

**SOLANO COUNTY WATER AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

MEETING DATE: January 13, 2011

The Solano County Water Agency Board of Directors met this evening at the Solano Irrigation District. Present were:

Mayor Steve Hardy, City of Vacaville
Mayor Elizabeth Patterson, City of Benicia
Mayor Jan Vick, City of Rio Vista
Mayor Jack Batchelor, City of Dixon
Mayor Osby Davis, City of Vallejo
Supervisor Barbara Kondylis, Solano County District 1
Supervisor Linda Seifert, Solano County District 2
Supervisor Jim Spering, Solano County District 3
Supervisor John Vasquez, Solano County District 4
Supervisor Mike Reagan, Solano County District 5
Director Bob Bishop, Solano Irrigation District
Manager Don Holdener, Maine Prairie Water District
Director Everett Whiting, Reclamation District 2068

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Chairman Mike Reagan.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Supervisor Vasquez and a second by Supervisor Spering, the Board unanimously approved the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

**ELECTION OF OFFIERS AND APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FOR 2011**

On a motion by Supervisor Reagan and a second by Supervisor Vasquez the Board unanimously elected Mayor Batchelor as Board Chairman for 2011. On a motion by Mayor Batchelor and a second by Jim Spering the Board unanimously elected Director Bishop as Vice-Chairman for 2011.

Chairman Batchelor appointed Supervisor Spering, Manager Holdener and Mayor Price to the 2011 Executive Committee to serve with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. On a motion by Supervisor Reagan and a second by Supervisor Seifert the 2011 Executive Committee appointments were unanimously approved by the Board.

CONSENT ITEMS

On a motion by Supervisor Spering and a second by Supervisor Reagan the Board unanimously approved the following consent items, including the addendum to agenda item (B), Additional Expenditure Approvals, and the removal from the consent agenda of item (C):

- (A) Minutes
- (B) Expenditure Approvals
- (D) Ulatis Flood Control Project: Right of Way Transactions

**CONSENT ITEM (C) - REVISE LOWER PUTAH CREEK COORDINATING
COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

On a motion by Chairman Batchelor and a second by Manager Holdener the board unanimously approved the appointment of Dennis Kilkenny as a Solano landowner representative and Herb Wimmer and Harvey Olander as alternates.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mayor Jan Vick gave a report of a meeting held January 13, 2011 with representatives from Water Agencies, The Department of Water Resources, The Bureau of Reclamation, The Department of Interior, The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and The U.S. Geologic Survey. The meeting was informational regarding the description and costs of the RVERS Project and fish hatchery planned in Rio Vista.

GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT

General Manager gave a report on the water stores at Lake Berryessa. The current level is tracking below the long term average but above the previous year.

**SCWA AUDIT AND APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENTS TO THE FISCAL
YEAR 2010-2011 BUDGET**

Administrative Services Manager Katherine Phillips gave a report on the change from full accrual to modified accrual which occurred during the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 audit. On a motion by Supervisor Reagan and a second by Mayor Patterson the Board unanimously approved the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 audit and appropriation adjustments to the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 budget.

DELTA ISSUES

The Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) is refining the effects analysis which is an analysis of the impacts the canal or tunnel will have on species in the Delta. The Federal fish agencies are slow to take a position on the effects analysis. The effects analysis will determine the amount of water users will receive from the BDCP which in turn will determine the water users' participation in the BDCP. The effects analysis is expected to be completed by the end of January. The new State Administration will have an impact on the BDCP. John Laird is the new Secretary of Resources who replaces Lester Snow. Jerry Meral, an environmentalist and supporter of the peripheral canal, has a role in the Administration as a point man for Delta issues.

The Delta Stewardship Council is mandated to complete a Delta Plan by January, 2012. It was expected the BDCP would be completed and incorporated into the Delta Plan but due to the delays in the BDCP this scenario is unlikely. The Delta Stewardship Council has been seeking input from representatives in Solano County increasing the benefit of this plan.

