

# Cosumnes Groundwater Authority Meeting of the Board of Directors Agenda

**When:** Wednesday, April 2, 2025  
8:30 am – 11:30 am,

**Where:** Galt Police Department Community Room  
455 Industrial Drive  
Galt, CA 95632

**Zoom:** Via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87392046319>  
Meeting ID: 873 9204 6319  
Call in Number: 1(669)-900-9128

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Any member of the public may address the Board concerning any matter on the agenda before or during its consideration of the matter. Public comment is limited to three (3) minutes per person. For good cause, the Board Chair may waive these limitations.

**ACCESSIBILITY** - If you have a disability and require a reasonable accommodation to fully participate in this event, please contact CGA Staff before the day of the meeting via email [[info@CosumnesGroundwater.org](mailto:info@CosumnesGroundwater.org)] or telephone [916-526-5447] to discuss your accessibility needs.

## **Call to Order** (10 minutes)

1. Introductions
  - a. Determine if Quorum is Present

## **Consent Calendar**

2. Consent Items (10 minutes)
  - a. Agenda – April 2, 2025
  - b. Minutes - March 5, 2024
  - c. Financial/Treasurer’s Report – April 2025

## **Regular Business Action Items**

3. Member Contribution Funding Agreement FY 24-25 – GSA Updates
4. Water Year 2024 Annual Report – Submittal Update
5. City of Galt Presentation – Metered Water Usage and New Building Projects
6. Cosumnes GSP – Recommended Corrective Actions Workplan Discussion
7. Administrative Services Agreement Contract Termination
8. Lower Cosumnes Partnership Support Request

**Informational Items**

9. DWR North Central Regional Office Update
10. Committee Reports
  - a. O&E Committee
11. CGA Staff Report
12. Director/Member GSA Comments/Reports

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (Limit of 3 minutes per speaker)**

13. Public Comment: *Comment will be received for items not on the agenda, but within the jurisdiction of the agency. The Board will hear comments but may not act on issues raised on non-agenda items.*

**Identification of items for future meetings**

The Board approved the following future agenda items by consensus:

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**Adjourn Meeting**

**Cosumnes Groundwater Authority  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Meeting Minutes  
March 5, 2025 - 8:30am

\*\* A recording of this meeting can be found on the CGA website at:  
<https://www.cosumnesgroundwater.org/meetings/>

**Call to Order: 8:33am**

1) Introductions / Determine if Quorum is Present

Directors in Attendance: Lindsay Carter, Rick Ferriera, Gary Silva, Russ Parker, John Griffin, Tim Reed, Herb Garms, Mark Stretars, Chris Hunley, Mike Wackman, John Mulrooney

**Regular Business Action Items**

2) Consent Items

- a. Agenda – March 5, 2025
  - b. Minutes – February 5, 2025
  - c. Financial Report – March
- \*Treasurer's Report

*Director Silva moved to approve the consent calendar.*

*Director Hunley seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed with all in favor.*

Treasurer Rick Ferriera discussed the current financial status of the CGA including recent invoices and the 35% of the CGA's budget that has been spent by this date. There are also about \$300,000 in reserves at this time with the expectation that by this time next year, we can easily be at the \$500,000 mark which puts it in a good place for the 5-year GSP Evaluation. He noted that we are well under budget for the FY 24-25 but should expect some larger invoices in Spring relating to the Annual Report, groundwater monitoring and more frequent CGA meetings, as needed. It was mentioned that CGA will be looking into creating P.O. 's going forward and will speak with consultants about this.

**Regular Business Action Items**

3) Draft Member Contribution Funding Agreement FY2 4-25

CGA Chair Carter presented the latest, amended version of the Member Contribution Funding Agreement for the fiscal year 24-25. There were amendments to the Terms including the nature of appeals, what happens if a GSA cannot pay the agreed-upon funds and how this will reflect a reduction in contributions (no in-kind payments).

