

TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Preliminary Draft Conservation Planning Parameters Western Riverside County MSHCP

MARCH 9, 2000

I. INTRODUCTION

This Technical Memorandum presents a summary of the information developed by the MSHCP Subarea Working Groups at four meetings held on February 9, February 16, February 24 and March 2, 2000. The purpose of convening the Working Groups was to develop specific recommendations regarding areas being considered for conservation under the MSHCP for each Subarea. With this Memorandum, recommendations developed by the Subarea Working Groups are being forwarded to the full MSHCP Advisory Committee for their consideration.

The Subarea Working Groups focused on conservation planning parameters within four geographic subareas defined for the 1.26 million-acre MSHCP study area. The subareas are depicted in the attached EXHIBIT 1 and include the northwest, northeast, southwest and southeast quadrants of the MSHCP study area. The subarea boundaries were drawn based on existing jurisdictional boundaries, such as County Area Plan and city boundaries, and are not intended to be biologically based boundaries for conservation planning purposes.

Within each subarea, conservation planning units have been defined that will become the focus of more detailed analysis during joint MSHCP/General Plan update policy subcommittee meetings scheduled for the months of March and April 2000. This Technical Memorandum presents preliminary species information and conservation planning parameters for each of the conservation planning units defined during the MSHCP Subarea Working Group meetings. This information will be expanded upon during the policy subcommittee meetings with discussions on how to achieve conservation planning goals within each of the conservation planning units in the context of the General Plan update and CETAP efforts. In this way, the three major components of the RCIP will proceed in an integrated fashion.

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As part of the development of conservation planning parameters for the conservation planning units discussed during the MSHCP Subarea Working Groups, target acreage ranges for conservation within conservation planning units were developed. It should be noted that the conservation planning units discussed at the Subarea Working Groups are generally much larger than the target acreage ranges for conservation. Providing target acreage ranges within larger conservation planning units provides for flexibility in the conservation planning process. The target acreage ranges for the conservation planning units as described in this Technical Memorandum are at the higher-end conservation ranges described in the August 9 Draft Proposal for the MSHCP which was considered by the MSHCP Advisory Committee. This approach is consistent with the Planning Agreement which calls for conservation of the maximum number of species as part of the MSHCP. The wildlife agencies' response to the August 9 Draft Proposal stated that species conservation would be better achieved at the higher end of the range.

The conservation planning units considered by the Working Groups and summarized in this Technical Memorandum represent primarily areas outside existing reserves that were deemed desirable for conservation in the August 9 Draft Proposal for the MSHCP. Conservation to be achieved within those areas would be combined with the existing reserves to assemble the overall MSHCP reserve. The relationship of the existing reserves to the conservation planning units described in this Technical Memorandum are generally depicted in EXHIBIT 2.

The acreage ranges shown in EXHIBIT 2 and presented in the text of this document reflect additional conservation that would be desirable to achieve the goals of the MSHCP within each of the identified conservation planning units. As discussed in the August 9 "Draft Proposal" and in the Subarea Working Group sessions, conservation may be achieved through a variety of mechanisms ranging from outright acquisition of land, to conservation easements, to policies relating to wetlands avoidance, slope protection, or watershed management or other factors. Within the acreage ranges shown on EXHIBIT 2, it is anticipated that conservation will be achieved through these various mechanisms. Identification of mechanisms specific to various conservation planning units will be a focus of the MSHCP/General Plan update policy subcommittee meetings.

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Within certain of the conservation planning units shown on EXHIBIT 2, a target acreage range is not presented and a designation such as slopes or link is shown. Explanations for these designations are shown below:

Slopes (includes La Sierra Hills, Norco Hills, Jurupa Hills, Lakeview Mountains, Double Butte): In these locations, it is assumed that conservation goals will essentially be entirely achieved through application of appropriate slope protection policies.

Link (includes Jurupa Hills to Santa Ana River, Sycamore Canyon to Santa Ana river, Sycamore Canyon to Box Springs, Salt Creek): These locations present highly constrained areas where the focus of MSHCP conservation will be to provide the best connection feasible given existing land use constraints.

Satellite (includes satellite reserves for Delhi fly in the Mira Loma area and satellite reserves for narrow endemics south of Scott Road): These locations have not been specifically defined and acreages cannot be provided. Satellite reserves are anticipated to be small.

Complete (includes March ARB and Santa Margarita River): These locations are assumed to be already conserved. Conservation within March ARB is being achieved through the land use planning process currently underway. The Santa Margarita River west of I-15 is included within the existing SDSU reserve.

Easements (includes Tenaja Corridor): It is assumed appropriate conservation will occur in this area through the use of conservation easements.

