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STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2023-

AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OR DESIGNEE, TO EXECUTE AND AMEND CONTRACTS RELATED TO THE CALIFORNIA WATER ACTION PLAN AND THE CALIFORNIA WATER RESILIENCE PORTFOLIO, UP TO BUDGETED AMOUNTS AND DURATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE CONTRACTING LAWS, REGULATIONS, POLICIES, AND PROCEDURES

WHEREAS:

1. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) mission is to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health, and all beneficial uses, and to ensure proper water resource allocation and efficient use, for the benefit of present and future generations. The State Water Board is also responsible for the protection of resources, such as fisheries, wildlife, aesthetics, and navigation, which are held in trust for the public.
2. Under Action 4 of the California Water Action Plan (WAP), the State Water Board and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) are working to enhance flow in priority streams statewide, including Mark West Creek, Shasta River, South Fork Eel River, and Ventura River.
3. Under Proposal 9 of the California Water Resilience Portfolio (WRP), state agencies are directed "to protect and enhance ecosystems". State agencies are directed to "help regions better protect fish and wildlife by quantifying the timing, quality, and volume of flows they need".
4. In response to the May 10, 2021 Drought State of Emergency Proclamation, the State Water Board and CDFW developed and implemented a drought emergency regulation for the Klamath watershed, in particular the Scott River and Shasta River watersheds, to protect public health, safety, and the environment.
5. As part of its previously identified responsibilities under the WAP, WRP, and related emergencies, the State Water Board and CDFW are developing and implementing actions to ensure the reasonable protection of beneficial uses in priority watersheds throughout California.

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6. The State Water Board receives an annual budget allocation for contracting work to support these efforts. Contracting work includes: data collection and data analysis; economic analysis; hydrologic, water quality, and biological modeling; ecological, environmental, and water quality analyses; environmental analysis and documentation; flow and water quality compliance methods; monitoring activities and adaptive management; and related activities. Additionally, the State Water Board may receive budget allocations to support work to respond to drought or other emergencies.
7. A delegation of contracting authority specifically for priority watersheds associated with work under Action 4 of the WAP and Proposal 9 of the WRP, which includes the Klamath watershed emergency regulation, up to budgeted amounts, would provide the needed flexibility to address the dynamic nature of contracting needs in the priority watersheds, including evolving needs associated with drought.
8. The Division of Administrative Services oversees contracts to ensure that the State Water Board conducts its contracting activities in compliance with state contracting laws, regulations, policies, and procedures.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Authorizes the Executive Director, or designee, to execute and amend contracts related to the WAP and WRP, up to budgeted amounts and durations in accordance with state contracting laws, regulations, policies, and procedures. This authorization shall remain in full force and effect until modified or revoked by the State Water Board.

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 September 19, 2023.

Courtney Tyler
Clerk to the Board