

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY
JULY 18, 2023**

ITEM 2

SUBJECT

CONSIDERATION OF A PROPOSED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND/OR AMEND A FEDERAL CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 319 GRANT AND TO EXECUTE AND AMEND CONTRACTS AND GRANTS TO SUPPORT THE NONPOINT SOURCE PROGRAM.

DISCUSSION

Federal Clean Water Act section 319 (CWA 319) provides grants to states to implement their Nonpoint Source (NPS) Programs. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) notified the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) that a federal fiscal year (FFY) 2023 CWA 319 grant award of up to \$9,100,000 will be available to California to implement the 2020-2025 NPS Program Plan. Approximately half, or \$4,550,000 of the award, will be used to implement local projects and the remaining half to support the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards) and State Water Board NPS Program staff.

The FFY 2023 CWA 319 award makes up the 2023 NPS Grant Program funds. The NPS Grant Program funds are used for projects that reduce measurable nonpoint source pollutant loads. A request for proposals started on October 3, 2022, and closed on December 19, 2022. A technical Review Panel composed of staff from the State Water Board, Regional Water Boards, and US EPA reviewed and scored project proposals. Applicants with the highest-ranking proposals were selected and recommended for funding. The 2023 Fundable Project List was presented to and approved by the State Water Board Executive Director in June 2023.

This item addresses the Human Right to Water (AB 685 in 2012) and the Climate Change Resolution ([Resolution No. 2017-0012](#)) by requiring project applicants to demonstrate how their projects mitigate and/or are resilient to climate change, and how their projects address environmental justice and human right to water.

POLICY ISSUE

None.

FISCAL IMPACT

The anticipated NPS Program grant funds are adequate to accommodate the anticipated level of funding.

REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT

The anticipated NPS Program grant funds are adequate to accommodate the anticipated level of effort.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The State Water Board should:

Authorize the Executive Director or designee to apply for, accept, and amend, as necessary, the 2022 CWA 319 grant in an amount of up to \$9,100,000 for support of the 2020-2025 NPS Program Plan.

Authorize the Executive Director or designee to negotiate and approve program workplans.

Authorize the Executive Director or designee to issue contracts, grants, and amendments to implement the project proposals listed on the 2023 NPS Fundable Project List.

Authorize the Executive Director or designee to modify the 2023 NPS Fundable Project List during the liquidation period of the 2023 CWA 319 grant monies, including adding projects consistent with NPS Program goals.