is nearly impossible that any venomous snake

is present, but better characterization of this group would be a valuable asset for interpretation of park resources to the public.

**Birds.** The bird surveys in the Baldwin Hills were quite extensive and the various public open spaces continue to be the site of recreational birding. It is occasionally the site of rarities spotted by the public, which are quickly publicized through social media networks, particularly eBird ([www.ebird.org](http://www.ebird.org)). An update of this part of the biota report is not necessary at this time.

**Mammals.** The 2001 Biota report included trapping for small mammals and the development of a species list for larger species through observations of scat, tracks, runways, or sightings of live or roadkilled individuals. No surveys for bats were undertaken. Advances in sound processing software now make it possible to identify bat species by their calls and through automated processing of recordings. In addition the feasibility of using remotely triggered infrared wildlife cameras has dramatically increased. Because some sensitive bat species may forage in the Baldwin Hills, a survey of the distribution and species diversity of bats would be important for managers. Some nocturnal camera trapping would also be beneficial to confirm continued presence of some key mammals (e.g., gray fox) and learn some about their movement patterns.

The Spatial Sciences Institute proposes to manage and implement an update of the 2001 biota assessment for the Baldwin Hills. The goals of the update are: 1) to provide more detail where needed to support ongoing efforts to restore native vegetation and control exotic plants in the project area, 2) provide clarity on the presence and distribution of key fauna groups, in particular bats, larger mammals, and reptiles and amphibians, and 3) serve the information in the original report, other surveys (e.g., weed maps), and the update to potential end users through a web map that standardizes, archives, and depicts geographic data about the Baldwin Hills in a manner useful to land managers and the general public.

### ***Biota Update***

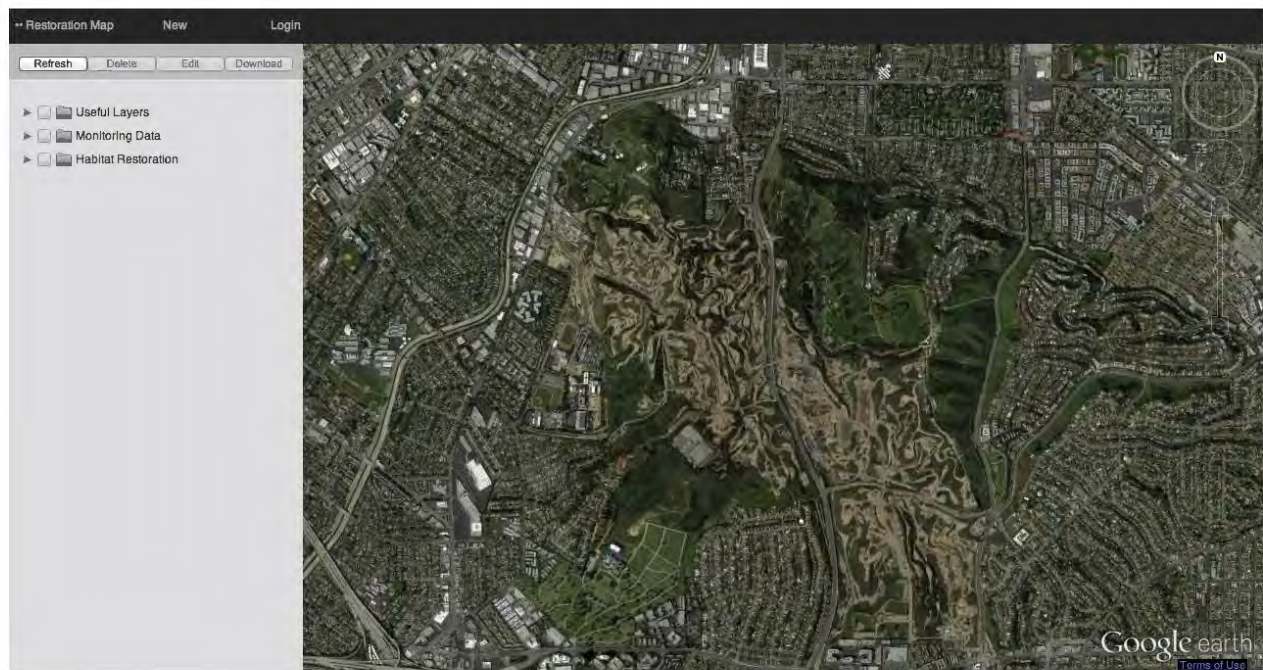
**Vegetation.** The first component of the biota update is the development of an updated vegetation map of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy territory. The base map will be developed using a combination of 4-inch aerial photographs (available through the Los Angeles Region Imagery Acquisition Coalition license to USC), combined with other remotely sensed data such as NAIP imagery and lidar to discern vegetation units of a quarter acre (1,000 m<sup>2</sup>) or greater. This will allow extension of the mapped area to the large private landholding in the center of the Baldwin Hills used for hydrocarbon extraction. Polygons derived from remotely sensed data will then be checked in the field and assigned to vegetation alliances as defined by the California Native Plant Society. The oil field lands will be assigned to vegetation types from aerial photographs, use of binoculars on the ground, and potentially access for this purpose if it can be arranged. The map will be enhanced by inclusion of weed mapping efforts already completed in the base layer to save time in the field.

**Reptiles and Amphibians.** To increase the number of documented species in the study area, three types of surveys will be undertaken. First are visual encounter surveys to be directed at species that were missed in previous surveys and to confirm presence of the key reptile species at the major management units in the region (Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook, Kenneth Hahn State

Recreation Area, West Los Angeles, College, Holy Cross Cemetery, Stocker Corridor, etc.). If permission is secured, surveys will be extended to the oil field. Second will be a targeted set of nighttime surveys for turtles at the ponds at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area. Third will be a set of pitfall arrays to be set up in three locations distance from regular human activity to target reptiles. These will be run one week on/one week off for the spring season during two springs (2014 and 2015). This work will be done by the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County under the direction of Gregory Pauly, Ph.D.

**Bats.** Monthly visits will be made to each of the major management units around the Conservancy territory (including along Ballona Creek). Using a handheld bat detector, bats will be identified to species. Then, for sites with high bat foraging potential (e.g., over the ponds at KHSRA), a long-term monitoring station will be set up to record bat calls. These calls will then be collected and evaluated in the laboratory to identify all species. The work will be concentrated in Spring, Summer, and Fall of 2014 and undertaken by Orange County bat expert Stephanie Remington.

**Mammal Connectivity.** To document the presence and relative abundance of larger mammals in the project area, remotely-triggered wildlife cameras will be installed and monitored at key locations serving as potential connections between management units. Camera traps are available that do not require flash and can be secured to posts and infrastructure to reduce theft and vandalism. They will be run for 18 months at sites leading to crossings over or under La Cienega Boulevard and Stocker Street, plus within the oil field area if permission can be secured for this purpose.



**Figure 1.** Example of web interface to ecological restoration and monitoring data (from <http://habitatproject.org/restorationmap/>).

### ***Online Data Management and User Interface***

All geographic data from the original biota report, data produced since that time (e.g., weed maps), and data produced as part of this project will be incorporated into an online map interface. This interface will be built on existing tools (either from Google or Esri) in a manner that allows for quick access to key information about the region in terms of vegetation, restoration efforts, sensitive species, and infrastructure. It can be built on open-source website coding designed to facilitate exchange of ecological restoration and monitoring data (Figure 1). The user interface will be designed to allow uploading of new monitoring data as it is obtained, as well as information about restoration actions that are taken in the various protected lands. For download purposes, all data will be archived at the USC Spatial Sciences Institute Geoportal (<http://geospatial.usc.edu/geoportal/>). To ensure that the public has access to this information, an online version of the information about species distribution will be developed and will be accessible using mobile devices.

When these resources are ready for use, we will run two training sessions for conservation partners in the Baldwin Hills to introduce them to the data collected, the geoportal, and the ways to access and update information available so that changes in the environment can be tracked by aggregating the multiple efforts being undertaken. These tools will be made available to students and volunteers through coordination with organizations currently undertaking restoration and education programs, such as Los Angeles Audubon.

### ***Timeline***

The project will be undertaken during an 18-month period from January 2014 to September 2015 as follows (by quarter).

<b>Month</b>	<b>Management</b>	<b>Vegetation</b>	<b>Herps</b>	<b>Bats</b>	<b>Connectivity</b>	<b>Web Map</b>
<b>Winter 2014</b>	Subcontract	Base map	Visual, Pitfalls		Install Cameras	
<b>Spring 2014</b>	Progress Report	Base map, Site Visits	Pitfalls	Site Visits	Monitor	
<b>Summer 2014</b>	Progress Report	Site Visits		Site Visits	Monitor	
<b>Fall 2014</b>	Progress Report	Site Visits		Site Visits	Monitor	
<b>Winter 2015</b>	Progress Report	Report	Visual, Pitfalls	Report	Monitor	Code
<b>Spring 2015</b>	Progress Report		Report		Report	Code
<b>Summer 2015</b>	Final Report					Code

### ***Deliverable Products***



Technical Reports. For each of the focal survey areas — vegetation, reptiles, and amphibians, bats, and wildlife connectivity (mammals) — a technical report will be produced that documents the methodology, results, and conclusions of the surveys. Two of these will be produced by collaborators and two by project staff.

Progress Reports. USC project managers will report progress to Baldwin Hills Conservancy quarterly to describe work progress and highlight areas of concern and proposed solutions to any challenges.

Final Report. The final project report will summarize each of the technical reports and describe the online tools that have been developed to share and visualize the biota information.

Online Map. Hosted at a web address agreed upon by the sponsors, an online map will be developed that shared biological information about the Baldwin Hills. All data made available on the USC geoportal will be maintained indefinitely. The user interface/web map will be provided to the sponsor at the end of the project or arrangements can be made for long-term maintenance.

## **References Cited**

- Molina, K. C., Ed. 2001. The biota of the Baldwin Hills: an ecological assessment. Community Conservancy International and Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County Foundation, Los Angeles.
- Sawyer, J. O., T. Keeler-Wolf, and J. Evens. 2009. A manual of California vegetation, Second ed. California Native Plant Society, Sacramento, CA.

