

RESOLUTION RCDSCC 2024-03

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY ADOPTING THE SANTA CRUZ INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN ADDENDUM

WHEREAS, since 2005, the Santa Cruz Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Regional Water Management Group has collaborated extensively to develop a vision, principles, goals, and objectives to support the Santa Cruz IRWM Plan and has successfully obtained competitive grant awards to fund IRWM planning and project implementation; and

WHEREAS, the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County (District) is a member of the Santa Cruz IRWM Regional Water Management Group and signatory to the 2016 Santa Cruz IRWM Memorandum of Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the benefits of integrated regional planning for water resource management activities are intended to include multiple benefits, increased efficiency and effectiveness, enhanced collaboration across agencies and stakeholders, and improved responsiveness to regional needs and priorities; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Cruz IRWM Region is an approved region as determined by California Department of Water Resources (DWR) in 2009 under DWR's Region Acceptance Process; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Cruz Regional Water Management Group and the District approved the 2014 Santa Cruz Region IRWM Plan in 2014 and the DWR determined the IRWM Plan successfully achieved the state's IRWM Plan standards in place at that time; and

WHEREAS, an addendum to 2014 Santa Cruz IRWM Plan was completed by the Regional Water Management Group in 2019 (www.santacruzirwmp.org/plan) to add additional consideration of climate change and other required content; and the 2014 Plan with the 2019 addendum successfully achieved the state's updated 2016 IRWM Plan standards and was approved by the Santa Cruz IRWM Regional Water Management Group; and

WHEREAS, California's electorate approved Proposition 1 on November 4, 2014, which contains a total of \$7.5 billion for water and natural resource projects and programs, including \$510 million for Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program, with \$43 million of that amount allocated to the Central Coast Funding Area; and

WHEREAS, to be eligible to receive IRWM grant funding the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County must approve the IRWM Plan that meets the state’s 2016 IRWM plan standards to be eligible for IRWM grant funding; and

WHEREAS, the IRWM Plan includes a list of projects that are anticipated to contribute towards the goals and objectives of the IRWM Plan and this list is updated as needed as projects are completed, as new priorities arise, and in response to future state IRWM funding solicitations; and

WHEREAS, the 2014 IRWM Plan and 2019 addendum, developed under the direction of the Regional Water Management Group Steering Committee and vetted through public workshops and meetings, is herewith presented for adoption by the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Cruz IRWM Plan is not a legally binding document on the agencies adopting the Plan, but rather serves as a framework for coordinated planning in the region; and

WHEREAS, adoption of the Santa Cruz IRWM Plan does not entail a direct commitment of resources, and implementation of each project listed in the Santa Cruz IRWM Plan will be the responsibility of individual project proponents; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of the updated Santa Cruz IRWM Plan is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §15262 and §15306; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Cruz IRWM Plan is meant to be complimentary to participating agencies’ individual plans and programs and does not supersede such plans and programs, and adoption of the Santa Cruz IRWM Plan does not proscribe the participating agencies’ planning efforts separate from the Santa Cruz IRWM Plan.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County does hereby adopt the 2014 Santa Cruz Integrated Regional Water Management Plan and 2019 Addendum.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution RCDSCC 2024-03 was duly and regularly adopted by the Board of Directors of the RCDSCC at the meeting thereof held on the ___ day of February 2024, motion by _____ and seconded by _____ motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Ayes:
Noes:
Abstained:
Absent:

Attest: _____

Name: Jim McKenna, Board President