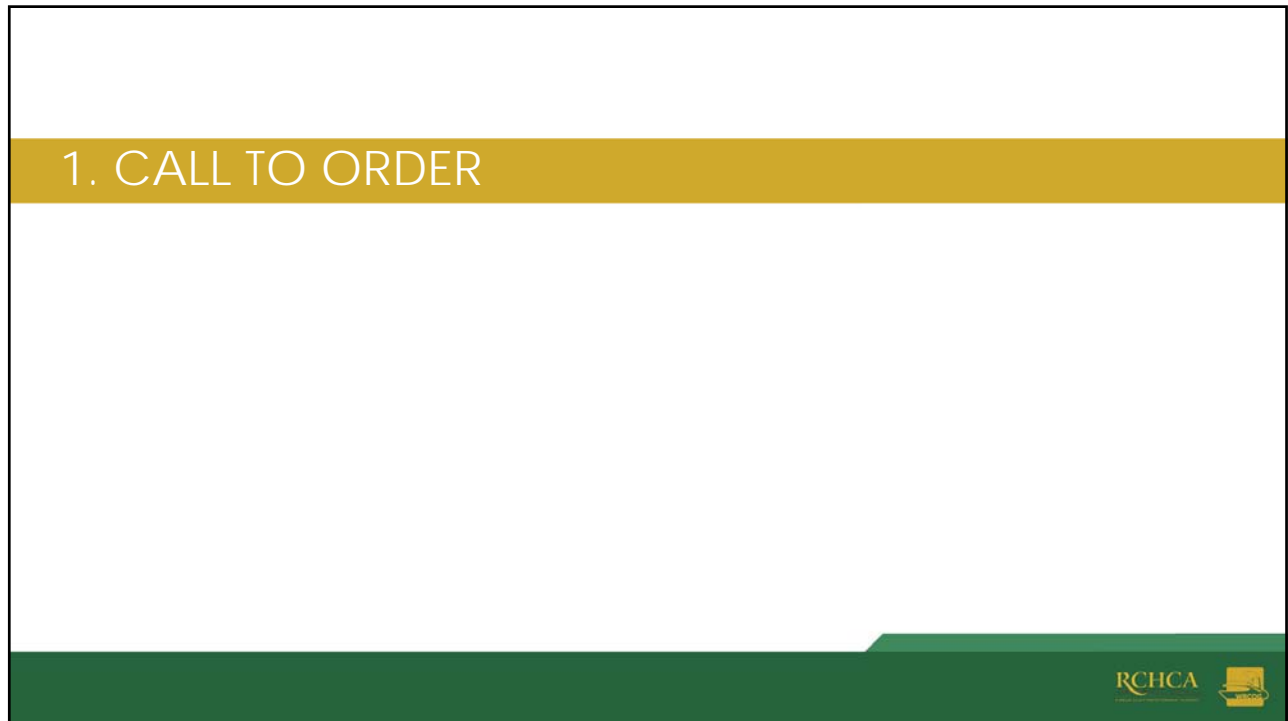


1



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3

3. ROLL CALL

The logo for RHCA (Regional Health Care Association) is located in the bottom right corner of the slide. It consists of the letters "RHCA" in a serif font, followed by a small icon of a building or structure.

4

**RECESS OF THE RCHCA BOARD OF DIRETORS MEETING
TO CONVENE THE MEETING OF RCHCA'S
RIVERSIDE COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP PROJECT**



5


RIVERSIDE COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

Board of Directors Meeting
May 20, 2021



6

1. CALL TO ORDER



7

2. ROLL CALL



8

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Non-agenda items only; three-minute limit per person



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CONSENT AND POLICY CALENDAR (4.A – 4.B)

- 4.A Summary Minutes from the November 19, 2020, Riverside Communities Partnership Project Board of Directors Meeting

Requested Action:

1. Approve the Summary Minutes from the November 19, 2020, Riverside Communities Partnership Project Board of Directors Meeting.

- 4.B Approval of the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Agency Budget

Requested Action:

1. Adopt Resolution Number 2021-01; A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Riverside Communities Partnership Project adopting the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Agency Budget.