## PROJECT COSTS

Personnel	Rate	Months	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	TOTAL	BHC Share
			Total			
PI (Longcore)	\$ 8,883.33	2	\$ 17,766.66	\$ 9,061.00	\$ 26,827.66	\$ <b>13,413.83</b>
Project Specialist	\$ 4,750.00	12	\$ 57,000.00	\$ 29,070.00	\$ 86,070.00	\$ <b>43,035.00</b>
Programmer	\$ 6,643.00	2	\$ 13,286.00	\$ 6,775.86	\$ 20,061.86	\$ <b>10,030.93</b>
Fringe Benefits (33.5%)			\$ 29,497.64	\$ 15,043.80	\$ 44,541.44	\$ <b>22,270.72</b>
<b>Materials and Supplies</b>						
10 cameras @ \$250/each plus tax			\$ 2,725.00	\$ -	\$ 2,725.00	
Posts, bolts, locks, etc.			\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ <b>500.00</b>
Consumable supplies			\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ <b>2,000.00</b>
SSI Computing	PI 3%		\$ 711.55	\$ 361.53	\$ 1,073.09	\$ <b>536.54</b>
	Specialist 6%		\$ 4,565.70	\$ 2,328.51	\$ 6,894.21	\$ <b>3,447.10</b>
	Programmer 12%		\$ 2,128.42	\$ 1,085.49	\$ 3,213.91	\$ <b>1,606.95</b>
Mileage			\$ 500.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 750.00	\$ <b>487.50</b>
Herpetology Consultant			\$ 25,000.00		\$ 25,000.00	\$ <b>12,500.00</b>
Bat Consultant			\$ 15,000.00		\$ 15,000.00	\$ <b>7,500.00</b>
Total Direct Costs			\$ 169,680.97	\$ 64,976.19	\$ 234,657.16	\$ <b>117,328.58</b>
Indirect Costs			\$ 33,936.19	\$ 12,995.24	\$ 46,931.43	\$ <b>23,465.72</b>
Total Cost			\$ 203,617.17	\$ 77,971.42	\$ <b>281,588.59</b>	\$ <b>140,794.30</b>

The Facilities and Administration (“indirect”) rates charged by USC are 64% (7/1/12-6/30/14) and 64.5% (7/1/14-6/30/15) of direct expenses. This rate is established with the federal government and represents the cost of buildings, electricity, water, and other facilities costs, plus the cost of the administration of the university. For this project, the Dornsife Dean’s office has agreed to accept the 20% Facilities and Administration rate limit imposed by the sponsor.

The costs for this project will be split between the Baldwin Hills Conservancy (BHC) and the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority (BHRCA). The budget reflects the total project costs and allocates half of each item to each of the two agencies. The project will not be undertaken if funding from both agencies is not obtained.

The total project cost for BHC is \$140,794. The same amount is sought from BHRCA. The total indirect cost normally due to USC, but waived for this project, is \$103,997.

The project will be managed by PI Travis Longcore, with an effort of 3 months over the 18-month project. A full-time project specialist will be hired to do the vegetation mapping and camera trapping and interface with the consultants and programmer to develop the project deliverables. This person will have at least a Master’s degree in a relevant field and work under Dr. Longcore’s supervision. The programmer is already on staff at SSI and will provide technical support for the online mapping and data management.

Fringe benefit rates are set by USC at 33.5% of total salary.

Materials will be needed to set up the camera traps and the mileage budget is to cover the many trips back and forth to the study site for vegetation surveys and to maintain the camera traps. Consumable supplies include text books, paper, memory cards, and other necessary items for the research. BHC will only fund consumable supplies; the camera traps will be funded by BHRCA.

The Spatial Sciences Institute has standardized rates to cover hardware and software computing resources and auxiliary services such as bandwidth and off-site backups. The rate varies depending on the amount of salary paid in categories that reflect low (PI), medium (Project Specialist), and high (Programmer) computing resources. These rates cover all software licenses, computer resources, storage, backup, membership in Los Angeles Region Imagery Acquisition Consortium (which provides 4-inch resolution aerial photographs), etc.

The herpetology and bat consultants will be leading regional experts who provide consultant services. The preferred individuals are Dr. Greg Pauly at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County and Stephanie Remington (an independent consultant specializing in bats). These consulting agreements will go through the regular USC procurement process.

## MAP OF PROJECT AREA



The project lies within the Ballona Creek watershed and includes the territory covered by the Baldwin Hills Conservancy. Approximate total area is 2,000 acres.

## APPLICANT BACKGROUND AND RELATED EXPERIENCE

**Dr. Travis Longcore** is Associate Research Professor at the University of Southern California Spatial Sciences Institute. He serves also as Science Director of The Urban Wildlands Group, a Los Angeles-based conservation nonprofit, and is the volunteer president of the Los Angeles Audubon Society. His research interest is urban ecology and conservation, with emphasis on: conservation planning and management, edge effects of development, especially artificial night lighting, and monitoring and management of endangered species. He is co-editor of the book *Ecological Consequences of Artificial Night Lighting* (Island Press, 2006) and author of over 25 peer-reviewed articles in journals such as *Conservation Biology*, *Biological Conservation*, *Restoration Ecology*, *Environmental Management*, *Urban Geography*, and *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*. His research has been covered in *National Geographic*, *Audubon*, *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Life*, and *Discover*.

Dr. Longcore has managed over \$1.5 million in contracts and grants to implement applied conservation actions, including surveys for endangered species at locations in Los Angeles and the Central Valley. He has advised projects to measure connectivity for mammals in Los Angeles County in the Santa Monica Mountains and through the essential link under State Route 14 between the Los Padres and Angeles National Forests. Dr. Longcore's expertise will be supplemented by subject-matter consultants expert in bats and herpetology, and a full-time project specialist hired for the duration of the proposed project to do the vegetation mapping, camera trapping, and design the user interface.

The ***Spatial Sciences Institute*** is a research and educational center for the acquisition, analysis, and sharing of data on the world around us. It is housed in the Allan Hancock Foundation Building and boasts an impressive array of computing technologies dedicated to research and education. Housed within USC's state-of-the-art data center, the core consists of 14 multi-core processor IBM blade servers and three clustered IBM 3650m servers hosting a VMware environment. These machines power a multitude of applications, including the entire suite of industry-standard GIS applications from Esri and GPS applications from Trimble, specialty software like the Idrisi Taiga GIS and Image Processing software, and the latest in virtualization technologies from Citrix. On the back end, a fiber channel SAN running high speed disk over a gigabit network ensures high availability and fast access to data. We utilize a variety of security physical and virtual features to guard against unwanted access. We also follow a stringent disaster recovery plan that includes weekly and monthly backups which are sent to a remote location for secure storage. These computer facilities are supported by the Dornsife College Technology Services Office and a dedicated computer services consultant housed in the Spatial Sciences Institute.

Nearly 500 distinguished scholars are engaged in systematic inquiry within the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences at the ***USC Dana and David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences***. USC has attracted a large pool of the world's leading scholars and rising stars who will help shape the research enterprise of the 21st century. Sponsored research has nearly doubled at USC in the last 10 years to \$485 million in 2008. In fact, USC is the ninth-largest recipient of federal research dollars among all private universities in the U.S.

## References

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STATEMENT OF THE *UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA*  
APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM  
THE BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY  
FOR PROPOSITION 84 FUNDING FOR the PROJECT *Urban Biodiversity*  
*Assessment: Baldwin Hills Biota Update*

WHEREAS, the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006, was adopted by California voters in the general election on November 7, 2006, which among other uses, provides funds to public agencies and nonprofit organizations in the State for the purpose of preventing contamination and degradation of coastal waters and watersheds, protecting and restoring the natural habitat values of coastal waters and lands, promoting access to and enjoyment of the coastal resources of the state, and

WHEREAS, the Baldwin Hills Conservancy has set forth the necessary procedures governing application for grant funds under the Proposition, and

WHEREAS, the Conservancy's procedures require *UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA* to certify, by resolution, the approval of the application before submission of said application(s) to the Conservancy; and

WHEREAS, said application contains assurances that *UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA* must comply with; and

WHEREAS, *UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA* will enter into an Agreement with the Conservancy to provide funds for acquisition and development projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE *UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONTRACTS AND GRANTS* HEREBY:

1. Approves the filing of an application with the Baldwin Hills Conservancy for Proposition 84 Funds for the above project; and
2. Certifies that *UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA* understands the assurances and certification in the application form; and
3. ~~Certifies that *ORG/AGENCY NAME* has, or will have, sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project in perpetuity; or has the right to assign maintenance to another agency; and~~
4. Appoints the *UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONTRACTS AND GRANTS PRINCIPAL CONTRACTS AND GRANTS OFFICER* or designee, to conduct all negotiations, and to execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to, applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests and so forth, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project.

Signed this 29th day of August, 2013

Attachment #2



P.O. Box 931057 LosAngeles,CA 90093

September 12, 2013

Mr. David McNeill  
Executive Director  
Baldwin Hills Conservancy  
5120 Goldleaf Circle, Suite 290  
Los Angeles, CA 90056

Dear David,

Los Angeles Audubon Society is writing to express our support the proposal by Dr. Travis Longcore to update the biota report for the Baldwin Hills. We reviewed the proposal and find it a valuable scientific study to guide conservation in the Baldwin Hills. Specifically, the study will fill the gaps in data for the occurrence of reptiles, amphibians, and bats, as well as attempting to provide better mapping of vegetation in the oil fields.

We are pleased that the proposal includes Dr. Greg Pauly to conduct the reptile and amphibian studies and Stephanie Remington to conduct the bat studies. In addition to Dr. Longcore, these two scientists will insure that the surveys will be of the highest caliber.

We especially appreciate the proposed methods for making the new data, as well as previous data, available through a web map for online user-friendly applicability. This feature of the proposal will be very useful by Los Angeles Audubon in our Baldwin Hills Education Programs.

As you know, Los Angeles Audubon Society currently conducts outdoor education in the Baldwin Hills at both Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area and the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlooks State Park. Last year, we held classes for over 1300 elementary and middle school students, led several community restoration events, and mentored 40 high school students. This year we are increasing the number of students and community in our programs. The information provided by this proposed study will be utilized in our programs as soon as it is available.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 213 200-3099.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Margot Griswold".