As discussed in the Working Group sessions, within both the existing reserves and areas to be conserved within the conservation planning units, appropriate assurances would need to be provided to satisfy the regulatory requirements of Section 10(a) of the federal Endangered Species Act and state NCCP requirements. A variety of mechanisms are available to determine the level of conservation to be achieved and provide the necessary assurances, and mechanisms may vary among the various geographic areas within the MSHCP study area. While the Working Groups considered these issues, detailed discussions and recommendations will be developed in the upcoming joint MSHCP/General Plan update policy subcommittee meetings

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and in the MSHCP funding and implementation subcommittee.

The discussion below presents a brief summary of the species presence and conservation planning parameters within the conservation planning units developed and considered as part of the MSHCP Subarea Working Groups. Additional information regarding biological issues and conservation planning parameters will be developed as part of the conservation analysis for the MSHCP. The discussion is presented by subarea and conservation planning units are identified by subarea (*e.g.*, S1, S2, S3, S4) and by letter code and name (*e.g.*, S1-A - Santa Ana River/Prado Basin).

II. SUBAREA 1 — NORTHWEST QUADRANT

A. S1-A Santa Ana River / Prado Basin

1. Species Presence

Birds:

Prado Basin - Cooper's hawk (breeding), American bittern, yellow-billed cuckoo (breeding), yellow warbler, southwestern willow flycatcher, horned lark, peregrine falcon, bald eagle (wintering), yellow-breasted chat, black-crowned night heron (rookery), double-crested cormorant (rookery), downy woodpecker, white-faced ibis (rookery), tree swallow (breeding), least Bell's vireo.

Santa Ana River - yellow-billed cuckoo (summer), yellow warbler, downy woodpecker, yellow-breasted chat, southwestern willow flycatcher (potential), tree swallow (breeding), least Bell's vireo.

Mammals - coyote, bobcat, black-tailed jackrabbit, brush rabbit, desert woodrat, long-tailed weasel, San Diego pocket mouse, Los Angeles pocket mouse, California pocket mouse (potential), mountain lion (potential), southern grasshopper mouse, badger (potential).

Herptiles (amphibians and reptiles) - glossy snake, red-sided garter snake,

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red-legged frog (historic), pond turtle, banded gecko, spadefoot toad, two-striped garter snake, red-diamond rattlesnake, rosy boa, legless lizard, orange-throated whiptail.

, **Plants** - slender-horned spineflower, many stemmed dudleya. Santa Ana River woollystar, California muhly.

, **Fish** - arroyo chub, Santa Ana sucker, Pacific speckled dace.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

, Focus on existing conservation areas (ACOE, County Parks, CDFG) and management coordination among entities including SAWPA.

, Seek opportunities for additional conservation of 500 – 850 acres within floodplain area through a variety of mechanisms.

, Coordinate with CETAP process regarding substantial roadway improvements anticipated in this area (SR-60, I-15, SR-71, SR-91, Market Street, Van Buren Blvd., Hamner Avenue, River Road, Schleisman Road/Arlington Road, Metrolink improvements).

, Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of Best Management Practices (BMP)/watershed protection policies to achieve MSHCP goals (water quality, erosion and sedimentation, maintain hydrologic regime, exotics eradication and control).

, Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of wetland avoidance/ conservation policies.

, Consider public access – Santa Ana River Trail (ocean to mountains).

B. S1-B Temescal Wash/Chino Hills Linkage

Temescal Wash

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1. Species Presence

- , **Birds** - cactus wren, California gnatcatcher, rufous-crowned sparrow, yellow warbler, southwestern willow flycatcher (?), yellow-breasted chat, least Bell's vireo, Cooper's hawk (within wooded areas), long-eared owl (?).
- , **Mammals** - Stephens' kangaroo rat, black-tailed jackrabbit, San Diego pocket mouse, desert woodrat, Los Angeles pocket mouse, bobcat, coyote, mountain lion.
- , **Herptiles** - leopard lizard, legless lizard, ringneck snake, orange-throated whiptail, granite spiny lizard, red-diamond rattlesnake, rosy boa, San Diego horned lizard.
- , **Plants** - long spined spineflower, many stemmed dudleya, California muhly, Coulter's matilija poppy.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Recognize importance of Santa Ana River to facilitate linkage between San Bernardino Mountains, Santa Ana Mountains, Chino Hills.
- , See opportunities for conservation of 1,100 – 1,800 acres including both wetland and adjacent upland habitats.
- , Strive to maintain a continuous linkage from Glen Ivy to Santa Ana River, recognizing constraints north of Indian Avenue.
- , Consider relationship of EMWD reclaimed water discharge with respect to Collier marsh.
- , Coordinate with CETAP process regarding roadway improvements including I-15, Cajalco Road, Temescal Canyon Road.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of BMPs/watershed protection policies.

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- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of wetland avoidance/conservation policies.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of post-extraction reclamation activities.