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5. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS


6. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

7. NEXT MEETING
Thursday, May 19, 2022


8. ADJOURNMENT



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**RECONVENE THE RCHCA BOARD OF DIRETORS MEETING
AT THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE
RIVERSIDE COMMUNITIES PARTNERSHIP PROJECT
MEETING**



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4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Non-agenda items only; three-minute limit per person



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CONSENT AND POLICY CALENDAR (5.A – 5.G)

5.A Summary Minutes from the February 18, 2021, Board of Directors Meeting

Requested Action:

1. Approve the Summary Minutes from the February 18, 2021, Board of Directors Meeting.

5.B Status of Mitigation Fee Transfers from Member Agencies through March 31, 2021

Requested Action:

1. Receive and file.

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CONSENT AND POLICY CALENDAR (5.A – 5.G)

5.C Financial Report through March 31, 2021

Requested Action:

1. Receive and file.

5.D Status Report on the Attendance Roster

Requested Action:

1. Receive and file.

5.E Status Report Concerning Reserve Management Committees for the Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve and the Lake Matthews Reserve

Requested Action:

1. Receive and file.



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CONSENT AND POLICY CALENDAR (5.A – 5.G)

5.F Status Report Concerning Reserve Management Coordinating Committee

Requested Action:

1. Receive and file.

5.G First Amendment to PSA with CBI

Requested Action:

1. Approve the First Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement between RCHCA and the Conservation Biology Institute for a Range-wide Management and Monitoring Plan for Stephens' Kangaroo Rat.
2. Authorize the General Manager to execute and administer the terms of the Agreement.
3. Authorize the General Manager to execute any future amendments to the Agreement, if necessary, so long as such amendments do not result in an overall monetary increase, and as long as such amendments are approved as to form by legal counsel.



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6.A STATUS UPDATE

STEPHENS' KANGAROO RAT RECOVERY EFFORTS



Princess Hester
WRCOG



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Status Update on SKR Recovery Efforts

- In September 2020, U.S. Fish and Wildlife (USFWS) published a Proposed Rule to Reclassify SKR from **Endangered** to **Threatened** with Section 4(d) Rule.
- USFWS added **technological advances** implemented by the RCHCA to include in the SKR status assessment and final rule.
- The **final rule has been reviewed** by USFWS Carlsbad office management and public comments have been addressed. It has been forwarded to Sacramento for **Spectator (legal) Review**.
- We have been notified that after review and approval, the final rule **will publish by September 30, 2021**, which is the end of the federal Fiscal Year.



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6.A STATUS UPDATE

STEPHENS' KANGAROO RAT RECOVERY EFFORTS

Requested Action:

1. Receive and file.

6.B CONSERVATION APPRECIATION



Princess Hester
WRCOG

2021 Marks RCHCA's 25th Anniversary

- Recognition of conservation pioneers
- May 2021 calendar of virtual events
- Register for the Future Forward May 27th

Achievements in species recovery

- SKR a candidate for Downlisting
- Public Access Plan on conserved lands
- Establishment of the SKR Range-wide Management and Monitoring Plan
- Implementation of adaptive management
- Support of community engagement through volunteerism and education outreach



RCHCA's 25th Anniversary



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

5/5/21	Conservation Conversation: Coordinated Regional Species Management	5/19/21	Conservation Conversation: Habitat Suitability Model for SKR
5/11/21	CogCast: BLM and the Rangewide Management and Monitoring Plan Listen to James Gannon, BLM's Fuels Program Manager for the CA Desert Interagency Fire Program talk about the newly released Range Wide Management and Monitoring Plan for SKR	5/20/21	Wild Critters Video: Birds Educational wildlife video about birds in western Riverside County
5/12/21	Conservation Conversation: UCR and Invasive Species	5/25/21	CogCast: Conservation Biology Institute Listen to Dr. Wayne Spencer, Chief Scientist, and Deanne DiPietro, Senior Science Coordinator for Conservation Biology Institute talk about conservation and the SKR Range Wide Management and Monitoring Plan
5/17/21 – 5/21/21	Wild Wonders Virtual Safari Wild Wonders presents 'Our Big Backyard,' which features: Snowpea, a porcupine Princess Jasmine, a Virginia opossum Little T, a desert tortoise Meadow, a gray fox Elvis, a king snake Archie, a Great Horned Owl	5/26/21	Conservation Conversation: SKR Genetic Research
5/17/21	Wild Critters Video: Reptiles Educational wildlife video about reptiles in western Riverside County	5/27/21	Future Forward: The Past, Present and Future of Conservation in Riverside County Join us for this special Future Forward broadcast and help us conclude Conservation Appreciation Month. In this episode... Past efforts of conservation in Riverside County, Habitat Conservation Plans. What have we learned? How has science influenced management practices... Hear #whatsnext for Conservation.
5/18/21	Wild Critters Video: Nocturnal Animals Educational wildlife video about nocturnal animals in western Riverside County		
5/19/21	Wild Critters Video: Reserve Management and Habitat Restoration Be a Natural Resource Manager for a day! Educational video about Reserve Management and Restoration at RCHCA's reserves in western Riverside County		