Margot Griswold, Ph.D.  
Vice-president and Education Chair  
Los Angeles Audubon Society



# Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

10 September 2013

David McNeill, Executive Director  
Baldwin Hills Conservancy  
5120 Goldleaf Circle, Suite 290  
Los Angeles, CA 90056

Dear Mr. McNeil,

I am writing to voice my support for the application from Travis Longcore of the University of Southern California to update the biota of the Baldwin Hills and increase public awareness of the biodiversity of this unique area. I am the Curator of Herpetology at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, and I have spoken with Dr. Longcore about the importance of improving our understanding of the reptile and amphibian fauna of the Baldwin Hills.

The proposed project has obvious implications on 1) improving our understanding of the biological resources of the region; 2) increasing the public's access to both existing and new knowledge about these resources by producing a website that will make this information available to the public; and 3) providing a central archive for species information that will streamline conservation planning for the region.

These benefits are apparent in the project proposal. Here, I would like to focus on additional benefits focused more specifically on the reptile and amphibian surveys. Recently, I developed a citizen science project called Reptiles and Amphibians of Southern California (RASCals; [www.nhm.org/rascals](http://www.nhm.org/rascals)). RASCals was specifically designed to generate modern day occurrence records of reptiles and amphibians in southern California. In combination with historical museum records, this dataset will allow analyses of how species ranges have changed over the course of urbanization. Detailed sampling of the Baldwin Hills would provide an especially important opportunity for more geographically focused analyses. Further, the RASCals project will provide an additional source of citizen science derived data to supplement the more targeted surveys of the Baldwin Hills.

Understanding the biodiversity of Los Angeles requires studies of both native and nonnative species. For this reason, a second major focus of RASCals is to document introduced species. Similarly, the proposed frog and turtle surveys in the Baldwin Hills are in part designed to assess the occurrence of introduced species (particularly bullfrogs and red-eared slider turtles) in the Baldwin Hills. Collected specimens and observational records of nonnative species will contribute to ongoing projects in my lab examining the impacts of these species on our native biota.

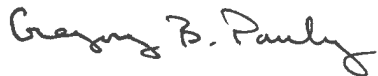
## Attachment #2

Lastly, there is increasing interest in assessing the genetic impacts of urbanization and habitat fragmentation. Specimen vouchers and tissue samples for genetic analyses collected during the Baldwin Hills surveys will provide an important resource for future researchers interested in this subject. Importantly, I have already been in contact with researchers at USC, UCLA, and CSU Northridge who have growing interests in collaborative efforts to study the impacts of habitat fragmentation. While these discussions did not all focus specifically on the Baldwin Hills, this general research interest strongly indicates that any specimens and observational records from the proposed Baldwin Hills surveys will be multipurpose and used in a variety of future studies. Thus, I have every expectation that the Baldwin Hills biotic surveys will continue to impact local and regional conservation research and management decisions, with new data and analyses continuing to be generated long after the immediate results of the proposed project are realized.

I hope the above information conveys my enthusiasm for this project, and particularly the role I think this project could have as a critical player in related projects and future studies. Many of these are “added benefits” beyond the immediate results of having detailed biotic surveys with related educational resources. I truly appreciate the importance of the Baldwin Hills to the local community (I am also part of this community, living less than a mile from the Baldwin Hills) and as a regional open space resource, and I strongly support further investment in understanding, describing, and communicating the biological diversity in this unique area.

Please contact me if I can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,



Gregory B. Pauly, Ph.D.  
Assistant Curator and Section Head, Herpetology  
Adjunct Professor, CSU Northridge  
gpauly@nhm.org  
(213) 763-3212



Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology &  
La Kretz Center for California Conservation Science  
La Kretz Hall, Suite 300, Box 951496  
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1496  
Phone: 310-825-3836  
e-mail: brad.shaffer@ucla.edu

8 September 2013

David McNeill, Executive Director  
Baldwin Hills Conservancy  
5120 Goldleaf Circle, Suite 290  
Los Angeles, CA 90056

Dear David,

I am writing to register my support for the project that Travis Longcore has developed entitled “Urban Biodiversity Assessment: Baldwin Hills Biota Update”. This project came to my attention during a recent conversation with Margot Griswold, and she shared the project proposal with me and asked for my thoughts on its importance. I have not been involved with the conceptualization of the project, and Travis is running it through USC, not my home institution (UCLA), so I have no vested financial interest in this project. Also, as you may know, I recently moved to UCLA to head up our La Kretz Center for California Conservation Science, and I am very involved in promoting and conducting urban/wildlife research in Southern California and Los Angeles.

My bottom line is that I think that this is a great proposal from a great team. I’m a reptile and amphibian specialist, and I know Greg Pauly at the Natural History Museum very well. Resurveying the Baldwin Hills will feed directly into his new RASCals citizen science initiative to document herpetological biodiversity in the urban matrix, and will tell us a lot about changes in the last decade in a large open space in the city. I’m also very excited about the mammal sampling and the bat work, since both are badly undersampled in the region. We cannot begin to manage for urban wildlife without solid baseline data on what we have, and this project will provide that information for a critical open space in Los Angeles.

I’ll add two small sidenotes to this letter. First, especially for the reptiles and amphibians, I’m sure that Greg Pauly will collect tissue samples from all specimens he handles, and such tissues provide an incredibly important baseline for looking at genetic diversity and connectivity across the region. It isn’t critical to analyze the samples immediately, but it is critical to have them, and this project will lead, I’m quite sure, to important tissue sampling and collections. Second, Greg and I are going to be teaching an in-depth field class (with UCLA students) next spring, and I would love to discuss the possibility of having some UCLA students contribute to this survey effort. It would be wonderful experience for them and add to an important project.

In any case, I feel that this is a very important proposal, led by a talented team of investigators. Travis will be a strong team leader, and USC is offering a very modest overhead rate which makes the project very attractive from a funding perspective. I hope that you can fund it.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this further, feel free to contact me by email ([brad.shaffer@ucla.edu](mailto:brad.shaffer@ucla.edu)) or voice (530-902-3078, personal cell phone) at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bradley Shaffer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bradley" and last name "Shaffer" clearly distinguishable.

H. Bradley Shaffer, Ph.D.  
Director, La Kretz Center for California Conservation Science  
Institute of the Environment and Sustainability  
Distinguished Professor, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

## BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY

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### Memorandum

**To: Governing Board**

**Fr: David McNeill, Executive Officer**

**Date: September 20, 2013**

**Re: Agenda Item 4:** Discussion and possible action on the Baldwin Hills Conservancy 2013 Updated Strategic Plan

**Recommendation:** Staff submits the draft document for consideration and recommends adoption of Resolution 13-11 approving the Baldwin Hills Conservancy 2013 Updated Strategic Plan

**Background:** The purpose of the strategic plan is to set out achievable goals for the agency while maintaining consistency with applicable statutory authorities. Staff has updated the applicable sections utilizing the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan, as well as planning studies, policies and initiatives undertaken for the purposes of the agency's mission. These revisions reflect the current priorities impacting planning and development within the watershed. Updates to the Strategic Plan generally occur every two years; however the content can be revisited by the Board at any time, as needed.

An overview of the updates to three main elements of the Strategic Plan is outlined below:

**Acquisition of Open Space** - Land conservation efforts have taken the Conservancy and its partners beyond the halfway mark towards achieving the mission of a two-square mile park. Of the 1,428 acres targeted for acquisition, a total of 774 acres have been preserved for current or future park use. Over the next five years, the Conservancy must remain flexible and innovative in its approach to creating willing sellers. The plan targets priority parcels and sets aside \$13.5 million for purchase opportunities that preserve habitat for improved watershed health and are contiguous to publicly held parcels. Maintaining viable resources for presenting purchase offers to land owners is critical to meeting this objective. Current bond allocations are sufficient to achieve only a portion of the land conservation plan objectives. Passage of future bonds for implementing Conservancy priorities, as well as leveraging of federal and

local resources, will ultimately determine our agency's ability to complete the entire acquisition program.

**Planning and Development** - Improvements projects to date have focused on increasing public access to park amenities in and around the two-square mile territory. Nearly 1.2 million people live within a short 10-20 minute bus ride of the parklands. Investments in pedestrian and bicycle friendly infrastructure will remain a priority. Climate change adaptation guidelines developed by the Natural Resources Agency offer effective policies for regional entities to improve air and water quality. The updated plan includes \$3.25 million for projects that feature urban re-forestation, storm-water capture and non-vehicular mobility as a part of their design benefits. These investments will have the cumulative effect of improving carbon sequestration as well as reducing urban run-off into local waterways. Projects within the territory will also help address the health and well being of the communities most vulnerable to the negative effects of green house gas emissions.

**Interpretation and Education** – Sustaining the Conservancy's goals for watershed preservation and habitat restoration require the institutional support of the community, non-profits, schools and other local stakeholders. The interpretive pilot programs launched by the Conservancy have proven successful and have been supported by private groups interested in developing the next generation of stewards. Plans to update interpretive signage, install maps and educational kiosks will improve outreach and awareness of the Baldwin Hills as the last large open space in the Ballona Creek Watershed. Future projects will be leveraged with a projected \$400,000 set aside for partnering with non-profits and education institutions to assist in steward training and integrating interpretive education modules into web-based technology.

**BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY (BHC)**

**RESOLUTION 13-11**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY 2013 UPDATED STRATEGIC PLAN**

WHEREAS, the *Baldwin Hills Conservancy Strategic Plan (Strategic Plan)*, is a “living” document which is intended to be evaluated and revised every two years; and

WHEREAS, the *Strategic Plan* describes the Conservancy’s current and projected future resource allocation; the public needs which the Conservancy serves; the policies and principles which guide the Conservancy; and the recommended further course of the Conservancy’s efforts; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the *Strategic Plan* is to further the mission of the Conservancy which is stated as being to acquire open space and manage public lands within the Baldwin Hills area and to provide recreation, restoration and protection of wildlife habitat within the Conservancy’s territory for the public’s enjoyment and education; and

WHEREAS, staff has prepared the draft *Baldwin Hills Conservancy 2013 Updated Strategic Plan* to include revisions to advance the implementation of the Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan and address the needs of region, its watershed and the public; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Board of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy approves and adopts the draft *Baldwin Hills Conservancy 2013 Updated Strategic Plan*.

