

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor Roy Wilson and Supervisor Marion Ashley **SUBMITTAL DATE:** August 9, 2006

SUBJECT: Coachella Valley Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan (CVMSHCP):
Agreement with DUDEK and Associates.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

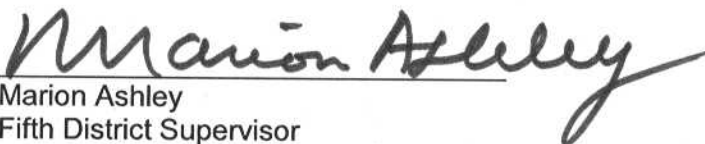
1. Approve \$500,000 in general fund to provide initial funding for the CVMSHCP revision;
2. Direct the Auditor-Controller to make the budget adjustment shown on Attachment 1;
3. Direct EPD to work with the Coachella Valley Association of Governments (CVAG) and return to the Board of Supervisors with a reimbursement agreement within 90 days; and
4. Approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the attached sole source agreement with DUDEK for an amount not to exceed \$350,000 for professional services related to the CVMSHCP.

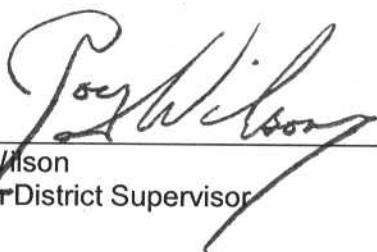
BACKGROUND: The County and all the cities of the Coachella Valley approved the CVMSHCP, with the exception of the City of Desert Hot Springs (DHS). On June 26, 2006, the CVAG Executive Committee directed CVAG staff to begin the process to revise the CVMSHCP, removing DHS as a Permittee. Subsequently, on July 31, 2006, the CVAG Executive Committee rescinded approval of the CVMSHCP thereby nullifying the Plan for the permittees.

Without a MSHCP, the Fringe-toed Lizard Permit remains in jeopardy. In order for the County and the cities to retain Fringe-toed Lizard coverage, the CVAG Executive Committee recently approved a MOU for all permittees to sign that allows for continued coverage of the Fringe-toed Lizard and establishes a commitment from the County and cities for the completion of the revised CVMSHCP. The Board will soon be asked to consider this MOU.

(Continued)

**REQUIRES
4/5th's VOTE**


Marion Ashley
Fifth District Supervisor


Roy Wilson
Fourth District Supervisor

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CVAG staff estimates that the MSHCP revision process will require 12 months, commencing August 1, 2006, at a cost of approximately \$1.2 million. CVAG has requested that the County commit \$500,000 to this revision and has indicated that CVAG will reimburse these funds within two years of the Plan's approval. (See attached letter.) CVAG will forward a reimbursement agreement for the Board's consideration within 90 days. Additionally, EPD will bring a contract for CVMSHCP public outreach to the Board. Funding for this public outreach contract is included in the \$500,000.

The County will spearhead the EIR/EIS revision effort since County staff has extensive experience in this area. Attached is an agreement and scope of work with DUDEK and Associates, the firm that developed the MSHCP/EIR/EIS for the Western Riverside Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (WRCMSHCP). Through the WRCMSHCP planning effort, DUDEK staff gained extensive knowledge about Riverside County, its cities, and their programs and processes. This is such a specialized area of environmental preparation that there are few firms that can perform the aforementioned tasks. DUDEK has considerable experience in the preparation of Habitat Conservation Planning documents in San Diego County as well as Orange County. Additionally, DUDEK has the staff and resources to provide the required services needed to meet the proposed time schedule.

Attachment 1

Budget Adjustment:

Decrease Appropriations

10000-110900000-581000 Contingency	\$500,000
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Increase Appropriations

10000-110100000-551100 Contributions to other funds	\$500,000
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Increase Estimated Revenue

20200-310050000-790600 Contribution from other county funds	\$500,000
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Increase Appropriations

20200-310050000-527980 Contracts	\$500,000
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