There was discussion regarding invoices and collections of irrigation in the basin increases on a year-by-year basis and how CGA can adjust for this. There was also discussion about the possibility of a long-term funding agreement. This idea will be revisited for FY 25-26 and will be completed earlier in the year so timing is not an issue.

Drafted on:  
March 5, 2025

*Director Ferriera moved to approve the FY 24-25 Funding Agreement with Exhibit Cost Update to fix the accounting error.*

*Director Hunley seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed with 10 in favor and 1 abstention.*

#### 4) Water Year 2024 Draft Annual Report

EKI Environment & Water has worked to complete Water Year 2024 (October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024) Annual Report as required by SGMA. The Annual Report shall be submitted to DWR before April 1st of each year. GSA's are encouraged to provide comments and submit questions regarding the draft Annual Report to CGA Staff and EKI up until Friday, March 14. EKI will then finalize the report during the week of 3/17 - 3/21 to prepare it for submission.

EKI gave an overview regarding the PMA's including Harvest Water Project, the City of Galt's Recycled Water Project and SRCD conservation grants. EKI also discussed the stakeholder outreach efforts and data gap filling that are documented in the Annual Report. The Report provided a general overview of WY 2024 water levels, monitoring updates, cone of depression, supplemental wells added to the network, land subsidence, and surface elevation.

There was also discussion around the Recommended Corrective Actions (RCA's) that were assigned to CGA. It was suggested that these be renamed Required Corrective Actions and that EKI develop a work plan and cost estimate for the Plan Evaluation, based on the RCA's, once the Board directs them to.

*Director Ferriera moved to approve the draft WY 24 Annual Report for submission.*

*Director Stretars seconded the motion.*

*The motion passed with all in favor.*

#### **Informational Items**

5) DWR North Central Regional Office Update  
DWR update provided via a memo in the Agenda Packet.

#### 6) Upcoming Agenda Items

The following items were identified:

- Draft FY 25-26 Budget
- City of Galt Presentation
- EKI Proposal on RCAs

#### **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

8) Public Comment

#### **Adjourn Meeting**

*Director Carter adjourned the meeting by consensus at 10:33 am.*

**REGULAR MEETINGS OF CGA ARE HELD ON THE 1ST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY OTHER MONTH.**

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON **APRIL 2, 2025 AT 8:30AM.****

# Cosumnes Groundwater Authority

## Balance Sheet

As of March 28, 2025

	TOTAL
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Money Market	273,254.39
Public Checking (4246) - 1	93,867.56
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$367,121.95</b>
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	4,876.20
<b>Total Accounts Receivable</b>	<b>\$4,876.20</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$371,998.15</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$371,998.15</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$21,369.40
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$21,369.40</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$21,369.40</b>
Equity	\$350,628.75
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$371,998.15</b>

# Cosumnes Groundwater Authority

## Budget vs. Actuals: Budget\_FY25\_P&L - FY25 P&L

July 2024 - June 2025

	TOTAL			
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	OVER BUDGET	REMAINING
<b>Income</b>				
4100 Member Contributions	490,806.20		490,806.20	-490,806.20
Interest Income	2,693.20		2,693.20	-2,693.20
Services	29,028.00		29,028.00	-29,028.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$522,527.40</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$522,527.40</b>	<b>\$ -522,527.40</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$522,527.40</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$522,527.40</b>	<b>\$ -522,527.40</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
5000 Staff Personnel Expenses (Contract)				
Personnel - SRCD	33,750.00	70,000.00	-36,250.00	36,250.00
<b>Total 5000 Staff Personnel Expenses (Contract)</b>	<b>33,750.00</b>	<b>70,000.00</b>	<b>-36,250.00</b>	<b>36,250.00</b>
5100 Legal Services	3,678.00	15,000.00	-11,322.00	11,322.00
5200 Public Outreach	1,271.55	10,000.00	-8,728.45	8,728.45
5400 Annual Report Technical Support	31,446.22	33,000.00	-1,553.78	1,553.78
5410 Data Management System		4,000.00	-4,000.00	4,000.00
5420 Other Technical Support	22,385.48	50,000.00	-27,614.52	27,614.52
5430 Monitoring	2,127.58	4,500.00	-2,372.42	2,372.42
5600 Financial Audit and Accounting Services	8,925.00	10,000.00	-1,075.00	1,075.00
5640 Funding Exploration		5,000.00	-5,000.00	5,000.00
5700 Data Gaps		30,000.00	-30,000.00	30,000.00
5800 Office Supplies & Software	2,312.47	5,000.00	-2,687.53	2,687.53
5900 Folsom Water Application		5,000.00	-5,000.00	5,000.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$105,896.30</b>	<b>\$241,500.00</b>	<b>\$ -135,603.70</b>	<b>\$135,603.70</b>
<b>NET OPERATING INCOME</b>	<b>\$416,631.10</b>	<b>\$ -241,500.00</b>	<b>\$658,131.10</b>	<b>\$ -658,131.10</b>
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$416,631.10</b>	<b>\$ -241,500.00</b>	<b>\$658,131.10</b>	<b>\$ -658,131.10</b>