The Delta Conservancy is creating an interim strategic plan with input from County representatives.

The cities of Davis and Woodland have formed a joint powers authority to develop a surface water supply for the two cities. Presently, both cities are on ground water and there are issues with wastewater. An agreement was reached near the end of December, 2010 between this joint powers authority and the Conaway Ranch. The agreement also allows State acquisition of part of the Conaway Ranch for fish habitat improvements. In the agreement Yolo County receives \$1,500,000 from water sales, \$450,000 to fund studies, 5 acres of land donated for a wild life refuge and payment in lieu of property tax from Conaway Ranch in exchange for permissions to Conaway Ranch to sell water to Metropolitan Water District until 2035 and to sell water to the cities of Woodland and Davis permanently. The agreement requires Conaway Ranch to not allow the rice fields

to follow. The Bureau of Reclamation and the State Water Resources Control Board will need to approve the transfer of the water rights to the cities.

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

Patrick Leathers from the Gualco Group gave a report on the firms continuing commitment to advocate on behalf of the Agency within the new State Administration and Legislature. On a motion by Linda Seifert and a second by John Vasquez the Board unanimously approved the Chairman to execute an agreement with The Gualco Group for a two-year contract in the amount of \$160,000 for continued legislative advocacy.

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Thursday, February 10, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at the Solano Irrigation District offices.

ADJOURNMENT

This meeting of the Solano County Water Agency Board of Directors was adjourned at 8:09 P.M.

David B. Okita, General Manager
and Secretary to the Board of Directors of the
Solano County Water Agency

ACTION OF
SOLANO COUNTY WATER AGENCY

DATE: February 10, 2011

SUBJECT: Expenditures Approval

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the following:

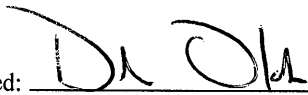
1. Expenditures from the Water Agency checking accounts for the month of January 2011.
2. Checks \$500 and over for payment in February 2011.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

All expenditures are within previously approved budget amounts.

BACKGROUND:

The Water Agency auditor has recommended that the Board of Directors approve all expenditures (in arrears). Attached is a summary of expenditures from the Water Agency's checking accounts for the months of January 2011. Additionally, consistent with the Agency's Financial Management Procedures, the Board must approve payments \$500 and over. Additional backup information is available upon request.

Recommended: 
David B. Okita, General Manager

<input type="checkbox"/>	Approved as recommended	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (see below)
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Modification to Recommendation and/or other actions:

I, David B. Okita, General Manager and Secretary to the Solano County Water Agency, do hereby certify that the foregoing action was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by said Board of Directors at a regular meeting thereof held on February 10, 2011 by the following vote.

Ayes:

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent:

David B. Okita
General Manager & Secretary to the
Solano County Water Agency

SOLANO COUNTY WATER AGENCY
Cash Disbursements Journal
For the Period From Jan 1, 2011 to Jan 31, 2011

Filter Criteria includes: Report order is by Check Number. Report is printed in Detail Format.

