

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING – SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGIONAL BOARD
July 21, 2005**

ITEM 3

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS FROM THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TO CONTINUE THE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO ESTUARY PROJECT

DISCUSSION: The proposed resolution authorizes the Executive Director to accept funds from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the San Francisco Estuary Project ([SFEP](#)). Approval will ensure that the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board can continue its role in implementing the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP).

In 1987, the United States Congress created the National Estuary Program (NEP) through Section 320 of the Amended Clean Water Act to help reverse the decline of the nation's estuaries. The NEP's purpose is to protect and improve water quality and natural resources of designated estuaries around the country by addressing the environmental problems specific to each. In December 1987, California's Governor nominated the San Francisco Bay-Delta as an "estuary of national significance" to be included in the NEP. Currently, there are 27 other programs in the NEP, including two other California programs in Santa Monica Bay and Morro Bay.

The purpose of the CCMP is to develop, adopt, and oversee the implementation of a coordinated and comprehensive strategy to protect the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary. The actions contained in the CCMP provide the foundation for a comprehensive approach in restoring the ecological health of the Estuary, while maintaining the economic diversity of the region. The CCMP's nine program areas with 145 actions recognize the Estuary's environmental values and the need to manage habitats within the sub-watersheds from an ecosystem perspective. The CCMP was completed in June 1993 and approved later that year by the Governor and U.S. EPA Administrator. The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board is the lead agency for carrying out the CCMP and the Association of Bay Area Governments continues to provide administrative and management support for the Estuary Project. The Estuary Project is in its 12th year of CCMP implementation.

The State Board is requested to authorize the Executive Director, or designee to apply for and accept FFY 2006 federal funds from the U.S. EPA that result in a grant of \$100,000 and a required match of \$100,000 for a total grant amount of \$200,000. The grant term is December 1, 2005 to December 31, 2006 and will continue the cooperative agreement for the SFEP. The required match is in-kind service of \$100,000 from the State Board. The attached workplan has been reviewed and approved by the SFEP's Executive Council.

POLICY ISSUE: Should the State Board authorize the Executive Director, or designee, to accept federal funds to continue the Cooperative Agreement to implement the Comprehensive

Conservation and Management Plan in accordance with the workplan approved by the SFEP Executive Council.

FISCAL IMPACT: The proposed State share of the Cooperative Agreement is an in-kind match of \$100,000 from the General Fund's support of the Regional Wetlands Management Plan. The in-kind match involves implementing the plan to preserve, restore, and expand Bay wetlands.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT: Yes. San Francisco Bay Region.

STAFF RECOM-MENDATION: That the State Board authorize the Executive Director, or designee to accept federal funds to continue the Cooperative Agreement to implement the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan in accordance with the workplan approved by the SFEP Executive Council.

Policy Review _____
Fiscal Review _____
Legal Review _____

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION 2005- ____ -**

**AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY TO CONTINUE THE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FOR THE
SAN FRANCISCO ESTUARY PROJECT.**

WHEREAS:

1. The Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) for the San Francisco Estuary was unanimously adopted by the Management Committee in June 1993 and approved later that year by the Governor and U.S. EPA Administrator.
2. The State Board has applied to U.S. EPA for a grant of \$100,000 for FY 2005-2006 to continue implementation of the CCMP.
3. The Executive Council of the San Francisco Estuary Project (SFEP) approved the workplan as of May 9, 2005 and it will subsequently be submitted to the U.S. EPA as part of a grant application.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The State Board authorize the Executive Director, or designee, to accept a grant from the U.S. EPA up to \$100,000 to continue the Cooperative Agreement for FY 2005-2006 for the implementation of the CCMP for the San Francisco Estuary, in accordance with the workplan approved by the SFEP's Executive Council.
2. That the State Board authorize the Executive Director, or designee, to negotiate and execute contracts and agreements to implement the CCMP in accordance with the workplan approved by the SFEP's Executive Council.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Clerk to the Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on July 21, 2005.

Debbie Irvin
Clerk to the Board