Linkage to Chino Hills

1. Species Presence

- , **Birds** - golden eagle (nest sites), least Bell's vireo (Chino Creek);
- , **Mammals** -
- , **Herptiles** - pond turtle, banded gecko, spadefoot toad, granite spiny lizard, two-striped garter snake, red-diamond rattlesnake, rosy boa, San Diego horned lizard, orange-throated whiptail;
- , **Plants** - California black walnut.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Current focus for studies of wildlife movement is Coal Canyon in Orange County.
- , Consider linkage opportunities in MSHCP study area east of SR-71.
- , Consider habitat conservation opportunities between northern boundary of Cleveland National Forest and Santa Ana River/Prado Basin; habitat blocks may be discontinuous.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of mountainous/slope policies to achieve conservation objectives.

C. S1-C Bedford Canyon Linkage

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1. Species Presence

- , **Mammals** - coyote
- , **Herptiles** - San Diego horned lizard, spiny lizard, pond turtle, spadefoot toad, red-diamond rattlesnake, legless lizard, orange-throated whiptail

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Consider use of Area Plan policies to maintain opportunities for wildlife movement (more common mammals).

D. S1-D Gavilan Hills / Gavilan Plateau

1. Species Presence

- , **Birds** - Bell's sage sparrow, rufous-crowned sparrow.
- , **Mammals** - Stephens' kangaroo rat, black-tailed jackrabbit, San Diego pocket mouse, desert woodrat, bobcat, badger (?), southern grasshopper mouse, coyote, bobcat, mountain lion.
- , **Herptiles** - arroyo southwestern toad (?), orange-throated whiptail, ringneck snake, legless lizard, long-nosed leopard lizard, San Diego horned lizard, rosy boa, red-diamond rattlesnake, two-striped garter snake, granite spiny lizard, spadefoot toad.
- , **Invertebrates** - quino checkerspot butterfly,
- , **Plants** - Munz's onion, Davidson's saltscale, rainbow manzanita, Payson's jewelflower, peninsular spineflower, Parry's spineflower, long-spine spineflower, small-flowered morning glory, many-stemmed dudleya, smooth tarplant, California muhly, little mousetail, Engelmann oak, Coulter's matilija poppy.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

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- , Focus on conservation (2,600 – 3,900 acres) linking Harford Springs Park, Steele Peak, North Peak; conservation may be achieved through a variety of mechanisms.
- , Focus on policies to achieve conservation in linkage areas easterly to Motte/Rimrock.
- , Coordinate with USFWS quino recovery team on importance of this area for quino conservation.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of policies for narrow endemics avoidance and conservation.
- , Coordinate with CETAP process regarding road improvements including realignment of Gavilan Road, Post Road, and Old Elsinore Road.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of mountainous/slope policies.

E. S1-E La Sierra Hills

1. Species Presence

(Not discussed during Subarea Working Groups)

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Focus on achievement of conservation objectives protection through slope policies.
- , Focus on connections to Lake Mathews reserve to minimize edge/fragmentation.
- , Consider opportunities for joint management with Lake Mathews reserve.
- , Coordinate with CETAP process regarding roadway improvements, including potential realignment of Cajalco Road, and Gavilan Road/Lake Mathews Road.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of mountainous/slope policies to achieve conservation objectives.

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F. S1-F Norco Hills

1. Species Presence

(Not discussed during Subarea Working Groups)

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Focus on achievement of conservation objectives through slope protection policies.
- , Consider linkage opportunities to Santa Ana River.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of mountainous/slope policies to achieve conservation objectives.

G. S1-G Jurupa Hills

1. Species Presence

(Not discussed during Subarea Working Groups)

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Focus on achievement of conservation objectives through slope protection policies.
- , Evaluate compatibility of existing light industrial/public facilities designation in Jurupa Hills in context of conservation objectives (develop post-use policies if possible).
- , Consider linkage opportunities to Santa Ana River (possibly in San Bernardino County).
- , Consider linkage opportunities to other upland areas in San Bernardino County.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of mountainous/slope policies to

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achieve conservation objectives.

H. S1-H Satellite Reserves for Delhi Fly

1. Species Presence

, Delhi sands flower-loving fly

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

, Focus on policies to identify satellite reserves for Delhi fly.

, Coordinate with USFWS Delhi fly recovery plan regarding conservation and linkage issues.

, Coordinate with other ongoing fly conservation efforts in San Bernardino County (cities, SCE, etc.).

I. S1-I Jurupa Hills to Santa Ana River Connection

1. Species Presence

, Focus is wildlife movement.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

, Strive to provide a linkage in the context of existing land use constraints.

J. S1-J Sycamore Canyon to Santa Ana River Connection

1. Species Presence

, Focus is wildlife movement.

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2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Explore options within Tesquesquite Arroyo and Springbrook Wash via Box Springs reserve.