# Cosumnes Groundwater Authority

## Accounts Receivable

As of March 26, 2025

	CURRENT	1 AND OVER	TOTAL
Galt Irrigation District (GID)	3,876.20		\$3,876.20
Supervisor Pat Hume		1,000.00	\$1,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,876.20</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>	<b>\$4,876.20</b>

# Cosumnes Groundwater Authority

## Bills to be paid

All Dates

DATE	TRANSACTION TYPE	NUM	DUE DATE	PAST DUE	AMOUNT	OPEN BALANCE
EKI Environment & Water (650) 292-9100						
03/04/2025	Bill	C20149.02-15	04/03/2025	-6	2,566.20	2,566.20
03/25/2025	Bill	C20149.02-16	04/24/2025	-27	18,803.20	18,803.20
<b>Total for EKI Environment &amp; Water</b>					<b>\$21,369.40</b>	<b>\$21,369.40</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>					<b>\$21,369.40</b>	<b>\$21,369.40</b>

**Cosumnes Groundwater Authority  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: April 2, 2025  
Agenda Item #: 3  
Agenda Item Subject: Member Contribution Funding Agreement FY 24-25

To: CGA Board of Directors  
From: CGA Chair

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**Background**

In June 2024, the CGA Board adopted the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget. CGA staff, along with assistance from legal, based on past direct from the Board, is presenting to the Board the updated Member Contribution Funding Agreement for FY 24 – 25. This Agreement has been established based on the updated fee study that was implemented this fiscal year.

The Member Contribution Funding Agreement for FY 24/25 was approved at the March 5, 2025 meeting.

To date, only signed copies from Amador GSA and Sloughhouse GSA have been received.

**Attachment:** [Member Contribution Funding Agreement FY 24-25](#)

**Recommendations**

- Please return signed copies of the agreement to CGA Chair or sign the hard copy version available at the meeting.

**Cosumnes Groundwater Authority  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: April 2, 2025  
Agenda Item #: 4  
Agenda Item Subject: Water Year 2024 Annual Report

To: CGA Board of Directors  
From: CGA Chair

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**Background**

The Water Year 2024 Annual Report was reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors at the March 5, 2025 meeting.

The annual report was submitted to DWR, by the CGA Chair, on Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> and was received by DWR.

This has also been uploaded to the CGA website.

**Attachment:** [Water Year 2024 Final Annual Report](#)

**Recommendations**

- No action needed

**Cosumnes Groundwater Authority  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: April 2, 2025  
Agenda Item #: 5  
Agenda Item Subject: City of Galt Presentation

To: CGA Board of Directors  
From: CGA Chair

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**Background**

The CGA Board of Directors has asked the City of Galt to present on current water metering, water usage of non-metered residents and for future water projections based on the new developments currently under construction.

**Attachment:** Any presentations given will be provided to the Board and public during the meeting and posted to the CGA website after the meeting.

