



# MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

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

DATE: March 5, 2008

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item XI: Consideration of resolution authorizing (a) entering into an agreement with State Water Resources Control Board for the acquisition of APNs 4457-005-016, 4457-013-052 and 4457-013-053 in Corral Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County, and (b) the delegation of signature authority for said agreement and any amendments thereto.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing (a) entering into an agreement with State Water Resources Control Board for the acquisition of APNs 4457-005-016, 4457-013-052 and 4457-013-053 in Corral Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County, and (b) the delegation of signature authority for said agreement and any amendments thereto

Background: The properties in question are virtually unspoiled habitat located in Corral Canyon north of the City of Malibu and are part of a series of parcels that are being acquired by the MRCA in phases extending from the boundary of Corral Canyon Park north to the public lands contiguous with Malibu Creek State Park. This set of parcels includes several miles of blue line streams as well as a significant portion of the Coastal Slope Trail.

In addition to ensuring the preservation of this high value habitat and protecting the Corral Canyon watershed, it will also guarantee a wildlife corridor from Corral Canyon Park to Malibu Creek State Park. This has been a property of high interest for MRCA staff for quite some time. The owner has been in the process of securing entitlements for the parcels with the intent to develop.

The Trust for Public Land (TPL) was able to reach an agreement with the landowner regarding the sale of these parcels. TPL approached the MRCA about taking title to the property if funding could be secured.

The acquisition of these parcels comprise the second phase of this acquisition project. The first phase was completed on December 31, 2007 and included 320 acres. The second phase includes 116 total acres. Funds provided pursuant to the subject agreement have been approved by the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission and will be provided by the State Water Resources Control Board.

The balance of the funding for this phase of the acquisition will be provided by the California Wildlife Conservation Board.

This action would allow the MRCA to enter into a grant agreement with the California State Water Resources Control Board and would authorize accepting these grant funds under the terms of said grants for the acquisition of the parcels listed herein. It also explicitly delegates signature authority for this agreement to the Executive Officer, the Chief Deputy Executive Officer and Deputy Executive Officer.

Please see attached map for location.