Date	Check	Accoun	Line Description	Debit Amount	Credit Amount
1/3/11	100112	2023AC 1020SC	FSA REIMBURSEMENT PATE, THOMAS	225.00	225.00
1/5/11	100113	2023AC 1020SC	FSA REIMBURSEMENT OKITA, DAVID B.	54.65	54.65
1/12/11	18892V	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: A/R #10-0260 SOLANO IRRIGATION DISTRICT	228,428.23	228,428.23
1/3/11	19398	6040AC 1020SC	Printing Error VOID CHECKS		
1/7/11	19400	2020N 2020N 1020SC	Invoice: 12/30/10 1079-030 Invoice: 12/30/10 1079-039 HERUM CRABTREE BROWN	6,190.38 1,551.24	7,741.62
1/7/11	19401	2020SC 2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: 12/30/10 Invoice: 1/5/11 CITISTREET	1,306.94 1,306.94	2,613.88
1/7/11	19402	2020SC 2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: PPE 12/11/10 Invoice: PPE 12/25/10 CALPERS	7,157.00 7,157.00	14,314.00
1/7/11	19403	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: 1371810 MWH AMERICAS INC.	23,381.02	23,381.02
1/7/11	19404	2020N 1020SC	Invoice: L0044792 MWH LABORATORIES	690.00	690.00
1/7/11	19405	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: SCWA2010-11-5 WILDLIFE SURVEY & PHOTO SERVICE	12,383.98	12,383.98
1/7/11	19406	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: 86380-3 THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CA	64.20	64.20
1/7/11	19407	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: 24689007-0 TELEPACIFIC COMMUNICATIONS	1,053.18	1,053.18
1/7/11	19408	2020N 1020SC	Invoice: 0354069 ARCADIS U.S., INC.	2,129.85	2,129.85
1/7/11	19409	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: 0354068 ARCADIS U.S. Inc.	6,956.66	6,956.66
1/7/11	19410	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: 11573 RMC WATER & ENVIRONMENT	1,046.48	1,046.48
1/7/11	19411	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: 1800 CalPERS	8,895.68	8,895.68
1/7/11	19412	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: 5020004 121110 DS WATERS OF AMERICA, LP	65.93	65.93
1/7/11	19413	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: 12/10/10 SAM'S CLUB	21.75	21.75
1/7/11	19414	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: 01012011 STANDARD INSURANCE COMPANY	501.07	501.07
1/7/11	19415	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: 6020-41708 ROHN PRODUCTS, LLC	7,382.14	7,382.14

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1/7/11	19416	2020SC	Invoice: 480353962	39.90	
		2020SC	Invoice: 480354790	39.90	
		2020U	Invoice: 480356427	44.54	
		2020U	Invoice: 480355615	44.54	
		1020SC	MISSION LINEN SUPPLY		168.88
1/7/11	19417	2020SC	Invoice: January 2011	1,163.63	
		1020SC	ACWA HEALTH BENEFITS AUTHORITY		1,163.63
1/7/11	19418	2020SC	Invoice: 21051	3,117.55	
		1020SC	CITY OF VACAVILLE		3,117.55
1/7/11	19419	2020SC	Invoice: 116451100	26.71	
		1020SC	AMERIPRIDE UNIFORM SERVICES		26.71
1/7/11	19420	2020SC	Invoice: RDG51298	1,000.00	
		1020SC	NYSTROM & COMPANY, LLP		1,000.00
1/7/11	19421	2020SC	Invoice: 144144	1,502.76	
		1020SC	AT&T		1,502.76
1/7/11	19422	2020SC	Invoice: 897336	386.86	
		1020SC	ZOOM IMAGING SOLUTIONS		386.86
1/7/11	19423	2020SC	Invoice: 0169292033	61.89	
		1020SC	CINTAS FIRST AID & SAFETY		61.89
1/7/11	19424	2020SC	Invoice: 01/06/11	1,000.00	
		1020SC	CA HABITAT CONS PLANNING COALITION		1,000.00
1/7/11	19425	2020SC	Invoice: 33391	400.00	
		1020SC	CA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & GAME		400.00
1/7/11	19426	2020SC	Invoice: Oct-Dec	130.95	
		1020SC	PATE, THOMAS		130.95
1/13/11	19427	2020U	Invoice: Dec 2010	143.41	
		1020SC	SOLANO COUNTY FLEET OPERATIONS		143.41
1/13/11	19428	2020SC	Invoice: C45801	868.78	
		1020SC	MECOM, LLC		868.78
1/13/11	19429	2020SC	Invoice: 1246591	411.19	
		2020SC	Invoice: 1246523	329.47	
		2020SC	Invoice: 1246524		28.24
		1020SC	AGRIFORM - WOODLAND PARTS		712.42
1/13/11	19430	2020SC	Invoice: Pesticide Reimb	120.00	
		1020SC	FOWLER, RICK		120.00
1/13/11	19431	2020SC	Invoice: 10-754	3,093.75	
		1020SC	BARTEL ASSOCIATES		3,093.75
1/13/11	19432	2020SC	Invoice: 114360-00	1,573.00	
		2020SC	Invoice: 117814-00	208.43	
		1020SC	FORESTRY SUPPLIERS, INC.		1,781.43
1/13/11	19433	2020SC	Invoice: 8850	6,275.00	
		1020SC	KC ENGINEERING COMPANY		6,275.00