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the  
BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY

on \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_  
G. Allan Kingston  
Chair

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosana Miramontes, Deputy Attorney General



BALDWIN HILLS  
CONSERVANCY

**2013**  
**UPDATED**  
**STRATEGIC PLAN**



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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The detailed strategies and policies for watershed protection and land conservation within the Conservancy's geographic area are instrumental in delivering a cohesive message reflecting statewide priorities for California's environmental health. Over the years, the Conservancy has demonstrated itself as a successful governance mechanism and effective partner with federal, state and local agencies. Regional planning decisions are influenced by the state's conservation goals through the multi-jurisdictional decision making forum created by the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Act. The Conservancy leverages expertise and resources to acquire lands and implement projects of statewide significance through local assistance grants and program delivery support. Ultimately, the Conservancy is responsible for bringing the state's innovative conservation policies directly to millions of area voters who approved initiatives aimed at preserving, protecting, and enhancing the state's natural resources

The *Baldwin Hills Conservancy 2013 Updated Strategic Plan* describes current and proposed resource allocation by the Conservancy; public needs served by the agency; policies and principles guiding the Conservancy and its staff; and the intended future course of the agency's efforts. The plan begins with background on the Conservancy, including the Conservancy's statutory authorities. The Conservancy's mandates have been applied in three main themes of the agency's current work program:

- Acquisition of open space
- Planning and development
- Interpretation and education

The program descriptions on the following pages are meant to describe issues and opportunities, not just statutory authorities. In some cases, these issues may be addressed under a range of adopted policies available to the Conservancy. As the *Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan* is the main reference for selecting projects, the Conservancy has identified program priorities that are consistent with the plan's objectives. Additional projects will be considered under criteria adopted by the Conservancy Board. Unless otherwise noted, all projects are targeted for completion during the Conservancy's statutory existence. The *Strategic Plan* is a "living" document, intended for reference in the course of conducting the daily activities of the Conservancy, and it will be subject to a process of evaluation and updating every two years.

## BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY'S MISSION

The Baldwin Hills Conservancy's mission is to acquire open space and manage public lands within the Baldwin Hills area and to provide recreation, restoration and protection of wildlife habitat within the territory for the public's enjoyment and educational experience.

## SUMMARY OF STATUTORY AUTHORITIES

The three core programs that make up the Conservancy's strategic plan are supported by the statutory authorities contained in Division 22.7 of the Public Resources Code. To carry out the statutory mandates in a cost effective manner, and be responsive to the needs of local communities, there are additional legislative mandates that drive the work of the Conservancy as documented below:

### **Land Conservation** (reference: Public Resources Code Section 32566):

The Conservancy shall determine acquisition priorities and may acquire real property or any interest in real property within the Baldwin Hills area from willing sellers and at fair market value or on other mutually acceptable terms, upon a finding that the acquisition is consistent with the purposes of the Conservancy. The Conservancy may acquire the property itself, or may coordinate the acquisition with other public agencies with appropriate responsibility and available funding or land to exchange. The overall objectives of the land acquisition program shall be to assist in accomplishing land transactions that are mutually beneficial to the landowners and the Conservancy, and that meet the Conservancy's purposes.

### **Planning and Capital Improvements** [reference: Public Resources Code Sections 32565.5 (b) and (c), 32568 (a)]:

The Conservancy establishes policies and priorities within the Baldwin Hills area, and conducts any necessary planning activities in accordance with the purposes set forth in Section 32555 and; give priority to related projects that create expanded opportunities that provide recreation, aesthetic improvement, and wildlife habitat in the Baldwin Hills area.

The Conservancy may, within the Baldwin Hills area, undertake site improvement projects; regulate public access; re-vegetate and otherwise rehabilitate degraded areas, in consultation with other public agencies with appropriate jurisdiction and expertise; upgrade deteriorating facilities; and construct new facilities as needed for outdoor recreation, nature appreciation and interpretation, and natural resource protection. These projects shall be directed by the Conservancy and undertaken by other public agencies, with the Conservancy providing overall coordination through setting priorities for projects and assuring uniformity of approach.

**Recreation & Interpretation** [reference: Public Resources Code Section 32555 (a)]:

The Conservancy is created to acquire and manage public lands within the Baldwin Hills area, and to provide recreational, open space, wildlife habitat restoration and protection, and lands for educational uses within the area.

**Management of Public Lands** [reference: Public Resources Code Sections 32566, 32569 (a)]:

The Conservancy may direct the management, operation, administration, and maintenance of the lands and facilities it acquires. The Conservancy may initiate, negotiate, and participate in agreements for the management of land under its ownership or control with local public agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, nonprofit organizations, individuals, or other entities and may enter into any other agreements authorized by state or federal law. Local public agencies may enter into an agreement to transfer responsibility for the management of the land located within the Baldwin Hills area to the conservancy.

**Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan** [reference: Chapter 752 of the Statutes of 1999 Section 1 (c) and Public Resources Code Section 32656.5 (f)]:

Notwithstanding Section 7550.5 of the Government Code, the Secretary of Resources, in conjunction with the Director of Parks and Recreation, shall, not later than January 1, 2002, prepare and submit to the Legislature a master plan for the expansion and development of the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area that is designed to accomplish all of the following goals:

- (1) Increase active recreation opportunities for underserved communities.
- (2) Create a comprehensive trail system.
- (3) Provide for public access and entry ways.
- (4) Protect and restore natural habitat.
- (5) Protect critical viewsheds.
- (6) Protect and improve urban water quality.
- (7) Emphasize connections between existing parks, trails, and urban streams.
- (8) Restore industrial lands to park and open-space purposes.
- (9) Protect watersheds connecting to Santa Monica Bay.

The Conservancy shall approve the master plan, and prioritize and implement the following in accordance with the master plan and with the master plan recommendations: (1) The acquisition of additional recreational and open space and a plan for the management of lands under the jurisdiction of the Conservancy, including additional or upgraded facilities and parks that may be necessary or desirable. (2) The planned conveyance of lands acquired and restored, or lands acquired, restored, and developed, to the Department of Parks and Recreation or to any other public agency once the acquisition and improvements have been finalized.

**Grants** (reference: Public Resources Code Section 32569 (a)):

The Conservancy may award grants to local public agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations for the purposes of its division. The Conservancy shall administer any funds appropriated to it and any revenue generated by public agencies for the Baldwin Hills area and contributed to the Conservancy, and may expend those funds for capital improvements, land acquisition, or support of the Conservancy's operations.

**Prop 40: California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act** [reference: Public Resources Code Section 5096.650 (b)]:

**Prop 84: The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006** [reference: Public Resources Code Section 75060(d)(2)]:

Appropriations from the above bond acts may be spent in accordance with the particular provisions of the statute creating the Conservancy for the acquisition, development, rehabilitation, preservation, restoration and protection of land and water resources.

## **ACQUISITION OF OPEN SPACE**

### **ISSUES AND PRIORITIES**

The geographic area outlined in the authorizing statute features approximately 2,065.31 acres of land within the Baldwin Hills Conservancy boundaries. This includes some oil drilling lands and adjacent communities as well as the Ballona Creek, which contains four miles of channel, public trail and bikeway with private frontage parcels extending west from the Baldwin Hills' northwest foothill as defined by the Conservancy Act. The acreage calculation for the territory is based on digital polygons from Geographic Information System (GIS) two dimensional maps of the area. The Baldwin Hills area, which includes open space contiguous and or adjacent to Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area (KHRSA) totals 1,428.13 acres of protected, private or unprotected land as compiled by parcel data supplied by the Los Angeles County Assessor's public records (see Figure 1).

Figure – 1



Current GIS mapping of the parcel fee ownership indicates that of this acreage, approximately 654.48 are private or unprotected lands with major portions of the surface area dedicated to active oil operations. In accordance with Chapter 428, Statutes of 2000, it is the responsibility of the Conservancy to acquire the remaining privately held acreage.

Owner	Property Name	Parcel Count	Acres	Total Acreage
<b>BHRCA</b>				
	Finley & Lloyd properties - BHRCA	3	20.8600	
	Inglewood Hills - BHRCA	3	100.0400	
<b>BHRCA Total</b>				<b>120.90</b>
<b>County Parks</b>				
	Ball fields - County Parks	3	30.4872	
	East La Brea Greenbelt - County Parks	1	22.0500	
	Ruben Ingold Park & Stoneview Park - County Parks	2	7.4000	
<b>County Parks Total</b>				<b>59.94</b>
<b>County Parks Easement</b>				
	Plains Exploration and Production Company	4	142.5700	
<b>County Parks Easement Total</b>				<b>142.57</b>
<b>Culver City Parks</b>				
	Culver City Park - Culver City Parks	2	41.3200	
<b>Culver City Parks Total</b>				<b>41.32</b>
<b>LA City Parks</b>				
	Norman O. Houston Park - LA City Parks	1	9.7000	
<b>LA City Parks</b>				<b>9.70</b>
<b>California State Parks</b>				
	Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook - California State Parks	17	57.2840	
	KHSRA – California State Parks	20	309.0785	
	Stocker Corridor - California State Parks	5	32.8600	
<b>State Parks Total</b>				<b>399.22</b>
<b>Private/Unprotected (all others)</b>				
		25	654.3594	
	Public Unprotected	1	5.1200	
<b>Private/Unprotected Total</b>				<b>654.48</b>
<b>TOTAL Baldwin Hills Parklands (Proposed)</b>				<b>1,428.13</b>
<b>*Total Land within BHC boundaries (including creek and other communities)</b>				<b>2,065.31</b>

Private



The Conservancy's acquisition strategy evaluates opportunities that will allow for increased recreation activities, habitat protection, interpretive and cultural facilities, environmental interpretation as well as park-related economic sustainability. Working in conjunction with three primary agencies: California State Parks, State Lands Commission, and the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority (a joint powers authority, or JPA), the Conservancy will continue to optimize relationships, expertise and financial resources to engage in a manageable acquisition strategy. Since the majority of the remaining open space in the Baldwin Hills is encumbered with active oil extraction infrastructure, and under current conditions oil and gas production could continue for more than thirty years, the Conservancy must remain flexible in its approach. A thorough economic evaluation of all viable options for financing and acquiring property interests in the Baldwin Hills has been developed as an integral part of strategy formulation and to ensure the optimum use of available funding resources. Since the implementation of new ordinances by the County of Los Angeles in 2008, ongoing dialog with the field operator, landowners and community stakeholders has been fostered through a Community Advisory Panel. Conservancy participation in these public meetings has resulted in an increased stakeholder understanding of the complex issues related to development of mineral resources, land and water conservation, and public confidence in the long term compatibility of land use in the area. Acquiring surface rights for parcels within the active oil field insures the land is protected for future park use. However, the vast majority of the parcels will remain inaccessible until it is feasible to arrange for improvements that do not interfere with operator and mineral holder interests. The approach applied by land trusts for successful preservation of privately owned active agricultural land utilizes acquisition options that include purchasing conservation easements and offering other mutually agreeable incentives for landowners to become willing sellers. This model is being adapted for use within the Conservancy's acquisition strategy.

