

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE  
MAY 15, 2006**

**ITEM 4**

**SUBJECT**

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

**DISCUSSION**

The proposed resolution authorizes the Executive Director, or designee, to accept funds from the USEPA for the San Francisco Estuary Project (SFEP). Approval will ensure that the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (San Francisco Bay Water 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 USEPA Administrator. The San Francisco Bay Water 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 13<sup>th</sup> year of CCMP implementation.

The State Water Board authorized the Executive Director, or designee, to accept federal funds in 2005 that resulted in a grant of \$100,000 and a required match of \$100,000 for a total grant amount of \$200,000. The State Water Board is requested to authorize the Executive Director to apply for and accept FFY 2006 federal funds from the USEPA that result in a grant of \$85,000 and a required match of \$85,000 for a total grant amount of \$370,000. The grant term is December 1, 2006, to December 31, 2007, and will continue the cooperative agreement for the SFEP. The required match is in-kind service of \$85,000 from the State Water Board. The [attached](#) work plan has been reviewed and approved by the SFEP's Executive Council.

**POLICY ISSUE**

Should the State Water 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 \$85,000 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 WATER BOARD IMPACT**

Yes. San Francisco Bay Water Board.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

That the State Water 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.

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
RESOLUTION 2006 -**

AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE  
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (USEPA) 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 USEPA Administrator;
2. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) has applied to USEPA for a grant of \$85,000 for FY 2006-2007 to continue implementation of the CCMP; and
3. The Executive Council of the San Francisco Estuary Project (SFEP) approved the Workplan as of May 8, 2006, and it will subsequently be submitted to the USEPA as part of a grant application.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The State Water Board

1. Authorize the Executive Director, or designee, to accept a grant from the USEPA up to \$85,000 to continue the Cooperative Agreement for FY 2006-2007 for the implementation of the CCMP for the San Francisco Estuary, in accordance with the Workplan approved by the SFEP's Executive Council; and
2. 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 May 15, 2006.

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Clerk to the Board