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1/13/11	19434	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: 11 THOMAS BOUFFARD ARCHITECT	3,630.00	3,630.00
1/13/11	19435	2020SC 2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: 2790 Invoice: 2783 EYASCO, INC.	4,239.57 12,720.00	16,959.57
1/13/11	19436	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: 12310 LAUGENOUR AND MEIKLE	2,300.00	2,300.00
1/13/11	19437	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: A/R #10-0391 SOLANO IRRIGATION DISTRICT	296,892.10	296,892.10
1/13/11	19438	1020SC	VOID		
1/13/11	19439	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: 1100444653 AMERIPRIDE UNIFORM SERVICES	26.71	26.71
1/13/11	19440	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: 12-(10) DENNIS GRUNSTAD	1,030.00	1,030.00
1/13/11	19441	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: 55703 WINZLER & KELLY	6,174.00	6,174.00
1/13/11	19442	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: 7288 SUMMERS ENGINEERING, INC.	3,805.69	3,805.69
1/13/11	19443	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: February 2011 ACWA HEALTH BENEFITS AUTHORITY	1,163.63	1,163.63
1/13/11	19444	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: Rebate VITA INCGARGIOLA	230.00	230.00
1/13/11	19445	2020SC 1020SC	Invoice: Rebate Program STEVE TAYLOR	381.00	381.00
1/25/11	EFT	6410AC 1020SC	BEST BUY/12-8-10/COMPUTER EQUIPMENT BANK OF THE WEST	162.55	162.55
1/25/11	EFT	6310AC 6310AC 1020SC	QUIK STOP/12-13-10/FUEL QUIK STOP/11-30-10/FUEL BANK OF THE WEST	64.18 68.22	132.40
1/25/11	EFT	6080AC 6040AC 6040AC 6040AC 6080AC 1020SC	SAFEWAY/12-09-10/FOOD FOR BOARD MEETING 12/9/10 GREATLAND/12-6-10/CHECKS REORDER AVISTA/12-4-10/AV EQUIPMENT FOR HCP MEETING 11-16-10 - SECOND INSTALLMENT REMOTELINK/12-8-10/CONFERENC E CALLING FEES NAPOLI PIZZERIA/12-9-10/FOOD FOR BOARD MEETING 12-9-10 BANK OF THE WEST	5.00 168.47 458.13 28.76 27.87	688.23
1/25/11	EFT	6330AC 6330AC 6112AC	CITY OF SACRAMENTO/12-15-10/PARKING CITY OF SACRAMENTO/12-16-10/PARKING DRUNDO/12-19-10/WEBSITE HOSTING	8.00 15.00 49.95	