The balance of the acreage in the area is protected public land, which includes 631.08 acres held in fee by the Conservancy's partner public agencies and an additional 142.57 acres of active oil drilling land under a conservation easement held by the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation. To date, the Conservancy's acquisition work program has resulted in a 33 percent increase in public land, or 154.95 acres (see figure 2). Since the boundaries of the Conservancy include an unincorporated part of Los Angeles County which touches the cities of Inglewood, Culver City, and Los Angeles, partnerships with all of the stakeholders working in the Baldwin Hills area remain critical to successfully implementing our long range acquisition objectives.

Figure – 2



## **Habitat Preservation**

The slopes and canyons of the western and eastern ridgelines of the Baldwin Hills are host to a vast oasis of natural habitat composed mainly of native California coastal sage scrub and associated chaparral habitat. Studies conducted by biologists from the Los Angeles County Natural History Museum document the Baldwin Hills area as home to a wide range of California native wildlife representing resident populations of over 166 bird, 21 mammal, 12 reptile, and 12 butterfly species. Invasive plants and fragmentation from development and industry have compromised the integrity of the surviving habitat. Protecting the existing biodiversity of plant and animal species is a priority for the Conservancy. These ecosystems are the primary indicators for a healthy environment and are vulnerable due to population growth and the heat island effect of urban infrastructure. California's Climate Change Adaptation Strategies have particular resonance with preserving biodiversity in highly urbanized regions of the state. With over 9.8 million people residing within greater Los Angeles County, the Baldwin Hills present an opportunity to showcase statewide policies through ongoing restoration of the remaining habitat and creation of migratory wildlife corridors that connect to the coastal zone. Areas of focus include, but are not limited to, Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook, Culver City Park and the remaining privately held habitat regions beginning at Holy Cross Cemetery and continuing north behind West Los Angeles College. Collaborative restoration programs with City, State and County Parks continue, while both West Los Angeles Community College and the Los Angeles Archdiocese are being pursued to develop a preservation program consistent with the Conservancy's mission. Working in coordination with the appropriate regulatory agencies and watershed managers, the Conservancy will continue to advance its goals of habitat restoration and protection utilizing state promulgated considerations for climate adaptation.

## **Recreation**

The Baldwin Hills are a natural oasis in the middle of a highly urbanized area, providing a refuge for both wildlife and people. Over one million people live within five miles of the Baldwin Hills, and, with barely one acre of parkland per 1,000 people, this is one of the most park-poor regions in California. Community demand for open space, trails, and active recreation facilities is reflected in the master plan and delivery of such amenities is a critical to the quality of life in the region. The parklands are easily accessible to 1.2 million of County and City residents via a 10-20 min bus ride. Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area is the largest recreation unit in Southwest Los Angeles County, serving some of the most densely populated communities of color in the state. Visitors from throughout the state come to Los Angeles as a tourist destination. As Southern California's population grows, parks remain among the most attractive resources for people at all levels of the socioeconomic ladder. Over two thirds of the entire park is planned for active and passive recreation. Acquisition efforts will not only protect the passive areas of native coastal sage scrub and spectacular view sheds, it will also set the stage for increased equity and access to much needed outdoor recreation improvements.

The southern portion of the park has been established primarily as an active recreation management zone. In 2006, the Conservancy facilitated the purchase of the Inglewood Hills Property pursuant to a grant agreement with the Baldwin Hill Regional Conservation Authority. This acquisition of surface rights for 103 acres increased public land holdings in the Baldwin Hills by 20 percent. Based on the proximity to the existing ball field complex and immediate vehicular accessibility to and from major streets, these lands have the greatest potential for the development of active recreation facilities. Due to existing oil production activities taking place on these parcels, facilities that expand or enhance the ball field complex should be planned with the expectation that development will take place in phases when the public land is deemed accessible, properly rehabilitated, and suitable for improvement.

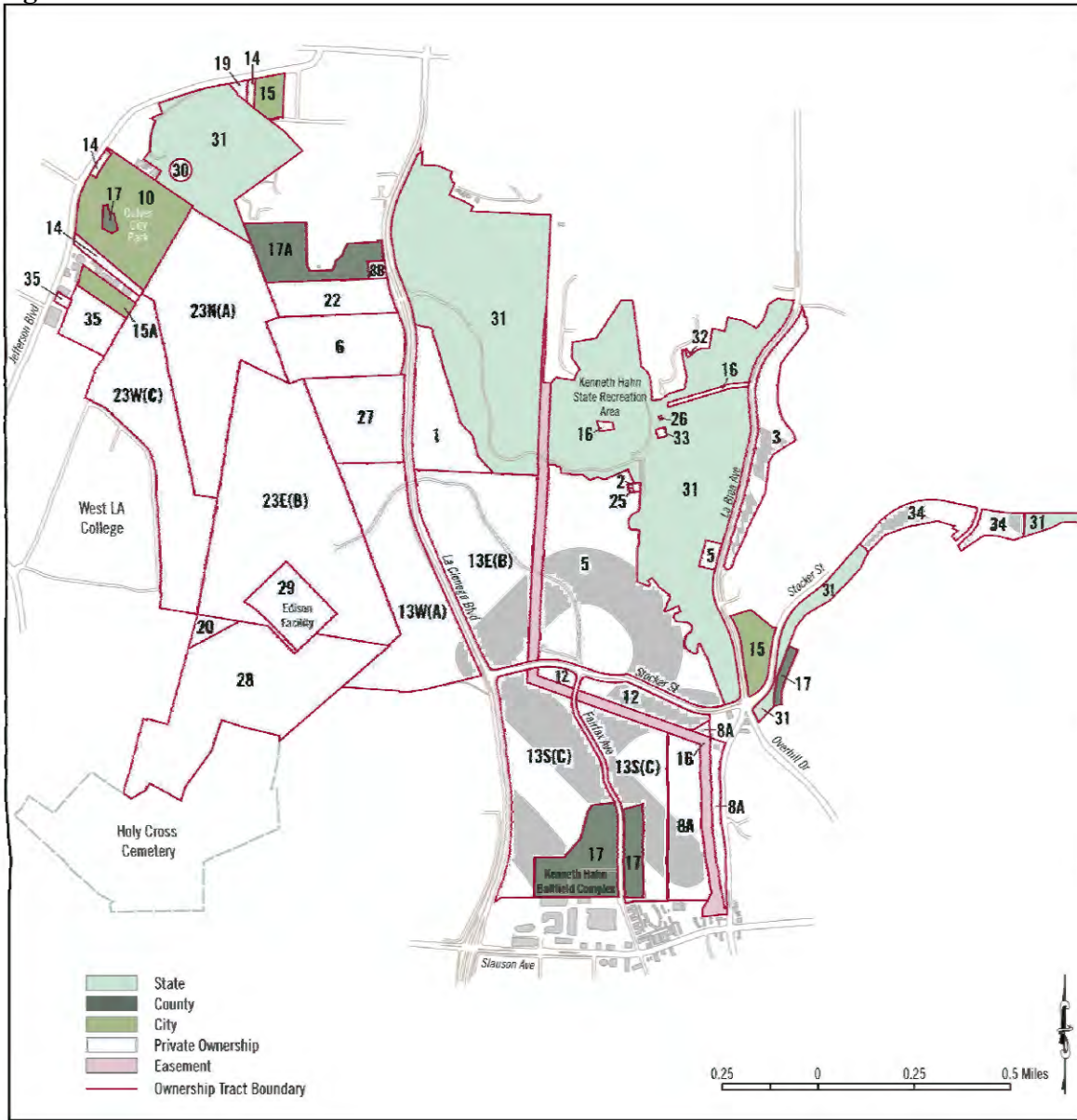
## **Conservation Matrix**

Conservation priorities are identified through the use of a matrix developed for analysis of the parcels that are targeted for purchase (see figure 3). The five property parcels with the highest point total on the conservation matrix are labeled numbers: 23(C), 23(A), 28 and 8(A) on the parcel map (figure 4). Each of these parcels meets vital criteria for prioritization including adjacency to existing publicly owned land or native habitat value. Nearly 140 acres of natural habitat area with existing healthy native coastal sage scrub are included in the priority parcels list.

Figure 3

Property Number	23(C)	23(A)	28	8 (A)	1
<b>Point Criteria</b>					
<b>Development Threat (5 pts)</b>					
Immediate (4 pts)	0	0	0	0	0
Long-term (1 pt)	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Improvement Potential (4 pts)</b>					
Minimal Mitigation Need (1 pt)	0	0	1	0	0
Few Physical Constraints (1 pt)	1	1	1	0	0
Program Continuity (1 pt)	1	1	1	1	1
Independent Capacity (1 pt)	1	0	1	0	0
<b>Accessibility (3 pts)</b>					
Connectivity to Existing Public Land (2 pts)	2	2	2	2	2
Multi-Transportation Accessible (1 pt)	1	0	1	0	0
<b>Recreation Potential (6 pts)</b>					
Active Recreation (2 pt)	0	0	0	2	2
Passive Recreation (2 pt)	2	2	2	2	2
Educational (2 pt)	2	2	2	0	2
<b>Habitat (6 pts)</b>					
Corridor Potential (2 pt)	2	2	2	0	2
Eco-system Viability (2 pt)	2	2	2	0	0
Evidence of Sensitive Species (2 pt)	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Public Value (2 pts)</b>					
Local Benefit (1 pt)	1	1	1	1	1
Regional Benefit (1 pt)	1	1	1	1	1
<b>POINT TOTALS</b>	17	15	18	10	14

Figure 4



## PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

### ISSUES AND PRIORITIES

The Conservancy has an opportunity to redefine what a park in an urban setting can be, establishing an exciting new model for restoring large expanses of natural open space and creating new park and recreation amenities in the heart of an urban area. With increasing population growth, demands for high-quality outdoor recreation in natural settings have intensified, as has the focus on planning for transformation of post-industrial areas in urban communities into recreational resources.

### Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan

Pursuant to subdivisions (b) and (c) of Section 1 of Chapter 752 of the Statutes of 1999, a master plan has been developed for the expansion of KHSRA. The plan was the result of an extensive two-year public planning process commissioned by California State Parks from 2000-1. Eight community workshops were held from which the conceptual design and park components were derived. The *Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan* was adopted by the Conservancy in September 2002 and provides the conceptual guidelines for the Conservancy to expand on the acquisition and development efforts initiated by the County of Los Angeles and the California State Parks in 1971.

The *Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan* specifies that the park that will result from the Conservancy's efforts will provide "active and passive recreation facilities" and "educational and cultural facilities." Proposed visitor facilities include: two interpretive/education centers, community/art/senior center, amphitheater, sculpture garden, botanical garden, 60 acres of multiple-use fields supporting softball, baseball, soccer and other active recreational uses, golf course with clubhouse/banquet facility, tennis center, skate parks, narrow-gauge train, 15 miles of jogging, bicycling and hiking trails, indoor basketball courts, recreation center/gymnasium, par course, climbing wall, competition-sized swimming pool, restrooms, and parking. Administration and maintenance facilities are also envisioned, including: law enforcement and public safety station, park administrative headquarters, park entrances, trailheads and roads.

Strategies for site improvements in the *Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan* focus on the following: 1) the potential of the park to provide access to recreation and interpretation opportunities for millions of people within a 10-mile radius, 2) the many scenic vista points from which most of the Los Angeles Basin, Pacific Ocean and local canyons and mountains can be viewed, and 3) a balanced environment with sensitive natural habitat restored to improve wildlife connectivity. For the five year plan, key capital improvement projects have been culled from the *Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan* (see figure 5).

The land proposed for site improvements as described in this document are mandated by the Conservancy's mission. The expansion of KHSRA is being approached as a single strategic project with acquisition of parcels and improvement of publically held properties fulfilling steps to the stated goal. The Conservancy's priorities will vary depending on leveraging of resources, project readiness, public demand, and the preservation of specific habitat areas. Each of these factors can take precedent over the other.

**Figure – 5**

<b>Master Plan Project Priorities</b>	<b>Project Location</b>
Habitat Restoration and Trail Creation @ Lloyd Property/Finley Fee	West of La Cienega entrance
Habitat Restoration (Phase I)*	Baldwin Hills parklands
Jefferson Boulevard Streetscape Improvements*	Jefferson Boulevard between Rodeo Road and Duquesne Avenue
Baldwin Hills Parklands Branding and Wayfinding*	Perimeter of parklands
Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook (BHSO) connection to Ballona Creek	BHSO at Ballona Creek
Stocker Corridor Trail and Bikepath*	Stocker Street
Eastern Ridgeline Expansion*	KHSRA
Ballona Corridor Improvements	Ballona Creek
Ballona Creek Outdoor Classroom	Milton Street
Multiple-use Athletic Fields	SE portion of KHSRA
Stocker Street Pedestrian Crossing	Stocker Corridor and Norman Houston Park
Western Gateway /interpretive/community center (below BHSO)*	Stoneview Drive
La Brea Greenbelt Trail Connection	La Brea Avenue
Eastern Gateway at Don Lorenzo Drive Streetscape Improvements*	La Brea Avenue and Don Lorenzo Drive
Ingold Park Connection to Stocker Trail	Stocker Corridor Trail at Ingold Park
KHSRA Trail /Access/ Way finding	Central KHSRA
KHSRA Habitat Restoration & Existing Trail Improvements	Central KHSRA
Pedestrian Access / Shuttle Road cross La Cienega	La Cienega Boulevard at KHSRA
Culver City Park pedestrian and bicycle trail improvements	Culver City Park
Culver City Skate Park (Phase II)*	Culver City Park
Culver City Dog Park (Phase II)	Culver City Park
Sports Complex Improvements	SE portion of KHSRA
* indicates completed or currently being implemented	

## Improving Existing Facilities



KHSRA (319 acres) is managed by the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation and includes large areas of native coastal sage scrub habitat, lawns and landscaped areas, picnic sites, tot lots, basketball court, fishing lake, lotus pond, community center, six restrooms and five miles of trails. The community center has four administrative offices and a small meeting room. The Ball field Complex is located at the southern end of the park and includes baseball diamonds and soccer fields with four restrooms.

Maximizing the public use of existing acreage is imperative. The Conservancy has awarded grants and supported projects for sustainable infrastructure improvements on acres of public land in the KHSRA. The projects will reduce vehicle miles traveled and make KHSRA a convenient destination for visitors approaching from adjacent parks, communities and public transportation stops. The following plans are currently funded and in development:

- Native tree and shrub plantings
- Fitness zones
- Interpretive, directional, and safety signs and exhibits
- Trailheads and kiosk connections to existing paths
- Native habitat propagation and restoration program
- Improved pedestrian entryway at Don Lorenzo
- Perimeter way finding signage
- Baldwin Hills Parkland branding
- La Cienega Bridge entrance enhancements

Other priorities at KHSRA include: upgrades to existing facilities for improved sustainability; expansion of sports facilities; creation of new cultural exhibits; buffering habitat area with transitional landscaping; turf removal to lower maintenance costs; securing recycled water infrastructure; mitigate off-road biking and unleashed pets to recover natural habitat and hydrology; and improving park visitor circulation. As the park expands, these and other future opportunities remain available for the Conservancy to prioritize and implement in collaboration with our partner agencies.

## Public Access

A key element of any urban park is its accessibility to the public. The most common recreation activities in the Baldwin Hills area include walking and jogging and hiking. Throughout the year, visitors take advantage of KHSRA, its footpaths and dozens of scenic viewpoints. There are several excellent opportunities for improving public access through the creation of new pedestrian walkways, bicycle trails and pedestrian bridges over busy streets. The *Baldwin Hills Linkage and Access Study* authorized by the Board in 2004 has yielded recommendations for projects to be considered and prioritized for implementation. Using the *Baldwin Hills Park Master Plan* as a guide, the study team evaluated thirteen linkage points using various criteria, including topography, community character, visibility and image, infrastructure, and jurisdictional issues. In developing the programming matrix for these sites, the design team divided the Study into four distinct areas containing several potential projects. Three primary objectives were identified for each project: to increase public access; to raise the awareness of the larger Baldwin Hills park area; and to provide enhanced recreational amenities. Each project site has been developed as a conceptual plan, complete with placement of directional and interpretive signage, proposed landscaping palettes, and estimated construction costs. These public access site improvements have been incorporated into the regional plans for the parklands and include 11 remaining improvement projects ready for implementation through grants and partnerships with local agencies and non-profit organizations.

Reference: Baldwin Hills Linkage and Access Study

Building on the master plan's goal for increased public access, the Conservancy created a way-finding signage and branding template for the Baldwin Hills Parklands which was implemented in 2011. These signs, located on freeways, major streets and intersections direct the public to the park and its wide range of amenities. During the implementation of the way-finding project, regional stakeholders, including the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority, Culver City, City of Los Angeles, California State Parks, and the Coastal Conservancy, coalesced behind a long-held vision of aligning approximately ten-miles of trails linking the Baldwin Hills with 22-miles of the California Coastal Trail. Under the leadership of the County's Second District, the Conservancy and its partners are poised to create the first regional trail in Southwest Los Angeles County. When completed, the trail will establish a seamless corridor with a strong sense of place that connects upland residents with California's coast and wetlands. Feasibility studies that included public workshops on proposed trail features, alignments, and multi-modal access issues have been completed. Construction documents are being developed for seven segments of trail connecting Stocker Corridor, Reuben Ingold Park, Norman Houston Park, Kenneth Hahn SRA, Stoneview Nature Center, Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook and Culver City Park to the Ballona Creek Bike Path. The planned infrastructure improvements demonstrate regional transportation solutions that reduce carbon emissions and improve public health. The Conservancy has undertaken the implementation of two Park to Playa segments to be completed over the next few years.

Reference: Park to Playa Trail Feasibility Study 2011

## Habitat Restoration

Three plant communities native to Southern California are found in the Baldwin Hills: coastal sage scrub, riparian woodlands and grasslands. Existing healthy natural habitat areas are located on the steep slopes and canyons on the exterior faces of the east and west ridgelines. These existing areas are presently separated, creating habitat islands. Restoring a total of 300 acres to mend habitat fragments can increase re-colonization rates of flora and fauna, thereby improving long-term viability of existing native species. Working in partnership with local education institutions, County and State Parks, the Conservation Corps, non-profits and community volunteers, the Conservancy will focus its efforts on coordinating and funding projects that address preservation of species biodiversity throughout KHSRA.

According to the Biota of the Baldwin Hills Study from 2001, “The intentional and accidental introduction of exotic plant species has permanently changed historic plant communities of Southern California. Several non-native plants that threaten native species are weedy species blown or tracked in as seeds because they are less able to survive in neighboring habitat and are unlikely to adapt to the rapid addition of exotic predators and competitors. Others, such as pampas grass, are very aggressive and pose serious threats to native plants. Removal of non-native plant species must be targeted considering the biology of each species. Although non-natives such as Pampas grass (*Cortaderia jubata* and *C. selloana*) are notoriously invasive and laborious to remove, diligent removal efforts would promote healthier and more abundant coastal scrub plants. Native coastal scrub shrubs such as coyote bush (*Baccharis pilularis*) and bush sunflower (*Encelia californica*) planted along the edges of park landscaping could help to contain non-native landscaping plants.”