III. SUBAREA 2 — NORTHEAST QUADRANT

A. S2-A Badlands/Potrero Core

1. Species Presence

- , **Birds** - golden eagle, cactus wren, sage sparrow, loggerhead shrike, rufous-crowned sparrow.
- , **Mammals** - badger, black-tailed jackrabbit, bobcat, coyote, desert woodrat, long-tailed weasel, Los Angeles pocket mouse, San Diego pocket mouse, Stephens' kangaroo rat, southern grasshopper mouse (potential), San Bernardino kangaroo rat (potential), mountain lion (potential), California pocket mouse (potential), brush rabbit (potential).

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- , **Herptiles** - spadefoot toad, legless lizard, rosy boa, red-diamond rattlesnake, banded gecko, ringneck snake, San Diego horned lizard, arroyo toad, granite spiny lizard, orange-throated whiptail.
- , **Plants** - Parry's spineflower, smooth tarplant.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Strive to conserve 23,000 – 36,000 acres in addition to existing conservation opportunities within Norton Younglove reserve/DeAnza Cycle Park.
- , Incorporate conservation and linkage strategies for San Timoteo Canyon and Reche Canyon into overall core design, including linkages to San Bernardino County.
- , Consider San Jacinto fault system as a natural barrier between development and natural open space/habitat preserves.
- , Evaluate relationship of Oak Valley conservation to overall core design.
- , Coordinate with CETAP process regarding roadway improvements including SR-60, Gilman Springs Road, San Timoteo Canyon Road, Redlands Boulevard.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of mountainous/slope policies to achieve conservation objectives.

B. S2-B Little San Gorgonio Creek

1. Species Presence

- , **Birds** - Cooper's hawk
- , **Mammals** - black-tailed jackrabbit, coyote, long-tailed weasel, badger (potential), bobcat (potential), brush rabbit (potential), California pocket mouse (potential), desert woodrat (potential), Los Angeles pocket mouse (potential), mountain lion (potential), San Diego pocket mouse (potential), southern grasshopper mouse (potential), Stephens' kangaroo rat (potential).

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- , **Herptiles** - spadefoot toad, red-diamond rattlesnake, banded gecko, San Diego horned lizard, orange-throated whiptail.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Strive for continuous linkage from Badlands/Potrero core to national forest, through a combination of conservation (400– 700 acres) and application of policies.
- , Coordinate with CETAP process regarding roadway improvements including I-10.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of wetlands avoidance/conservation policies.

C. **S2-C Banning/Idyllwild Highway**

1. Species Presence

- , **Birds** - mountain quail
- , **Mammals** - badger, black-tailed jackrabbbit, brush rabbit, coyote, desert woodrat, long-tailed weasel, Los Angeles pocket mouse, San Diego pocket mouse, southern grasshopper mouse (potential), mountain lion (potential), California pocket mouse (potential), bobcat (potential).
- , **Herptiles** - spadefoot toad, legless lizard, rosy boa, red-diamond rattlesnake, banded gecko, ringneck snake, San Diego horned lizard, granite spiny lizard, orange-throated whiptail, San Bernardino mountain kingsnake, mountain yellow-legged frog, two-striped garter snake, sage brush lizard, granite night lizard, leopard lizard, glossy snake.

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2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Strive for continuous linkage between northern and southern national forest units recognizing other opportunities may exist outside MSHCP study area toward Cabazon.
- , Seek conservation in the range of 1,200 – 2,000 acres.
- , Coordinate with CETAP process regarding roadway improvements including I-10.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of mountainous/slope policies to achieve conservation objectives.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of wetlands avoidance/conservation policies.

D. S2-D March ARB

1. Species Presence

- , **Birds** - horned lark, burrowing owl, least Bell's vireo
- , **Mammals** - black-tailed jackrabbit, bobcat, coyote, desert woodrat, Los Angeles pocket mouse, San Diego pocket mouse, southern grasshopper mouse, Stephens' kangaroo rat, badger (potential), brush rabbit (potential), long-tailed weasel (potential).
- , **Herptiles** - spadefoot toad, red-diamond rattlesnake, San Diego horned lizard.
- , **Plants** - little mousetail

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2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Coordinate conservation strategies with existing land use and conservation plans per March ARB JPA, County, cities, USFWS.
- , Coordinate conservation design with Sycamore Canyon to minimize edge/fragmentation.