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Date	Check	Accoun	Line Description	Debit Amount	Credit Amount
		6112AC	DRUNDO/12-1-10/WEBSITE HOSTING	19.95	
		6080AC	NAPOLI'S PIZZERIA/12-1-10/FOOD FOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING	37.93	
		6080AC	ERICK'S DELI/12-9-10/SCWA BOARD MEETING FOOD	60.00	
		1020SC	BANK OF THE WEST		190.83
1/11/11	EFT	6040AC	Supplies	536.06	
		1020SC	STAPLES		536.06
1/5/11	EFT	2020SC	Invoice: 164816290	921.19	
		2020SC	Invoice: 166898502	1,013.31	
		1020SC	TOSHIBA FINANCIAL SERVICES		1,934.50
1/18/11	EFT	6181SC	TRANSPORT GRINDER FROM ARKANSAW TO CA	5,202.00	
		1020SC	Sunteck Transport Co.		5,202.00
1/31/11	EFT	6012AC	SUI	174.78	
		6012AC	CA ETT	4.85	
		1020SC	PAYROLL TAXES		179.63
1/14/11	EFT	6111AC	PAYROLL PROCESSING 1/11/11/ W2'S	323.79	
		1020SC	PAYCHEX, INC.		323.79
1/25/11	EFT	6199SC	FORESTRY SUPPLIERS/11-26-10/MISC SUPPLIES	88.90	
		6199SC	BERRYESSA SPORTING CO./12-03-10/FUEL	97.35	
		6199SC	NAPA AUTO PARTS/12-13-10/MISC VEHICLE REPAIR	41.27	
		6199SC	U-HAUL MOVING & STORAGE OF VACAVILLE/12-26-10/VEHICLE PARTS	51.37	
		6149SC	WILD SPORTS/12-10-10/WADERS (2)	217.43	
		6181SC	THE UPS STORE/12-15-10/SHIPING CHARGES FOR EQUIPMENT	256.29	
		6199SC	USHIP.COM/12-22-10/SHIPPING CHARGES	37.13	
		6149SC	BEST BUY/12-10-10/MONITORING SUPPLIES	303.43	
		1020SC	BANK OF THE WEST		1,093.17
1/25/11	EFT	6181SC	TRACTOR SUPPLY CO./11-26-10/SUPPLIES	19.41	
		6181SC	ORCHARD SUPPLY HARDWARE/11-26-10/SUPPLIES	30.05	
		6199SC	THE HOME DEPOT/11-28-10/MISCELLANEOUS SUPPLIES/	112.17	
		6181SC	WALMART/11-30-10/SUPPLIES FOR SPRAY TRUCK	15.88	
		6181SC	OREILLY AUTO PARTS/12-02-10/SUPPLIES FOR SPRAY TRUCK	17.58	
		6360AC	WGR SOUTHWEST/12-02-10/SWEPPP TRAINING	490.00	
		6199SC	SOLANO AMERICAN FUEL 12-07-10/FUEL	45.91	