Non-native and invasive plant mapping, suppression and eradication are the first phase of the Conservancy’s habitat restoration efforts. The work is time-sensitive and seasonally dependent. Targeted areas include highly visible corridors leading into the park and on the most popular trail sites. All work is currently being coordinated with departments that have jurisdictional control or management responsibilities for their respective properties.

Projects of immediate interest include the Baldwin Hills Scenic Overlook, at the northern tip of the western ridge of the Baldwin Hills, the Stocker Corridor on the eastern end of KHSRA and the East and West La Brea Greenbelts. The habitat on each of these properties was severely degraded prior to acquisition. The Conservancy has begun the process of restoring some of the land at these sites through grants to groups such as the Los Angeles Audubon Society, Northeast Trees, California Conservation Corps, and Los Angeles Infrastructure Academy. Significant visual results have been achieved over the course of the past five-year term. Through the Baldwin Hills Parkland Restoration Project, one program targeted mapping and removal of invasives in high traffic natural areas surrounding trails and picnic areas and included the successful removal of over 450,000 square feet of castor bean in 130 locations. This represents eradication of almost half of the castor bean mapped in the parklands. Larger natural areas will be restored through stewardship

programs and volunteer efforts coordinated by area stakeholders. This ongoing effort will compliment the current improvements managed by State and County Parks and will include the following programs:

- Removal of non-native plant species
- Re-vegetation of degraded areas with native habitat
- Urban forestry
- On-site propagation of native plants
- Development of a weed management plan
- Invasive species GIS mapping
- Creation of California friendly landscape buffers between habitats and pedestrian thoroughfares
- Inventory wildlife and habitat areas
- Involve the public in protecting and restoring natural plant and animal communities

# INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATION

## ISSUES AND PRIORITIES

Providing opportunities for outdoor education and use of the Baldwin Hills and Ballona Creek as living laboratories are among the primary management goals of the Conservancy. The Conservancy can serve as a unique bridge to raise awareness and understanding of how state-directed watershed preservation efforts, including land acquisition, habitat restoration, and water quality enhancement, relate to communities that exist in Los Angeles' urban core. Working with a range of education partners, the Conservancy developed an Environmental Interpretation Initiative (Initiative) focused on serving the needs of area students and teachers beyond the classroom.

The Initiative consists of three elements: 1) Curriculum Development; 2) Research Studies/Needs Assessments; and 3) Capital Improvement Projects.

Curriculum Development: Although several park areas in the Baldwin Hills serve primarily as recreational facilities, they are also potential vehicles for outdoor environmental interpretation. For example, the remaining coastal sage scrub habitat is currently being used effectively by students and teachers from Crenshaw and Dorsey High School as a laboratory for earth science studies under the state's education standards.

Interpretive modules for the Baldwin Hills have been created specifically for elementary, middle school and high school students. Using the outdoors as a teaching station, the Baldwin Hills are available to serve students and teachers in LAUSD Local Districts D, G and I, and Compton, Inglewood and Culver City school districts. Local teachers can facilitate student understanding of statewide environmental concepts and issues, and how they relate to students in the inner-city. The curricula seeks to foster an awareness among students and their teachers that park habitats are dynamic ecosystems, increase knowledge about the impact humans and human behavior have on an urban ecosystem, promote stewardship of the land, and encourage students to make informed decisions about improving the environment. Specific class modules include science investigations, environmental action projects, cross-cultural and literacy activities.

Reference: 2005 Environmental Interpretation Initiative Needs Assessment /Curriculum Guide

Research Studies/Needs Assessments: The Ballona Creek Trail and Bikeway Environmental and Recreational Enhancement Study (December 2003) conducted by the Loyola Marymount University (LMU) research team identified not only interpretive opportunities on Ballona Creek, but also the need for continued analysis and investment. The Initiative has expanded on the LMU Study findings,

exploring what environmental interpretive resources are currently available to youth in the greater Baldwin Hills area, how the existing and future park areas may serve unmet needs, and what kinds of facilities could be developed in concert with interpretive programs and curricula.

Capital Improvement Projects: The Conservancy will continue planning for the types of facilities to accommodate increased park programming. Existing projects, such as the BHSO Greenhouse Program, KHSRA Interpretive Trail Nodes, Native Plant Walk and Wildlife Garden will continue to provide much needed resources for youth to access science in an outdoor natural setting.

Milton Street Park is the latest project in the construction phase with a three year target for completion. The 1.2 acre site located adjacent to Del Rey Middle School and the Ballona Creek was purchased through a matching grant between the BHRCA and the Conservancy. Development of the site has been funded with support from the Coastal Conservancy and the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission. The Conservancy and its partners anticipate the creation of an exemplary model of a multi-benefit amenity within 50-yards of the middle school and an urban waterway that features tangible remnants of riparian ecosystems. Coordination with the school to create sustainable programming at the site to include water quality monitoring, species inventory and documentation of migratory patterns will be among some of the continued work of the Conservancy.

Reference: 2012 Milton Street Park Project Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration

In order to sustain the vision of the Master Plan over time, the Conservancy plans to make strategic, capital investments and solidify its presence physically, either by acquiring an existing structure or targeting a specific new site for development. Future facilities may range from outdoor interpretive sites suitable for large groups, to a “green zone” portal complete with classrooms, exhibition space, administrative offices and parking. Establishing a portal facility that represents the nucleus of stewardship in the Baldwin Hills will provide future generations with the proper platform to continue the evolution of the parklands into a world class destination. The Stoneview Nature Center includes plans for creation of a nature education center with community facilities surrounded by native landscaping, trails, demonstration sites for drought tolerant gardening, bioswales, rainwater capture and other community-driven environmental stewardship programming. The Conservancy has partnered with the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority and County Parks to construct this new low impact development that will showcase best management practices in environmental sustainability.

Reference: 2013 Stoneview Nature Center Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration

## **Natural Resource Stewardship**

Actions of the local communities impact the health of area habitat. Individual practices can affect the health of this refuge. Even with professional led restoration efforts, the viability of creating and sustaining large areas of habitat that provide a home for flora and fauna is dependent upon community involvement. Leadership training efforts will center on issues of habitat connectivity, watershed management and community environmental stewardship. Proposed re-vegetation strategies consider the corridor potential with other natural areas (i.e. Ballona Creek and wetlands) surrounding the park. Volunteer or donated support for operation and maintenance of on-site nurseries can help provide students with learning opportunities while providing native plant stock for on-going restoration and re-vegetation throughout the native habitat areas of the park.

Over the past five years, a Native Plant Walk and Wildlife Garden as well as an Outdoor Interpretive Resource Program (aka Greenhouse Project) have been established at KHSRA and the BHSO respectively. Under a grant agreement with the Conservancy, the LA Audubon Society developed education-based resources to train students and visitors to become docents and leaders for restoration efforts in the parklands. Volunteers from the California Native Plant Society, Target Science Network, and Earthworks Restoration have used the interpretive amenities and restoration sites to recruit local schools and private stakeholders to help maintain the interpretive areas, restore habitat and create signs that will help park users identify native habitat that can be found in the preserved areas of the park. The Conservancy will continue to expand its role and support place-based projects that help define the Baldwin Hills as a premier location for environmental awareness and stewardship.

## **Signage & Kiosks**

Public awareness of the resources available at the park must be improved in order to establish the park as an interactive destination for local schools and regular park users. Uniform public area signage and interpretive kiosks for parkland within the boundaries of the Conservancy would dramatically improve user familiarity with the historical, cultural and environmental context of the region. The board adoption of the Baldwin Hills Park Lands Logo and branding concept was the first step in unifying the park's resources under a common theme. Working in partnership with the County and California State Parks, the Conservancy has developed formats for collaborative signage and kiosks to correspond with visitor destinations and other points of interest throughout the park. A wide range of current and future projects will carry the new templates. The Conservancy will take the leadership role in working with area landowners and operating agencies to use the signage template and branding in various applications including: street banners, way-finding and directional kiosks, mobile and web-based technology, trail heads with linkage to adjacent parks, restoration sites and new capital improvement projects funded by the Conservancy.

## SUMMARY OF FIVE YEAR GOALS AND EXPENDITURES

Program	<u>Objective</u>	Units	Approximate Cost
Acquisition of Open Space	Land conservation	135 Acres	\$13,500,000
Planning and Development	Corridor greening and urban forestry	2 Projects	\$750,000
	Habitat restoration	1 Project	\$500,000
	Sports complex improvements	2 Projects	\$1,250,000
	Pedestrian access infrastructure	2 Projects	\$2,000,000
Interpretation and Education	Resource stewardship & interpretation initiative projects	2 Projects	\$400,000
			<b>\$18,400,000</b>

**Total**



## **BALDWIN HILLS CONSERVANCY**

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### **Memorandum**

**To: Governing Board**

**Fr: Board Development Ad Hoc Committee – Allan Boodnick, Chair**

**Date: September 20, 2013**

**Re: Item 5: Ad Hoc Committee Board Development**

#### **Report:**

The ad hoc Board Development Committee was initiated because a group of past Chairmen recognize a critical component of Board member responsibility is to one another's participation, contributions, compatibility and accomplishments. The establishment of a member driven committee will provide a vehicle to work on a range of objectives over the course of the year. Below please find some of the initial offerings of items for members to engage in.

1. Encourage and assist all members whose terms are expired or soon to be expired to re-apply or get member assistance for re-appointment prior to their termination date.
2. Recruit and pre-screen potential candidates for vacant board positions or for members who do not express an interest in re-applying for appointment.
3. Encourage and assist active members to complete online ethics training every other year and send certification to the BHC office.
4. Encourage and assist active members to complete FPCC form 700 prior to the tax year to avoid penalties.
5. Identify legislator to sponsor legislative changes to BHC statute relative to term extension or other technical amendments.

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### **Memorandum**

**To: Governing Board**

**Fr: David McNeill**

**Date: September 20, 2013**

**Re: Item 6: Executive Officer Report**

#### **Projects Status Report**

Please see the attached updated BHC Local Assistance / Capital Outlay Projects Status Report (Attachment #1).

