

**Executive Committee Call  
July 26, 2011**

**Summary**

**Executive Committee Members (EC):**

Amy Lueders, Chair, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Acting Nevada State Director; Erin O'Connor, Forest Service (USFS) Inter-Mountain Region Strategic Communications Director; Rory Westberg, National Park Service (NPS) Deputy Regional Director-Pacific Northwest Region; Ren Lohofener, Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Pacific Southwest Region Regional Director

**Others:**

Raul Morales, BLM Deputy State Director, Resources, Lands, and Planning; Jane Freeman, BLM Special Legislation Program Manager

The following is a summary of the meeting outcomes:

**Round 13 Guidance:**

The Executive Committee (EC) was provided updated revenue information and based on this agreed to a Round 13 funding target of \$8-\$10 million for projects and \$2-\$3 million for Special Account Reserve.

The EC would like the PWG to incorporate the following items into the Round 13 nomination guidance and/or criteria:

- Continue the two projects/category/entity requirement
- Continue the one location per project requirement, except for the Hazardous Fuels category
- Nominations must address past performance and capacity. The EC would like the PWG to develop the nomination guidance such that it ensures the entity is required to provide sufficient information (i.e., project backlog, project management, etc.) to determine performance and capacity.
- Nominations must demonstrate project readiness by including information similar to the type of information provided in the Round 12 risk analysis, such as whether NEPA documentation is completed
- Criteria will be added to provide extra points for projects that include matching or leveraging of funds, where appropriate.
- Nominations must describe project outputs and outcomes linked to the SNPLMA strategic plan, as part of the deliverables or major milestones. The EC would like the PWG to develop a framework for developing and tracking project outputs and outcomes consistent among projects for Round 14 and beyond.

The EC will further discuss sideboards for Conservation Initiative projects and whether they will provide further guidance regarding category priorities on their August 31 call.

**Project Change Requests:**

The EC agreed that the Desert Conservation Program's (DCP) scope change request for MSHCP Desert Tortoise Monitoring (CC65) is not ripe for decision at this time. The EC asked that the DCP provide and discuss its proposed survey methodology with the FWS. Depending on the outcome of these discussions, the DCP will then need to determine whether to implement CC65 as originally nominated, continue to seek a scope change, or if a new round 13 project is warranted.

The EC also discussed the City of Henderson Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) Trail Phase II (HN07) time extension and agreed on an alternate recommendation that would require the City within six months of the extension approval to affirm that a signed agreement has been reached with UPRR to grant a right of way for the project.

**Proposed Implementation Agreement Changes/Partners Comments and Staff Responses:**

The EC discussed the comments received from program partners on the proposed Implementation Agreement (IA) changes for project purpose, scope changes, SAR, terminations, and project timeframes. The EC noted that many of the comments were helpful in clarifying specific language, which will be addressed as part of the full IA update later this year.

The EC confirmed their June approval in concept of the two decision memorandums, but requested that further alternate recommendation language be added to the purpose and scope change IA decision memorandum which would clarify that the Executive Committee agrees with the changes in concept, but still has concerns with some of the specific Implementation Agreement language changes including those under Section VII. The Executive Committee will review the language when it is circulated as part of the full Implementation Agreement update and will provide specific language edits at that time.

The EC will review and approve the proposed alternate recommendation language by email prior to final chair signature.