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			FUEL/12-07-10/FUEL		
		6181SC	WALMART/12-06-10/SUPPLIES FOR SPRAY TRUCK	12.51	
		6181SC	THE HOME DEPOT/12-07-10/SUPPLIES FOR SPRAY TRUCK	20.97	
		6181SC	THE HOME DEPOT/12-06-10/SUPPLIES	25.29	
		6181SC	NAPA AUTO PARTS/12-08-10/SUPPLIES FOR SPRAY TRUCK	18.40	
		6199SC	LOWES/12-26-10/MISCELLANEOUS TOOLS	55.69	
		6181SC	LOWES/12-27-10/TOOLS FOR SPRAY TRUCK	64.96	
		1020SC	BANK OF THE WEST		928.82
1/25/11	EFT	6310AC	QUIK STOP/12-07-10/FUEL	9.71	
		6310AC	VACAVILLE 76/12-16-10/FUEL	35.29	
		1020SC	BANK OF THE WEST		45.00
1/25/11	EFT	6181SC	JACK'S SMALL ENGINES/12-14-10/SPRAY TRUCK PARTS	117.58	
		6310AC	BERRYESSA SPORTING GOODS/12-10-10/FUEL	71.72	
		6300AC	A TEST ONLY/12-21-10/SMOG TESTS F-350 AND F-550	119.90	
		6199SC	TSC TRACTOR SUPPLY CO./12-10-10/MISCELLANEOUS SUPPLIES	96.80	
		6310AC	QUIK STOP/11-30-10/FUEL	75.00	
		1020SC	BANK OF THE WEST		481.00
1/25/11	EFT	6080AC	PANERA BREAD/12-9-10/MEETING FOOD	59.96	
		6310AC	VALERO/12-9-10/FUEL	40.15	
		1020SC	BANK OF THE WEST		100.11
1/25/11	EFT	6144SC	LOWES/12-17-10/TOOLS	269.85	
		6144SC	ORCHARD SUPPLY HARDWARE/12-9-10/MISCELLANEO US SUPPLIES	64.94	
		6144SC	THE HOME DEPOT/12-21-10/MISCELLANEOUS SUPPLIES	61.55	
		6310AC	QUIK STOP/11-30-10/FUEL	75.00	
		6300AC	AUTOZONE/11-30-10/WINDSHIELD WIPERS	36.06	
		6310AC	VACAVILLE 76/12-08-10/FUEL	73.54	
		6310AC	VACAVILLE 76/12-14-10/FUEL	74.68	
		6310AC	VACAVILLE 76/12-28-10/FUEL	71.77	
		6310AC	VACAVILLE 76/12-17-10/FUEL	74.56	
		6144SC	LOWES/12-14-10/TOOLS	269.85	
		1020SC	BANK OF THE WEST		1,071.80
1/24/11	EFT	2020SC	Invoice: 12/16/10-1/13/11	10.21	
		2020SC	Invoice: 11/20-1/13	389.31	
		1020SC	PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC CO,		399.52
1/14/11	EFT	2024AC	EMPLOYEE WITHHOLDINGS FOR PAYROLL ENDING 1-8-11	8,505.02	
		6012AC	EMPLOYER LIABILITIES FOR PAYROLL ENDING 1-8-11	2,324.08	

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		1020SC	PAYROLL TAXES		10,829.10
1/27/11	EFT	6040AC	Office Supplies	373.64	
		1020SC	STAPLES		373.64
1/27/11	EFT	6041AC	Copier Rental	921.19	
		1020SC	TOSHIBA FINANCIAL SERVICES		921.19
	Total			698,117.62	698,117.62

**ACTION OF
SOLANO COUNTY WATER AGENCY**

DATE: February 10, 2011

SUBJECT: Legislation Exempting Low-Use Watershed Restoration Equipment from State Diesel Regulations

RECOMMENDATION:

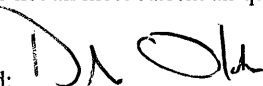
Sponsor legislation exempting low-use watershed restoration equipment from State diesel regulations for the benefit of the Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Significant local savings from permit fees and the ability to use inexpensive equipment for Putah Creek restoration projects.

BACKGROUND:

The Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee (LPCCC) performs stream restoration projects in Lower Putah Creek and its tributaries. The LPCCC has obtained grant funding for several large restoration projects over the next several years and has long term funding for smaller projects. The LPCCC has acquired stream restoration equipment to perform some of the work on these restoration projects and for ongoing maintenance of restoration projects. Some of the equipment was purchased through government surplus programs and, while still useful to the LPCCC, do not all meet current air quality standards.

Recommended: 
David B. Okita, General Manager

Continued on next page

Approved as
recommended

Other
(see below)

Modification to Recommendation and/or other actions:

I, David B. Okita, General Manager and Secretary to the Solano County Water Agency, do hereby certify that the foregoing action was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by said Board of Directors at a regular meeting thereof held on February 10, 2011 by the following vote.

Ayes:

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent:

David B. Okita
General Manager & Secretary to the
Solano County Water Agency

Efforts to permit these diesel equipment have resulted in high annual fees, burdensome reporting, denial of use and/or a need to phase out use of the equipment. This creates a large financial impact for the LPCCC and reduces the amount of funding available for the restoration work.

Large restoration work is contracted out to contractors who have the means to meet air quality regulations. The LPCCC equipment is used for support work, smaller restoration projects and maintenance. There are some exemptions in air quality regulations for low level use (such as 100 hours per year) that would be appropriate for the LPCCC equipment. Under these conditions, air quality impacts will be minimal.