E. S2-E San Jacinto River Middle Reach

1. Species Presence

- , **Birds** - mountain plover (winter), ferruginous hawk, horned lark, burrowing owl (?).
- , **Mammals** - black-tailed jackrabbit, brush rabbit, coyote, desert woodrat, Stephens' kangaroo rat, badger (potential), bobcat, California pocket mouse, long-tailed weasel, Los Angeles pocket mouse, mountain lion, San Diego pocket mouse, southern grasshopper mouse.
- , **Herptiles** - San Diego horned lizard, leopard lizard, arroyo southwestern toad, granite spiny lizard, orange-throated whiptail, pond turtle, glossy snake.
- , **Plants** - San Jacinto Valley crownscale, Parish's brittlescale, Davidson's saltscale, thread-leaved brodiaea, smooth tarplant, Coulter's goldfields, spreading navarretia, Wright's trichicoronis.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Coordinate with ongoing permitting process for San Jacinto River project (RCFCWD) and determine potential additional conservation requirements for MSHCP species.
- , Seek conservation in the range of 1,500 – 2,300 acres.
- , Consider particular requirements of alkali system for species conservation in this

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reach, particularly narrow endemics.

- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of wetlands avoidance/conservation policies.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of BMPs/watershed protection policies.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of narrow endemics avoidance/conservation policies.

F. S2-F Mystic Lake/Link to Badlands

1. Species Presence

- , **Birds** - tricolored blackbird, short-eared owl, peregrine falcon, prairie falcon, American bittern, cactus wren, mountain plover, black-crowned night heron, white-faced ibis (breeding), merlin, double-crested cormorant, loggerhead shrike, northern harrier.
- , **Mammals** - badger, black-tailed jackrabbit, coyote, desert woodrat, Los Angeles pocket mouse, San Diego pocket mouse, Stephens' kangaroo rat, bobcat (potential), brush rabbit (potential), California pocket mouse (potential), long-tailed weasel (potential), mountain lion (potential), southern grasshopper mouse.
- , **Herptiles** - San Diego horned lizard
- , **Plants** - San Jacinto Valley crownscale, Parish's brittlescale, smooth tarplant, Coulter's goldfields, Wright's trichocoronis

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2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Seek conservation in the range of 1,300 – 2,100 acres.
- , Coordinate conservation design with Lake Perris/San Jacinto Wildlife Area to minimize edge/fragmentation.
- , Provide appropriate linkage to Badlands/Potrero core including consideration of Gilman Springs Road.
- , Coordinate with CETAP process regarding confirmation of status of Davis Road.
- , Consider existing geologic hazards that may contribute to overall conservation goals.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of wetlands avoidance/conservation policies.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of narrow endemics avoidance/conservation policies.

G. **S2-G Lakeview Mountains**

1. Species Presence

- , **Birds** - ferruginous hawk, cactus wren, horned lark, burrowing owl, merlin, turkey vulture.
- , **Mammals** - badger, black-tailed jackrabbit, bobcat, brush rabbit, coyote, San Diego pocket mouse, Stephens' kangaroo rat, California pocket mouse (potential), desert woodrat (potential), long-tailed weasel (potential), Los Angeles pocket mouse (potential), mountain lion (potential), southern grasshopper mouse (potential).

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- , **Herptiles** - rosy boa, San Diego horned lizard, granite spiny lizard, orange-throated whiptail.
- , **Plants** - Parry's spineflower

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Focus on slope protection policies to achieve conservation objectives.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of mountainous/slope policies to achieve conservation objectives.

H. S2-H Sycamore Canyon to Box Springs Linkage

1. Species Presence

- , Focus is wildlife movement.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Incorporate existing park and UCR Box Springs lands into linkage to the extent feasible.
- , Evaluate feasibility/design objectives for crossings at Central Avenue and I-215/SR-60. Also consider conservation opportunities at railroad tracks.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of mountainous/slope policies to achieve conservation objectives.

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III. SUBAREA 3 — SOUTHWEST QUADRANT

A. S3-A Estelle Mountain/Meadowbrook

1. Species Presence

- , **Birds** - California gnatcatcher, Bell's sage sparrow, yellow warbler, yellow-breasted chat, downy woodpecker, least Bell's vireo, grasshopper sparrow, Bell's sage sparrow, rufous-crowned sparrow.
- , **Mammals** - Stephens' kangaroo rat, black-tailed jackrabbit, San Diego pocket mouse, desert woodrat, bobcat, badger, southern grasshopper mouse, brush rabbit, coyote, mountain lion;
- , **Herptiles** - spiny lizard, rosy boa, spadefoot toad, San Diego horned lizard, red-diamond rattlesnake, orange-throated whiptail;
- , **Plants** - Munz's onion, Parry's spineflower, long-spined spineflower, many-stemmed dudleya, California spineflower.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Focus on Estelle Mountain/North Peak/BLM existing reserve lands as major building blocks.
- , Seek to achieve 2,000 – 3,100 acres in conservation.
- , Consider long-term status of El Sobrante landfill (mitigation for landfill activities).
- , This area is critical for the California gnatcatcher and additional conservation in this area is essential to achieve MSHCP conservation goals for this species.
- , Coordinate with CETAP process regarding any proposals with respect to Estelle Mountain Road.