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6.B CONSERVATION APPRECIATION

Requested Action:

1. Adopt Resolution Number 2021-02; A Resolution of the RCHCA Board of Directors recognizing May 2021 as Conservation Appreciation Month.

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6.C FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022

AGENCY BUDGET



Brian Shomo
RCHCA



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OVERVIEW

- The RCHCA Budget consists of two parts: General Operations and Lake Mathews Reserve Operations.
- Revenues are generated from SKR Mitigation Fees assessed on development projects, contractual agreements, and endowment fund draws.
- Overall, proposed Budget Revenue is projected to be approximately \$1.5M against expenditures of approximately \$1.5M.
- In summary, staff presents a balanced budget with an overall increase in expenditures of approximately 31%.

FY 21/22 BUDGET



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6.C FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

AGENCY BUDGET

Requested Action:

1. Adopt Resolution Number 2021-01; A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency adopting the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 RCHCA Agency Budget.

6.D SKR RANGE-WIDE MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING PLAN



Brian Shomo
RCHCA



Stephens' Kangaroo Rat Rangewide Management and Monitoring Plan

March 2021

Prepared by Conservation Biology Institute for Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency and Bureau of Land Management

Preferred Citation:
Spencer, W.C., D. DiPietro, H. Romoso, D. Shier, and R. Chock. 2021. Stephens' Kangaroo Rat Rangewide Management and Monitoring Plan. Unpublished report prepared by the Conservation Biology Institute for Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency and Bureau of Land Management, March 2021.

OVERVIEW OF THE PLAN

Everything we need to implement range-wide management of Stephens' Kangaroo Rat

Synthesis of current SKR Science:

- Updated habitat model, genetics
- Species status and threats

Range-wide Conservation Tools:

- Management strategy and toolbox
- Monitoring strategy
- Framework for data management, coordination, & communication




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NEXT STEPS: IMPLEMENTATION

- Coordination Framework
- Monitoring Strategy
- Data Management Strategy

BLM Funding

- BLM approved year two funding of **\$190,193** to assist in the implementation phase
- RCHCA will continue to look for further funding sources to support this project and ensure its success



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6.D SKR RANGE-WIDE MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING PLAN

Requested Action:

1. Receive and file.

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6.E CONTRACTED LAND MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING



Brian Shomo
RCHCA

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U.S. Dept. of the Interior Bureau of Land Management:

- Planned a comprehensive SKR survey of the Lake Mathews / Estelle Mountain Reserve for implementation in June 2021. Fulfills requirements of 2021 contract to deliver SKR monitoring and genetic work.
Expected revenue: \$194,000

Mariposa Biology / Waste Management:

- Riparian restoration work continues on El Sobrante Landfill lands to assist restoring sections of riparian habitat in order to comply with the Army Corps of Engineers 404 and CA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife 1600 permits.
Expected revenue: \$13,000

Metropolitan Water District (MWD):

- Developed FY 2021/2022 annual work plan and budget. Once adopted, RCHCA will provide biological and land management services under task orders to MWD to manage 6,000 acres and 65 covered species.
Expected revenue: \$150,000

Management &
Monitoring Contracts



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U.S. Dept. of Agriculture's Natural Resource Conservation Service:

- Previous contract to remove giant reed and restore a section of stream on RCHCA property has been completed and signed off on by the NRCS
- FY 2021/2022 application will involve restoring sage scrub habitat and removing former agricultural debris from RCHCA property

California Conservation Corps (CCC):

- The CCC FY 2021/2022 contract was completed, and all tasks finalized

Management &
Monitoring Contracts



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6.E CONTRACTED LAND MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING

Requested Action:

1. Receive and file.



6.F STEELE PEAK PUBLIC ACCESS PLAN UPDATE



Riana Fisher
RCHCA



- RCHCA is currently in the process of obtaining a CEQA evaluation with Ruth Villalobos & Associates
- Held a site visit in April 2021 to finalize seating and signage placement and identify direct and indirect impacts for CEQA
- Collecting artifacts and information to use in the interpretive signage along the trail that incorporates the area's mining and railroad history
- California Natural Resources Agency grant was awarded for \$609k to fund trail amenities
- The Inaugural Trail completion date is still on schedule for March 2022