We are working with Senator Wolk to introduce a bill to exempt a limited class of watershed restoration equipment from State diesel regulation.

Staff recommends that the Board agree to sponsor and support such a bill.

The Fund includes three sub-accounts – HCP Planning Assistance Grants, HCP Land Acquisition Grants, and Recovery Land Acquisition Grants. HCPs and Recovery Plans focus acquisition efforts on lands that have the greatest potential to benefit the species most in need of conservation assistance. These funding streams are utilized either through the development and implementation of HCPs, or to purchase land or conservation easements that are tied to the implementation of an HCP or Recovery Plan.

Maintaining funding for this program is important as SCWA goes forward with the Solano Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). Once the HCP is adopted, SCWA will request funds from the HCP Lands Acquisition program to acquire land to enhance conservation in Solano County. Competition for these funds will increase as there are several large scale HCPs in northern California that are at similar development stages as the Solano HCP and will also likely request funds. As HCPs are becoming more prevalent in states other than California, Florida, and Texas, national competition will also continue to increase for this program.

SOLANO COUNTY WATER AGENCY



February 10, 2011

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Endangered Species Act Section 6 - Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund

Dear Senator Feinstein:

On behalf of the Solano County Water Agency I am writing to express our support for funding the Section 6 Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund (CESCF) in the Fiscal Year 2012 Senate Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations bill. We encourage you to request that the Appropriations for this important national program be at the \$85 million level which was in the President's Fiscal 2011 request and was the level funded for Fiscal 2010. Thank you for your strong past support of this program.

We recognize that we are in an era of federal budget restraint and likely cutbacks. However, we believe that at least maintaining the past funding level of CESCF is justified for two reasons. First, CESCF is one of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) most successful investments because it spurs additional non-federal spending for habitat conservation. It is a vital tool for establishing and maintaining cooperative partnerships between the federal government, states, and non-federal partners for the protection and conservation of federally listed threatened and endangered species. As over eighty percent of habitat for federally listed threatened and endangered species is non-federal lands, this support is critical to the conservation and recovery of listed species. The sub-grants provided to local governments have significantly benefited local efforts for on the ground species conservation, including the development of Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) that can provide valuable streamlining benefits to job creating activities.

Second, there is tremendous demand both in California and across the country for threatened and endangered species grant funding. With the increased utilization of HCPs and enhanced activity in recent years to update and finalize recovery plans, the CESCF

P.O. Box 349, Elmira, California 95625
(707) 451-6090, FAX (707) 451-6099



program is currently receiving requests at two to three times the amount made available. Any federal money dedicated to CESCOF will be spent quickly and with resultant benefits of conservation and smart economic growth.

In Fiscal Year 2010, the Congress appropriated \$85 million for the CESCOF program and the Administration requested the same amount in its Fiscal Year 2011 budget. Since Fiscal Year 2001, when the program reached its highest level of \$104.7 million, funding for the program has decreased. In sharp contrast, there is tremendous demand both in California and across the country for threatened and endangered species grant funding. With the increased utilization of HCPs and enhanced activity in recent years to update and finalize recovery plans, the CESCOF program is currently receiving requests at two to three times the amount made available.

In recognition of the tremendous need for a continued federal investment in cooperative partnerships that facilitate efforts by non-federal partners to conserve federally listed threatened and endangered species, we encourage you to request \$85 million for the CESCOF program in the Fiscal Year 2012 Senate Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill. Since this is a time of low land prices and an abundance of willing landowners that provide great opportunities for additional conservation, it is unfortunate that a larger appropriations is unlikely. In the future, when economic conditions improve, it will be crucial for the CESCOF to grow.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Jack Batchelor
Chairman of the Board

SOLANO COUNTY WATER AGENCY



February 10, 2011

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
United States Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

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