B. S3-B Indian Canyon Linkage

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1. Species Presence

- , **Birds** - mountain quail (migrating), several species of raptors.
- , **Mammals** - coyote, bobcat, mountain lion (potential), mule deer, black-tailed jackrabbit, San Diego pocket mouse, desert woodrat.
- , **Herptiles** - spadefoot toad, orange-throated whiptail.
- , **Plants** - Munz's onion, peninsular spineflower.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , The key linkage between Lake Mathews/Estelle Mountain/Cleveland National Forest – focus is maintenance of wildlife movement.
- , Specify design criteria for this linkage including I-15 undercrossing and exit and entrance points.
- , Consider opportunities for 250 – 400 acres of conservation in this area.
- , Coordinate with CETAP process regarding roadway improvements including I-15 and Temescal Canyon Road.

C. **S3-C Alberhill Area**

1. Species Presence

- , **Birds** - Bell's sage sparrow, rufous-crowned sparrow, California gnatcatcher.
- , **Mammals** - Stephens' kangaroo rat, black-tailed jackrabbit, San Diego pocket mouse, desert woodrat, bobcat, badger, southern grasshopper mouse, coyote, bobcat, mountain lion.
- , **Herptiles** - arroyo southwestern toad, orange-throated whiptail, ringneck snake, legless lizard, long-nosed leopard lizard, San Diego honed lizard, rosy boa, red-diamond rattlesnake, two-striped gartersnake, granite spiny lizard,

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spadefoot toad.

- , **Invertebrates** - quino checkerspot butterfly
- , **Plants** - Munz's onion, San Diego ambrosia, San Jacinto Valley crownscale, long-spined spineflower, many-stemmed dudleya, Coulter's goldfields.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Seek to achieve 900 – 1,500 acres in conservation.
- , Only major California gnatcatcher location west of I-15 that provides protection for catastrophic/ stochastic events such as fire with I-15 as a possible fire barrier.
- , Coordinate with CETAP process regarding roadway improvements including Nichols Road, Lake Street, SR-74 bypass.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee for consideration of avoidance and conservation of narrow endemics.

D. **S3-D Sedco Hills/Wildomar**

1. Species Presence

- , **Birds** - Bell's sage sparrow, rufous-crowned sparrow, California gnatcatcher, grasshopper sparrow, golden eagle (nest sites), northern harrier, loggerhead shrike, white-faced ibis.
- , **Mammals** - Stephens' kangaroo rat, black-tailed jackrabbit, San Diego pocket mouse, desert woodrat, bobcat, badger (?), southern grasshopper mouse.
- , **Herptiles** - California newt, San Diego horned lizard, spadefoot toad, red-diamond rattlesnake, orange-throated whiptail.
- , **Invertebrates** - quino checkerspot butterfly, Riverside fairy shrimp.
- , **Plants** - Rainbow manzanita, long-spined spineflower

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2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Seek to achieve 2,600 – 4,000 acres in conservation.
- , Recognize that conservation may not be continuous but minimize breaks where feasible.
- , This area is critical for the California gnatcatcher and additional conservation in this area is essential to achieve MSHCP conservation goals for this species.
- , Coordinate with CETAP process regarding roadway improvements including I-15/Railroad Canyon interchange, I-215, Bundy Canyon Road/Scott Road, Clinton Keith Road.

E. S3-E Murrieta Creek

1. Species Presence

- , **Birds** - yellow warbler, yellow-breasted chat, downy woodpecker, least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher (?), tree swallow (?).
- , **Mammals** - coyote, bobcat, black-tailed jackrabbit, desert woodrat, San Diego pocket mouse, Los Angeles pocket mouse, long-tailed weasel, California pocket mouse.
- , **Herptiles** - newt, red-legged frog, glossy snake, ringneck snake, San Diego horned lizard, red-diamond rattlesnake, spadefoot toad, arroyo southwestern toad (?).

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2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Coordinate conservation efforts with ACOE Murrieta Creek Feasibility Study and existing and planned General Plan policies (Temecula and Murrieta) to achieve conservation objectives.
- , Seek to achieve 300 – 600 acres conservation through a variety of mechanisms.
- , Confirm Cole Canyon linkage.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; BMP/watershed management.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; wetlands avoidance and conservation.

F. **S3-F French Valley Area**

1. Species Presence

- , Not discussed during Subarea Working Groups; focus is wildlife movement, wetland species in creeks; reserve design for California gnatcatcher and quino.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Seek to achieve 1,700 – 2,800 acres conservation focusing on Warm Springs Creek, Tualota Creek, Santa Gertrudis Creek.
- , Consider other potential linkages in French Valley.
- , Incorporate AD-161 HCP.
- , Recognize varying conservation considerations with respect to existing approved Specific Plans and other generalized General Plan land use designations.
- , Coordinate conservation efforts with USFWS quino recovery plan.
- , Coordinate with CETAP process regarding roadway improvements, including

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SR-79, Scott Road, Clinton Keith Road.

- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of BMP/watershed management policies.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of wetlands avoidance/conservation policies.

G. S3-G Temecula Creek

1. Species Presence

- , Focus is wildlife movement, wetland species.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Coordinate conservation efforts with existing and planned General Plan policies (Temecula).
- , Seek to achieve 250 – 350 acres conservation through a variety of mechanisms.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of BMP/watershed management policies.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of wetlands avoidance and conservation policies.

H. S3-H Pechanga Creek

1. Species Presence

- , Focus is wildlife movement, wetland species.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

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- , Coordinate conservation efforts with existing and planned General Plan policies (Temecula).
- , Seek to achieve 50 – 150 acres conservation through a variety of mechanisms.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of BMP/watershed management policies.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of wetlands avoidance and conservation policies.
- , Focus on linkage to Agua Tibia Wilderness.

I. S3-I Santa Margarita River

1. Species Presence

- , Not discussed during Subarea Working Groups; focus is large mammals, wildlife movement.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Achieve conservation goals within existing SDSU reserve.
- , Coordinate conservation efforts with upper Santa Margarita River watershed study.
- , Focus on linkage to Temecula/Murrieta Creeks and to San Diego County.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of BMP/watershed management policies.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of wetlands avoidance and conservation policies.

J. S3-J Tenaja Corridor

1. Species Presence

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- , Not discussed during Subarea Working Groups; focus is large mammals, wildlife movement.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Coordinate conservation planning with TNC efforts.
- , Likely focus for implementation is conservation easements.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of mountainous/slope policies to achieve conservation objectives.

K. S3-K Lake Elsinore

1. Species Presence

- , Focus is water fowl, wetland species.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Seek to achieve 400 – 700 acres conservation through a variety of mechanisms.
- , Coordinate conservation efforts with existing and planned General Plan policies (Lake Elsinore) regarding conservation opportunities south of existing lake.
- , Coordinate conservation planning with water district.
- , Consider conservation opportunities at San Jacinto River discharge to Lake Elsinore.
- , Coordinate with existing efforts regarding maintenance of water quality in Lake Elsinore.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of BMP/watershed management policies.

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- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of wetlands avoidance and conservation policies.

L. S3-L Lower San Jacinto River/Canyon Lake

1. Species Presence

- , Focus is wildlife movement, wetland species.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Seek to achieve 900 – 1,400 acres conservation linking to Kabian Park.
- , Coordinate conservation planning with pending conservation areas.

M. S3-M Lower Warm Springs Creek

1. Species Presence

- , Focus is wildlife movement, wetland species.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Coordinate conservation efforts with existing and planned General Plan policies (Temecula).
- , Strive to achieve 150 – 250 acres conservation through a variety of mechanisms.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of BMP/watershed management policies.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of wetlands avoidance and conservation policies.

N. S3-N Lower Tocalota Creek

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1. Species Presence

, Focus is wildlife movement, wetland species.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

, Coordinate conservation efforts with existing and planned General Plan policies (Temecula).

, Strive to achieve 150 – 250 acres conservation through a variety of mechanisms.

, Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of BMP/watershed management policies.

, Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of wetlands avoidance and conservation policies.

O. **S3-O Scott Road Satellite Reserves**

1. Species Presence

, Focus is narrow endemics.

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2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of narrow endemics avoidance and conservation policies.

IV. SUBAREA 4 — SOUTHEAST QUADRANT

A. S4-A Sage/Aguanga/Wilson Valley/Tule Creek/Vail Lake Creek

1. Species Presence

- , **Birds** - cactus wren (Sage Valley), horned lark, black-crowned night heron, mountain quail (wintering), merlin, sage sparrow, California gnatcatcher, LeConte's thrasher, loggerhead shrike, northern harrier, rufous-crowned sparrow, Swainson's hawk (winter), turkey vulture, white-tailed kite;
- , **Wilson Creek** - yellow warbler, yellow-breasted chat, downy woodpecker, least Bell's vireo, Cooper's hawk, Swainson's thrush.
- , **Mammals** - Aguanga kangaroo rat, badger, black-tailed jackrabbit, bobcat, brush rabbit, coyote, desert woodrat, Los Angeles pocket mouse, mountain lion, San Diego pocket mouse, southern grasshopper mouse, Stephens' kangaroo rat, long-tailed weasel (potential), California pocket mouse (potential).
- , **Herptiles** - orange-throated whiptail, rosy boa, granite spiny lizard, legless lizard, pond turtle, leopard lizard, arroyo southwestern toad, spadefoot toad, sagebrush lizard, granite night lizard, banded gecko, red legged frog(?), ringneck snake, San Diego horned lizard, red-diamond rattlesnake.
- , **Invertebrates** - quino checkerspot butterfly

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- , **Plants** - Nevin's barberry (Vail Lake), Vail Lake ceanothus (Vail Lake), peninsular spineflower (Aguanga, Wilson Valley), long-spined spineflower (Vail Lake), slender-horned spineflower (Vail Lake), many-stemmed dudleya (Vail Lake), Palomar monkeyflower (Vail Lake), Parry's spineflower (Vail Lake/Aguanga).

