

MARK WARDLAW

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

March 4, 2020

Dear Interested Parties,

For the past 25 years, the County of San Diego (County) has been a leader in the development and implementation of multi-species regional conservation plans that balance the conservation of endangered species with population growth and development. Working with local wildlife agencies, cities, and community, environmental, land development stakeholders, the County developed the Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) and the County of San Diego Subarea Plan (South County Plan). The MSCP and South County Plan were among the first multi-species Habitat Conservation Plans in the country and the County has successfully implemented the South County Plan for over 21 years.

The County has been developing the North County Multiple Species Conservation Plan (North County Plan) to achieve many of these same environmental and economic benefits. Public outreach meetings for the North County Plan were held in spring of 2017 and County staff received input from a variety of stakeholders. The County selected ICF, a statewide leader in regional conservation planning, to review the draft North County Plan in relation to current practices and regulatory requirements and to develop planning options for public discussion and input. Their review is summarized in a report entitled the *North County Multiple Species Conservation Plan Status Review and Options Assessment*, which is available on our website:

https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/pds/mscp/docs/NCMSCP/Options Assessment.pdf

We want to hear from you! As a member of the community, your questions, suggestions, and comments about the options identified in the report are important to the County. We will be holding a series of public meetings to discuss the report and the implications of the options identified. For information regarding these meetings, please visit our website: https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/mscp/nc.html

Your comments are requested by April 30, 2020. We anticipate presenting the report and the input received to the Board of Supervisors in fall of 2020. If you have any questions, or want to provide written comments, please contact:

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Sincerely,

Mark Wardlaw,

Director, Planning & Development Services

Jason Hemmens

Acting Director, Parks and Recreation