

ENDANGERED HABITATS CONSERVANCY

PRESERVING BIODIVERSITY THROUGH HABITAT ACQUISITION & STEWARDSHIP



1-17-22

Dear *TransNet* EMP Land Management Grant Program Committee,

This letter is to provide permission and support to the Earth Discovery Institute for the proposed El Monte Bat Hotel Project. As the landowner and manager of the El Monte Preserve, the Endangered Habitats Conservancy is committed to providing roosting habitat for rare and declining bat species on the El Monte Preserve. We believe the Bat Hotel is an important "pilot" recovery project for numerous bat species that occur in the Multiple Species Conservation Program Plan Area. In addition, Conservancy staff has already participated in a site visit with Drew Stokes, San Diego Natural History Museum Wildlife Biologist, and Earth Discovery Institute staff to discuss the proposed project. At the May 2021 site visit, our President, Michael Beck, and our Senior Land Manager, Chris Manzuk, gave Mr. Stokes a property tour in order to find the best location for the bat roosting structure, determine the best route for site access, and other proposed project details.

For the past 15 years, our organization has worked closely with the Earth Discovery Institute on projects to benefit sensitive and declining habitats and species in east San Diego County. Therefore, we support implementation of the Bat Hotel project at El Monte Preserve, with the Earth Discovery Institute as the Project Manager. To ensure that the project is successful, Endangered Habitats Conservancy has committed to providing matching funds in the form of an in-kind salary match for all personnel time expended to complete the project. This includes salary for Senior Land Manager, Chris Manzuk, and President, Michael Beck. We have estimated that a minimum of 60 hours of Conservancy time will be expended on project implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Grimes', is written over a horizontal line.

Scott Grimes
Vice President