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Seek to achieve 28,000 – 45,000 acres in conservation with emphasis on large habitat blocks and linkages.
- , Use existing and proposed mitigation banks as building blocks.
- , Consider a combination of large habitat blocks and linkages, possibly interspersed with compatible development.
- , Consider substantial sensitive species presence in Vail Lake area in overall reserve design with conservation in Vail Lake area necessary to achieve MSHCP conservation goals for those species.
- , Conserve functions and values of drainages within this core area.

B. S4-B Upper San Jacinto River/Bautista Creek Confluence

1. Species Presence

- , **Birds** - yellow warbler, southwestern willow flycatcher (?), yellow-breasted chat, least Bell's vireo, long-eared owl.
- , **Mammals** - black-tailed jackrabbit, brush rabbit, coyote, desert woodrat, Los Angeles pocket mouse, San Bernardino kangaroo rat, San Diego pocket mouse, Stephens' kangaroo rat, badger (potential), bobcat (potential), California pocket mouse (potential), long-tailed weasel (potential), mountain lion (potential), southern grasshopper mouse (potential).

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- , **Herptiles** - banded gecko, San Diego horned lizard, arroyo southwestern toad, leopard lizard, granite night lizard, two-striped garter snake, legless lizard, orange-throated whiptail, spadefoot toad, yellow-legged frog.
- , **Plants** - slender horned spineflower

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Coordinate conservation efforts with Hemet and San Jacinto General Plan updates.
- , Seek to achieve 2,200 – 3,400 acres in conservation.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of BMP/watershed management policies.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of wetlands avoidance and conservation policies.

C. **S4-C Cactus Valley/Mica Butte/Diamond Valley Lake Linkage**

1. Species Presence

- , **Birds** - mountain quail (winter migration), sage sparrow, Cooper's hawk, white-tailed kite, golden eagle, loggerhead shrike, northern harrier.
- , **Mammals** - black-tailed jackrabbit, brush rabbit, coyote, Los Angeles pocket mouse, San Diego pocket mouse, Stephens' kangaroo rat, badger (potential), bobcat (potential), California pocket mouse (potential), desert woodrat (potential), long-tailed weasel (potential), mountain lion (potential).

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- , **Herptiles** - banded gecko, ringneck snake, red-diamond rattlesnake, San Diego horned lizard, granite night lizard, rosy boa, granite spiny lizard, orange-throated whiptail, spadefoot toad.
- , **Plants** - Parry's spineflower, Southern California black walnut.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Focus on connections between Diamond Valley Lake Reserve and Sage/Aguanga/Wilson Valley/Tule Creek/Vail Lake core, and connections to National Forest.
- , Incorporate habitat blocks (live-in habitat) in linkage design.
- , Seek to achieve 2,500 – 4,200 acres in conservation.
- , Consider conservation opportunities in Goodheart Canyon and others.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of mountainous/slope policies.

D. S4-D Hemet Vernal Pools

1. Species Presence

- , **Birds** - burrowing owl (?).
- , **Mammals** - badger (potential), black-tailed jackrabbit (potential), coyote (potential), long-tailed weasel (potential), southern grasshopper mouse (potential), Stephens' kangaroo rat (potential).
- , **Herptiles** - orange-throated whiptail.
- , **Plants** - Munz's onion, San Jacinto Valley crownscale (Salt Creek), Parish's brittlescale, Davidson's saltscale, thread-leaved brodiaea (Salt Creek), smooth tarplant (Salt Creek), Coulter's goldfields (Salt Creek), little mousetail (Salt Creek), spreading navarretia, California Orcutt grass (Salt Creek and Skunk Hollow).

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

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- , Seek to achieve 400 – 650 acres conservation within satellite reserves.
- , Consider MWD 40-acre parcel to south for conservation value.
- , Coordinate with CETAP process regarding road improvements including SR-79 widening.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of narrow endemics avoidance and conservation policies.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of watershed management with respect to vernal pools.

E. S4-E Double Butte

1. Species Presence

- , Not discussed during Subarea Working Groups.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

- , Seek to achieve conservation goals through slope protection policies.
- , Consider conservation opportunities at existing closed landfill.
- , Refer to policy subcommittee; consideration of mountainous/slope policies.

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F. S4-F Salt Creek

1. Species Presence

, Focus is narrow endemics.

2. Conservation Planning Parameters

, Consider linkage to Diamond Valley Lake.

, Recognize existing RCFCWD uses.

, Refer to policy subcommittee; narrow endemics avoidance and conservation policies.