



## MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Advisory Committee  
**FROM:** George Lange, Chairperson  
**DATE:** October 20, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** **Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority Report**

#### **Operations/Ranger Services:**

- Rangers collaborated with partners and agencies on LA River cleanup in the San Fernando Valley, offering assistance to unhoused individuals.
- Rangers are investigating large illegal dumpings at La Tuna Canyon Park tied to a commercial company.
- Rangers concluded a successful kayak season and responded to multiple fires in Habitat Authority–contracted areas.
- Operations Park Staff conducted vegetation reduction in Malibu, the Mulholland Scenic Corridor, and Big Tujunga Canyon.
- Operations Park Staff prepared Big Tujunga Canyon for the 5th Annual Indigenous Peoples Day Event, which was well-received.

#### **Fire Division:**

- Collaborating daily with LA County Fire on Early Action hazardous fuels reduction in the Santa Monicas
- Type 6 engine Strike Team deployed seven weeks on out-of-county state fires
- Entered Southern California fire season; staffing local Fire Preparedness events and running new Type 3 engines through December
- November climate assessment underway to plan Seasonal Fire Fighter release
- Vehicle and station maintenance projects ongoing

**Construction:**

- Renovating KGR facilities to address deferred maintenance
- Making safety repairs at Mill Creek, including the footbridge and underground electrical conduit
- Overseeing Temescal repairs following the Palisades Fire
- Contracting repairs of fire- and flood-damaged structures and utilities

**Developed Resources:**

- Busy fall season featuring MRCA's flagship community festivals
- Nights of the Jack at King Gillette Ranch draws thousands
- Día de los Muertos at L.A. River Center & Gardens, in partnership with Mujeres de la Tierra, welcomes hundreds with free food, performances, and resource tables
- Events showcase public parks and attract new visitors

**Natural Resources and Planning:**

- Under a Wildlife Conservation Board grant, consultants are surveying all drainage and operational crossings of I-5 between Highways 126 and 138; next steps include deploying wildlife cameras and using the data to plan targeted crossing enhancements.
- Restoration staff will continue planting coast live and valley oaks as part of the 101 Freeway ember-barrier project throughout the wet season.
- Both Spring Canyon and Lyons Canyon developments in unincorporated Santa Clarita Valley survived appeals; Lyons Canyon's approval secures the MRCA over 450 acres in the Santa Clarita Woodlands plus a \$1 million endowment.
- Spring Canyon's open-space dedication details remain pending, but the project includes a parcel tax for maintenance and grants Los Angeles County a trail easement.
- The MRCA now owns 70 acres across State Route 14 via a land transfer from the City of Santa Clarita.

**Park Development and Watershed Planning:**

- Attended the inaugural LA County Park Funding Summit, where state and local agencies presented current grant programs to park and resource managers.
- Issued a construction bid for Barbacoa Building renovations at the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens; six responsive bids are under evaluation.
- Continued active coordination with FEMA, supplying information for public assistance grants and meeting all deadlines.