**Recommendations**

- Discussion and Q&A for City of Galt and their representatives
- Request Board direction for CGA Chair

**Cosumnes Groundwater Authority  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: April 2, 2025  
Agenda Item #: 6  
Agenda Item Subject: EKI Recommended Corrective Action Workplan

To: CGA Board of Directors  
From: CGA Chair

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**Background**

The CGA Board of Directors approved EKI's general approach to the Recommended Corrective Actions at the February meeting.

CGA Chair has met with EKI and reviewed their proposed workplan to address these actions for their needed inclusion in the Periodic Evaluation in 2026.

EKI has presented a proposed workplan for Board consideration and discussion. Once this document has been reviewed and approved by the Board, EKI can then propose a cost estimate for completion.

**Attachment:** [EKI Proposed Recommended Corrective Action Workplan](#)

**Recommendations**

- Discuss proposed workplan and identify who will be responsible for each task and approve timeline.

	RECOMMENDED CORRECTIVE ACTION	TASK (by GSA)	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	START DATE	COMPLETION DATE	COST
RCA 1	Assess the potential impact of the established Minimum Thresholds for chronic lowering of groundwater levels on domestic wells.	Conduct volunteer well registration program.	GSA/CGA	April, 2025	April, 2026	
		Desktop domestic well reconnaissance and verification using OWSCR dataset.	EKI	April, 2025	October, 2026	
		Outreach and field canvass.	GSA/CGA	July, 2025	October, 2026	
		Expand representative and/or supplemental monitoring network to include additional domestic wells.	GSA/CGA	May, 2026	August, 2026	
		Summarize, map, and evaluate domestic well data for completeness.	EKI	April, 2026	October, 2026	
		Calculate impacts of Minimum Thresholds for chronic lowering of groundwater levels on domestic wells.	EKI	May, 2026	October, 2026	
		Summarize Data Gaps for Plan Evaluation.	EKI	July, 2026	July, 2026	
		Prepare text and figures for Plan Evaluation.	EKI	August, 2026	November, 2026	
RCA 2	Revise the Undesirable Results definition for chronic lowering of groundwater levels to be based on impacts due to lowering of groundwater levels (i.e., the number or percentage of wells that the GSAs deem acceptable to impact due to lowering of groundwater levels) and update the minimum thresholds accordingly.	GSA Workshop to revise the definition of Undesirable Results for chronic lowering of groundwater levels.	GSA/CGA/EKI	May, 2026	July, 2026	
		Update Minimum Thresholds (no model update costs).	EKI	August, 2026	October, 2026	
		GSA workshops to develop programs to verify and mitigate reported impacts on domestic wells.	EKI	2027	2029?	
		Update relevant text and figures for Plan Amendment including Projects and Management Actions to mitigate Undesirable Results	GSA/CGA/EKI	2027	2029?	
RCA 3	Conduct the necessary investigations or studies to better understand the relationship between groundwater levels and degraded water quality.	Utilize data set <sup>1</sup> resulting from SGMA monitoring program, and other publicly available data to re-evaluate relationships between water quality, water levels, and pumpage.	EKI	January, 2026	May, 2026	
		Evaluate potential impact of findings on Minimum Thresholds for degraded groundwater quality.	EKI	June, 2026	August, 2026	
		Prepare text and figures for Plan Evaluation.	EKI	August, 2026	November, 2026	
		Update Minimum Thresholds, if needed, as part of Plan Amendment.	EKI	2027	2029?	
RCA 4	Establish sustainable management criteria for land subsidence based on direct measurements of land elevation changes.	Utilize data gap filling efforts addressed under RCA 6.	EKI	August, 2025	December, 2025	
		GSA Workshop to revise the definition of Undesirable Results for Land Subsidence.	GSA/CGA/EKI	November, 2025	February, 2026	
		Prepare text and figures for Plan Evaluation.	EKI	August, 2026	November, 2026	
		Develop Sustainable Management Criteria (Minimum Thresholds, Measurable Objectives, and Interim Measures) based on land surface elevation changes for Plan Amendment.	EKI	2027	2029?	

