

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CHULA VISTA CITY COUNCIL ADOPTING THE OTAY RANCH PHASE 2 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE WHICH WILL BRING THE DOCUMENT UP-TO-DATE WITH CURRENT OTAY RANCH PRESERVE MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE AND ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET, OWNERSHIP, AND BIOLOGICAL MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

WHEREAS, on October 28, 1998, City Council adopted the Otay Ranch General Development Plan which provides major policies, recommendations and implementation measures to guide development of Otay Ranch; and

WHEREAS, on October 28, 1998, City Council also adopted the Otay Ranch Phase 1 Resource Management Plan (Phase 1 RMP) which provides policies, standards, and guidelines from the General Development Plan to reduce impacts from development and guide future management and monitoring activities within the Otay Ranch Preserve (Preserve); and

WHEREAS, on June 4, 1996, City Council adopted the Otay Ranch Phase 2 RMP (Phase 2 RMP) which provides an implementation strategy to meet the resource protection goals, objectives, policies, standards, and guidelines established in the General Development Plan and Phase 1 RMP; and

WHEREAS, the City Council amended the Phase 2 RMP on November 10, 1998 and May 23, 2006 to address changes in the circumstances related to the Otay Ranch since the approval of the original Phase 2 RMP and acknowledging that the majority of prioritized land had already been conveyed to the Preserve Owner/Manager; and

WHEREAS, this is the first comprehensive update to the Phase 2 RMP since its original approval that will bring the document up-to-date with current Preserve management structure and annual operating budget, ownership, biological monitoring and management requirements and includes the current status of Otay Ranch development and Preserve assembly and Otay Ranch General Development Plan and Phase 1 RMP policies related to biological and cultural resources; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Development Services has reviewed the project for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and determined that the project was adequately covered in previously certified Final Program Environmental Impact Report (SCH) No. 89010154 for Otay Ranch, dated December 1992, and the Findings of Fact for Otay Ranch General Development Plan (GDP), dated October 28, 1993. Therefore, no further environmental review or documentation is required.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Chula Vista that it hereby makes the following findings:

1. That the proposed project is consistent with the Otay Ranch GDP and RMP1

The GDP contains a policy that acknowledges that Otay Ranch Implementation Documents may be amended or updated in response to changing conditions. Many actions and changes have occurred to land use plans, habitat conservation plans, ownership, and biological management and monitoring standards since the GDP was adopted in 1993. Additionally, the Phase 1 RMP acknowledges that the subsequent Phase 2 RMP would include additional studies and research to refine the Preserve boundary, which was mapped at a broad scale in the previous RMP documents.

2. The proposed project is consistent with the City's Multiple Species Conservation Program Subarea Plan

The City adopted its Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP) Subarea Plan on May 13, 2003. The City's MSCP Subarea Plan identifies a series of focused planning areas within which some lands will be dedicated for preservation of native habitats, and provides take authorization for Quino checkerspot butterfly and the 85 species covered by the MSCP within specified areas. The City's MSCP Subarea Plan designates village developments in Otay Ranch as a "Covered Project" and relies on the Phase 1 RMP and Phase 2 RMP as the framework for the conservation and management of biological resources within Otay Ranch. Both the Phase 1 RMP and Phase 2 RMP are incorporated by reference in the City's MSCP Subarea Plan and are appended as the Framework Management Plan for Otay Ranch. In anticipation of the need for updates, the City's MSCP Subarea Plan states that the RMP may be amended by the City through the use of its jurisdictional authority without amendment to the City's MSCP Subarea Plan if such amendments are consistent with the goals of both the MSCP and City's MSCP Subarea Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council, based on the findings above, hereby adopts the Otay Ranch Phase 2 Resource Management Plan Update which will bring the document up-to-date with current Preserve management structure and annual operating budget, ownership, and biological monitoring and management requirements.

Presented by

Approved as to form by

Kelly Broughton, FSALA
Director of Development Services

Glen R. Googins
City Attorney