

**RESOLUTION OF THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION  
AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS** (in substantially the form as presented to the Board) **AND, IF AWARDED, THE ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS FROM THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD (WCB) FOR THE ACQUISITION OF A 4,779 ACRE WORKING FOREST CONSERVATION EASEMENT ON THE GARCIA CREEK FLP PROJECT IN MENDOCINO COUNTY**

The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection for the State of California (Board) does hereby find and resolve as follows:

Section 1, the legislature of California passed the California Forest Legacy Program Act of 2007 (and as amended in 2014) allowing the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to acquire conservation easements and that funding shall be obtained from gifts, donations, federal grants and loans, other appropriate funding sources, and from the sale of general obligation bonds.

Section 2, the acquisition is Categorical Exempt from CEQA and a Notice of Exemption (NOE) has been filed with the State Clearing House.

Section 3, at its February 24, 2016 meeting, the Wildlife Conservation Board approved funds for the acquisition of a conservation easement on **Garcia Creek** a tract of the FLP project Eel River Peninsula Phase 2.

Section 4, the Board hereby approves the application for \$1,070,839.00 grant from the Wildlife Conservation Board. The State of California proposes to acquire an interest in real property, which possesses high ecological and habitat value, known as **Garcia Creek** in Mendocino County. Specifically, a conservation easement on 4,779 acres of Douglas fir/redwood forest, oak woodlands and rangeland to be maintained for its significant forest, watershed, view-shed, open space and other fish and wildlife habitat resources, cultural heritage, and social and economic agricultural contributions.

Section 5, if the grant is awarded, the Board hereby accepts the grant funds from the Wildlife Conservation Board as an appropriate expenditure for the acquisition of a conservation easement on **Garcia Creek** in Mendocino County (*all or portions of APN #s 037-350-16, -19; 039-310-16; 037-320-26; 037-370-26, -27*), and hereby approves the terms and conditions of draft Wildlife Conservation Board Grant Agreement.

Section 6, the Board hereby appoints the Director of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, or designee as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to applications, agreements, payment requests and compliance with all applicable current state and federal laws, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project.

Section 7, The Acting Executive Officer for the Board shall certify the adoption of this Resolution.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_ day of April\_\_\_\_, 2016

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J. Keith Gilles, Chair

ATTEST:

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Matt Dias, Acting Executive Officer