RCA 5	Implement DWR guidance on evaluating surface water depletions, when available. Recent guidance confirms GSAs are only responsible for depletions caused by pumping within the GSA. <sup>2</sup>	Update RMW-ISW monitoring network (New Hope monitoring wells and re-activated stream gages).	GSA/CGA/EKI	August, 2025	July, 2026	
		Utilize CoSANA to quantify stream depletions attributed to pumping per DWR guidance (no model update costs).	EKI	April, 2025	July, 2025	
		GSA Workshops to revise the definition of Undesirable Results for Interconnected Surface Water (depletions).	GSA/CGA/EKI	August, 2025	July, 2026	
		Collaborate and coordinate with local, state, and federal regulatory agencies and other interested stakeholders to better understand the beneficial uses and users potentially impacted by pumping induced surface water depletions within the GSA's jurisdictional areas (for example, reactivating the Surface Water Advisory Group [SWAG])	GSA/CGA/EKI	November, 2025	July, 2026	
		Prepare text and figures for Plan Evaluation.	EKI	August, 2026	November, 2026	
		Utilize DWR guidance, when available, to revise Minimum Thresholds for depletions as part of Plan Amendment.	EKI	2027	2029?	
		Update relevant text and figures for Plan Amendment including Projects and Management Actions to prevent Undesirable Results.	EKI	2027	2029?	
RCA 6	Expand the land subsidence monitoring network to provide sufficient coverage of the Subbasin.	Investigate established monuments and existing land surface elevation monitoring programs.	GSA/CGA/EKI	April, 2025	August, 2025	
		Integrate existing monitoring programs with DWR InSAR data and existing GPS station to identify data gaps.	EKI	July, 2025	October, 2025	
		Establish land surface elevation (RMS-LS) monitoring network.	GSA/CGA/EKI	October, 2025	May, 2026	
		Prepare text and figures for Plan Evaluation.	EKI	August, 2026	November, 2026	

1. Red text will be addressed as part of a Plan Amendment.
2. Assumes previously established protocols for all RMW-WQs are followed: ensure required water quality data constituents are analyzed, water levels are measured in the well at the time of sampling, water production is measured/estimated and recorded at the time of sampling, and implementing the Trigger Threshold response (increase monitoring frequency for wells that exceed the TT). The protocols include direct outreach to PWS that reports pumpage to request groundwater level measurements be collected and recorded when routine sampling is conducted.
3. Schedule depends on release data of final DWR guidance document and could be further influenced by the status of any CoSANA updates.

**Cosumnes Groundwater Authority  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: April 2, 2025  
Agenda Item #: 7  
Agenda Item Subject: Administrative Services Agreement Contract Termination

To: CGA Board of Directors  
From: CGA Chair

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**Background**

At the June 5, 2024 the Board of Directors approved the FY 24-25 Administrative Services Agreement with Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District, which provides staffing services for CGA. This agreement expires on June 30, 2025.

**Attachment:** [FY 24/25 Administrative Services Agreement](#)

**Recommendations**

- Board to approve early termination of the agreement subject to Section 9, with a 60-days written notice to Sloughhouse RCD.

## **Cosumnes Groundwater Authority and Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District Administrative Services Agreement**

THIS AGREEMENT is made this 5<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2024 between COSUMNES GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY (“CGA”), a California Joint Powers Authority, by and through its Board of Directors, and SLOUGHHOUSE RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT (“SRCD”), a California Resource Conservation District and a signatory to the CGA Joint Powers Agreement, by and through its Board of Directors.

### **RECITALS**

**WHEREAS**, CGA and SRCD are independent public agencies, each participating in water management and planning within their respective boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parties wish to take advantage of staffing and management efficiencies potentially available to them, while providing for effective and locally knowledgeable management services within the groundwater basin; and

**WHEREAS**, CGA wishes to contract with SRCD to provide it certain management and watershed coordination services as delineated herein; and

**WHEREAS**, the services provided herein would be performed at the direction of the CGA Board, for the benefit of CGA and its members, including SRCD; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parties have the authority to contract for these services under the CGA Joint Powers Agreement and applicable provisions of California law; and

**WHEREAS**, the Districts intend for this initial Agreement to serve as a trial period for potential future cooperation.

