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METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

FILED by order
of the Board of Directors of
The Metropolitan Water District
of Southern California
at its meeting held **JUL 14 1992**
[Signature]
Executive Secretary

39750

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June 16, 1992

To: Board of Directors (Engineering & Operations Committee--Information)
(Land Committee--Information)

From: General Manager

Subject: Report on Use of Lands at the Santa Rosa Plateau and the Shipley Reserve for Upland Habitat Mitigation

Report

By actions of your Board in March and April 1991, Metropolitan acquired properties at the Santa Rosa Plateau and the Shipley Ranch as mitigation for upland habitat impacts at the Eastside Reservoir and other Metropolitan projects. The purchase of the Shipley Ranch also provided mitigation for impacts to the Stephens' kangaroo rat at the Domenigoni Valley Reservoir. These land areas can typically provide mitigation of upland habitat impacts for projects within a range of similar habitat types found in the eastern region of the Southern California coastal plain.

Metropolitan's use of these areas for mitigation of upland habitat impacts at the Domenigoni Valley Reservoir is provided for in agreements executed by Metropolitan, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the California Department of Fish and Game. Based on habitat quality assessments conducted during the preparation of these agreements, the mitigation value of these lands has been quantitatively established. Exchange of mitigation acreage for the area of upland impact at the Domenigoni Reservoir site has been accomplished at ratio of approximately one acre of mitigation for one acre of impact. Based upon preliminary assessments of impacts at other Metropolitan projects, this ratio is expected to remain approximately the same. Final impact assessments at other Metropolitan projects will be performed to confirm these findings.

The total mitigation acreage available for use at the Santa Rosa Plateau and the Shipley Ranch is approximately 3,403 acres, as shown in the tabulation below. Of this acreage, approximately 2,244 acres will be used for impacts at the Domenigoni Valley Reservoir. At this time, five additional projects are estimated to use approximately 775 acres of upland habitat mitigation at the Santa Rosa Plateau or Shipley Reserve.

Based upon an exchange of one acre of mitigation lands for one acre of project impact, this would use all but 384 acres at these mitigation areas.

Mitigation Lands Available (acres)		Estimated Mitigation Lands Used (acres)	
Santa Rosa Plateau	1,664	Domenigoni Valley	2,244
Shipley Reserve	1,739	Inland Feeder	250
		S.D. Pipeline 6	25
		Central Pool Augment.	75
		Skinner Module 7	150
		Peris T.P.	200
		Cajalco Creek D.B.	75
Total Available	3,403	Total Used	3,019
Remaining Balance	384		

Proactive planning and further mitigation commitments for circumstances such as future endangered species listings may be required for the Inland Feeder, San Diego Pipeline 6, the Central Pool Augmentation, and other projects. Such planning efforts are being actively coordinated with state and federal resource agencies. The value of the Santa Rosa Plateau and Shipley Reserve mitigation areas lies in their ability to provide upland habitat mitigation for a number of projects and in their certainty that mitigation for such impacts will be available through the duration of the project.

Board Committee Assignments

This letter was referred for information to:

The Engineering and Operations Committee, because of its interest in the initiation, scheduling and contracting of construction programs pursuant to Section 2431(b).

The Land Committee, because of its interest in policies for the acquisition of rights-of-way pursuant to Section 2451(a).

Recommendation

For information only.


Carl Boronkay