#### **Fiscal Update**

Please see BHC Summary Expenditure Sheet by Fund (attachment #2) and the BHC Prop 40 & Prop 84 Bond Cash Funds (attachment #3). The reports correspond with the end of month one (1) of the 2013-14 fiscal year.

#### **Legislative Update**

Please see the summary information (attachment #4) on the following state legislative bills: SB 184, SB 4, AB1331 and SB 42

**Baldwin Hills Conservancy**  
**Local Assistance / Capital Outlay Projects Status Report**  
**09/20/13**

<b>Capital Outlay Grantee/Administrator</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>ContractID</b>	<b>Fund Source</b>	<b>Funds Allocated</b>	<b>PROJECT STATUS</b>
California Dept. of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC)	Environmental Monitoring and Soil Management Plan Implementation	BHC11004	Prop 40	\$465,000	<b>DTSC is monitoring the Soil Management Plan on Eastern Ridgeline construction.</b>
Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office	Eastern Ridgeline Development at KHSRA	BHC07012	Prop 40	\$2,971,900	<b>Construction near completion; Opening event 9/20/13; Project closeout late Winter 2013.</b>
City of Los Angeles	Outdoor Improvements at Norman O. Houston Park	BHC11002	Prop 40	\$1,800,000	<b>Pre-construction on sewer connection begins 9/9; bids for all other work due in October; completion expected June 2014.</b>
Generation Water	Baldwin Hills Parklands Habitat Restoration	BHC11000	Prop 84	\$400,000	<b>Project closeout and completion expected September 2013.</b>
City of Culver City	Park to Playa Trail - Design Development of Pedestrian/Bicycle Ramp at Higuera Street	BHC11003	Prop 84	\$60,000	<b>Design contract awarded June 2013; Design completion expected October 2013.</b>
Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA)	Milton Street Park Construction	BHC12000	Prop 84	\$2,000,000	<b>Final plan approvals Fall 2013; expected to go out to bid Winter 2013.</b>
Los Angeles County Dept. of Parks & Recreation	Stoneview Nature Center	BHC 12002	Prop 40	\$5,000,000	<b>Park program planning and site design in-progress; Project completion expected Winter 2015.</b>

**Baldwin Hills Conservancy**  
**Local Assistance / Capital Outlay Projects Status Report**  
**09/20/13**

<b>Capital Outlay Grantee/Administrator</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>ContractID</b>	<b>Fund Source</b>	<b>Funds Allocated</b>	<b>PROJECT STATUS</b>
Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA)	Park to Playa Trail - Stocker Corridor Section	BHC12004	Prop 40	\$1,030,000	Construction documents in review; obtaining permits in Fall 2013; Expected to go out to bid early 2014.

**Baldwin Hills**  
**2012/13 Summary Sheet by Fund**

<u>As of 7/31/2013</u>	<u>PCA #</u>	<u>Original</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Remaining</u> <u>Appropriation</u>	<u>EXP + ENC</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
<b>ELPF - #0140, Support</b>					
2013 Budget Act Item 3835-001-0140	10001	\$ 351,000.00	\$ 351,000.00	\$ 16,977.98	\$ 334,022.02
<b>Prop 40 - #6029, Support</b>					
2013 Budget Act Item 3835-001-6029	10005	\$ 115,000.00	\$ 115,000.00	\$ 7,612.40	\$ 107,387.60
<b>Prop 84 - #6051, Support</b>					
2013 Budget Act Item 3835-001-6051	10009	\$ 101,000.00	\$ 101,000.00	\$ -	\$ 101,000.00
<b>Total Support Balance:</b>					<b>\$ 542,409.62</b>
<b>Prop 40 - #6029, Capital Outlay</b>					
2005 Budget Act Item 3835-301-6029	20003	\$ 8,648,000.00	\$ 8,648,000.00	\$ 2,253,388.19	\$ 6,394,611.81
2004 Budget Act Item 3835-301-6029	20002	\$ 7,200,000.00	\$ 7,200,000.00	\$ 3,817,597.65	\$ 3,382,402.35
2003 Budget Act Item 3835-301-6029	20001	\$ 7,200,000.00	\$ 7,200,000.00	\$ 5,199,999.11	\$ 2,000,000.89
2002 Budget Act Item 3835-301-6029	22000	\$ 15,000,000.00	\$ 15,000,000.00	\$ 14,473,955.70	\$ 526,044.30
<b>Total Prop 40 Balance:</b>					<b>\$ 12,303,059.35</b>
<b>Prop 84 - #6051, Capital Outlay</b>					
2009 Budget Act Item 3835-301-6051	30002	\$ 3,050,000.00	\$ 3,050,000.00	\$ 980,280.00	\$ 2,069,720.00
2008 Budget Act Item 3835-301-6051	30001	\$ 3,050,000.00	\$ 3,050,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,050,000.00
2007 Budget Act Item 3835-301-6051	30000	\$ 3,050,000.00	\$ 3,050,000.00	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 1,050,000.00
<b>Total Prop 40 Balance:</b>					<b>\$ 6,169,720.00</b>
<b>Total Cap Outlay Balance:</b>					<b>\$ 18,472,779.35</b>

**Baldwin Hills Conservancy  
BOND CASH FUNDS**

As of 7/31/2013

2010 SPRING BAB SALE		CASH ALLOCATED	EXPENDITURES	BALANCE
	PROP 40:	\$579,277.00	579,277.00	\$0.00
	PROP 84:	\$829,272.44	740,990.31	\$88,282.13
2010 DECEMBER BAB SALE				
	PROP 40:	\$603,452.18	239,694.32	\$363,757.86
2010 DECEMBER TE SALE				
	PROP 40:	\$60,547.82	0.00	\$60,547.82
2010 SPRING TE SALE				
	PROP 40:	\$1,415,869.68	0.00	\$1,415,869.68
	PROP 84:	\$2,473,145.41	0.00	\$2,473,145.41
2009 OCTOBER TE SALE				
	PROP 40:	\$782,332.87	282,819.23	\$499,513.64
	PROP 84:	\$197,000.00	39,254.99	\$157,745.01
2009 MARCH SALE				
	PROP 40:	\$901,961.01	901,961.01	\$0.00
Total Bond Cash:				\$ 5,058,861.55

**SB 184**

**County-sponsored SB 184 (Committee on Governance and Finance)**, the Senate Local Government Omnibus Bill, which includes a County-sponsored provision to allow the seat on the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Governing Board that is designated for the Los Angeles County Supervisor to be filled by a designee of the Supervisor, was signed by Governor Brown today. This measure becomes effective January 1, 2014.

**SB 4**

**Title:** Oil and Gas: Well Stimulation

**Author:** Pavley

**Summary**

Requires an independent scientific study on well stimulation treatments, including acid well stimulation and hydraulic fracturing treatment. Requires a well operator to record all data on such treatments, and to apply for a permit prior to performing any treatments. Requires the fracturing to be completed by a specified date. Requires prior notification of stimulation. Requires disclosure the treatment fluids. Requires public notice and direct reporting to a web site. Requires a water management plan.

09/11/2013 In ASSEMBLY. Read third time. Passed ASSEMBLY.

09/11/2013 In SENATE. SENATE concurred in ASSEMBLY amendments.

To enrollment in preparation for Governor's desk.

SB 42 and AB 1331  
 Joint Informational Hearing  
 Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee  
 Senate Environmental Quality Committee  
 September 24, 2013  
 Sacramento, CA

**SB 42 (Wolk)**  
**The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality & Flood  
 Protection Act of 2014**  
*\$6.475 billion [incl. recent amendments]*

**Ch. 3: Safe Drinking Water Projects**

- \$2 billion

- \$500m to SWRCB for safe drinking water programs:
  - \$100m for public health emergencies.
  - \$400m for safe water infrastructure.
- \$1.5b for IRWM.
  - Water commission oversight.

**Ch. 4: Water Quality and Watershed Protection  
 Projects - \$2.1 billion**

- \$400m to SWRCB for small community wastewater treatment projects.
- \$600m to the Delta Conservancy for Delta sustainability (ecosystem, sustainability).
- \$500m for state obligations/settlements.
- \$100m for watershed restoration, statewide.
- \$500m to state conservancies.

**Ch. 5: Flood Control and Stormwater Management  
 - \$1.375 billion**

- \$500m to DWR for multi-benefit Central Valley Flood Protection Plan projects.
- \$75m to Res. Agency for SF Bay flood control/wetlands.
- \$375m to SWRCB for stormwater management.
- \$25m to DDC for ag. water runoff management.
- \$400m for Delta levees.

**Ch. 6: Water System Operation Improvements  
 - \$1 billion**

Legislative appropriation to the CA Water Commission

- Calfed Reservoirs (except Shasta).
- Groundwater storage and clean-up
- Conjunctive use and reoperation projects.
- Sediment removal.
- Projects result in a permanent transfer of water rights to CA, per Water Code 1707.
- Recycled water storage projects.

**AB 1331 (WPW Committee)**  
**The Climate Change Response for Clean and  
 Safe Drinking Water Act of 2014**  
*\$6.5 billion [including recent amendments]*

**Ch. 5: Water Quality and Clean and Safe Drinking  
 Water - \$1 billion**

- At least \$100m for small community wastewater treatment projects.
- Up to \$250m for stormwater projects.
- \$100m for public health emergencies.
- \$400m for safe water infrastructure.
- \$250m for improving groundwater quality.

**Ch. 6: Protecting Rivers, Lakes, Streams, and  
 Watersheds - \$1.5 billion**

- \$500m for state obligations/settlements.
- \$1b for watershed restoration, statewide.
- \$200m for state conservancies.

**Ch. 7: Climate Change Preparedness for Regional  
 Water Security - \$1.5 billion**

- \$1b for IRWM.
- Up to \$250m for water conservation.
- \$500m for recycled water projects.

**Ch. 8: Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Sustainability  
 - \$1 billion**

- Ecosystem, levees, sustainability.

**Ch. 9: Water Storage for Climate Change - \$1.5 billion**  
 Continuous appropriation to the CA Water Commission

- Calfed Reservoirs (except Shasta).
- Groundwater storage and clean-up.
- Conjunctive use and re-op projects.
- Local/regional surface storage projects.
- Sediment removal.