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6.F STEELE PEAK

PUBLIC ACCESS PLAN UPDATE

Requested Action:

1. Receive and File.

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6.G RCHCA INNOVATION REPORT



Harry Sandoval
RCHCA

Burrowing Owl Project

- RCHCA has developed a system to attract and protect burrowing owls (BUOW)
- BUOW is a MSHCP species with specific conservation requirements
- Lake Mathews / Estelle Mountain Reserve is a "Core Area" for BUOW
- Colony establishment and predation by urban adapted predators is a great concern



Burrowing Owl Project

- Process could help to establish BUOW colonies at various Reserves within Western Riverside County and beyond
- RCHCA will present the experimental process to USFWS & CDFW for approval / permits necessary to carry out live trials.



6.G RCHCA INNOVATION REPORT

Requested Action:

1. Receive and File.

6.H SKR RESERVE MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING UPDATE



Harry Sandoval
RCHCA



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CalFire Investigators Class

- RCHCA hosted a class which trains fire investigators on detecting the sources and cause of wildland fire ignition and spread.
- RCHCA benefits by having additional acreage burned to enhance SKR habitat.



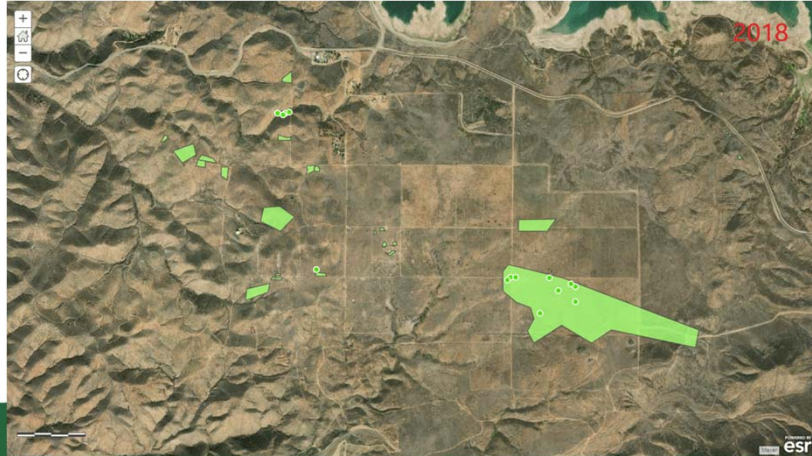
SKR Management
& Monitoring



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Unmanned Aerial Vehicle

- RCHCA used its Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) to detect and map approximately 450 acres of stinknet for treatment.
- Comparing new areas to past treatment areas shows progress is being made at reducing the density of stinknet, but it appears to be more widely distributed.



SKR Management
& Monitoring

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Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds

- Over 200 cubic yards of green waste that was deposited in a drainage on RCHCA property were removed using Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds.
- Native shrubs and trees were planted to restore the area.



SKR Management
& Monitoring

RCHCA

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Mowing

- Approximately 50 acres of SKR-preferred habitat was mowed to reduce grass density and thatch abundance.

SCE Coordination

- Coordinated with SCE and provided GIS data to update their database in order to demonstrate conserved land boundaries within the SKR plan area in order to avoid future impacts to sensitive lands.

6.H SKR RESERVE MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING UPDATE

Requested Action:

1. Receive and File



7. REPORT FROM GENERAL MANAGER



Chris Gray
WRCOG



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Message from Princess Hester

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8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

9. GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



Register today at <https://bit.ly/2RggRjX> for WRCOG's May Future Forward webinar as we discuss "**The Past, Present, and Future of Conservation in Riverside County**" on Thursday, May 27, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. This timely discussion will feature Princess Hester, WRCOG Administrative Services Director, and a panel of experts on the latest conservation efforts and partnerships within the region. Here are some of the anticipated topics of discussion:

- Past efforts of conservation in Riverside County.
- Habitat Conservation Plans.
- What we have learned and how science has influenced management practices.
- Hear #whatsnext for Conservation.

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10. NEXT MEETING

Thursday, September 16, 2021
11:30 a.m. on the Zoom platform

11. ADJOURNMENT

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