### **AGREEMENT**

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties agree as follows:

- 1. Recitals.** The Recitals above are incorporated and adopted as if fully set out herein.
- 2. Term of Agreement:** The initial term of this Agreement shall commence on July 1, 2024 or the date of its execution by both districts noted in the opening paragraph above, whichever comes later, and continues until June 30, 2025. The initial term of this Agreement may be extended upon approval by the governing Board of each Party.
- 3. Services to be Performed:** SRCD will provide staffing to perform the services identified in Exhibit A, according to the rate schedule provided therein.
- 4. Costs:** There will be no additional fee for costs or office space. The Parties will

negotiate additional costs/fee share for shared facilities, equipment and projects as the need arises.

**5. Billing:** For the initial term of this Agreement, SRCD shall bill CGA for services provided on an hourly basis. SRCD will send CGA a monthly statement of the fees & costs incurred under this Agreement. SRCD's statements will clearly describe the basis for all charges and will itemize costs and expenses attributed to CGA under this Agreement. In the event that CGA objects to any fee or expense item, the Parties shall immediately meet and confer in an attempt to resolve the disagreement in an amicable fashion.

**6. Relationship of Staff to Board/District:** For the term of the Agreement, SRCD staff will remain SRCD employees. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as creating an employer-employee relationship between SRCD staff and CGA. The parties recognize that management and policy determinations for each Party are carried out under the direction and control of that entity's governing boards.

**7. Conflicts between Parties:** The Parties recognize that CGA and SRCD are each a distinct legal entity, and from time to time, their positions on items of mutual concern may differ. In the event of a conflict between the interests of the Districts, either presently occurring or potential, the Chair of each Board shall meet and confer in order to resolve the issue and develop a plan for staffing on that issue. In no case shall staff be required or expected to prioritize competing interests of the two Districts.

**8. Indemnity.** Each Party agrees, to the fullest extent permitted by law, to indemnify and hold the other Party and its trustees, officers, employees, agents or authorized volunteers harmless from any and all damages, liability or costs (including attorneys' fees and costs of defense) to the extent caused by the indemnifying Party's own negligent acts, errors or omissions or the negligent acts, errors or omissions of its contractors or sub-contractors or others for whom the indemnifying Party is legally liable.

**9. Early Termination of the Agreement:** The Agreement may be mutually terminated by the Parties at any time. The Agreement may be terminated by either party upon 60 days written notice of the termination. In the event of an early termination of this Agreement, the parties agree to cooperate in transitioning the services provided under this Agreement back to the respective parties. Termination shall not relieve any Party of its financial obligations arising under this Agreement prior to the effective date of the termination, including but not limited to financial obligations or guarantees for loans provided by individual Parties, if applicable.

## GENERAL

**10. Entire Agreement.** This MOA constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings, written or oral. This MOA may be amended from time to time by written agreement executed by the Parties.

**11. Severability.** If one or more clauses, sentences, paragraphs or provisions of this MOA are held to be unlawful, invalid or unenforceable, it is hereby agreed by the Parties that the remainder of the MOA shall not be affected thereby. Such clauses, sentences, paragraphs or

provisions shall be deemed reformed so as to be lawful, valid and enforced to the maximum extent possible.

**12. Headings.** The paragraph headings used in this MOA are intended for convenience only and shall not be used in interpreting this MOA or in determining any of the rights or obligations of the Parties to this MOA.

**13. Construction and Interpretation.** This MOA has been arrived at through negotiation and each Party has had a full and fair opportunity to revise the terms of this MOA. As a result, the normal rule of construction that any ambiguities are to be resolved against the drafting Party shall not apply in the construction or interpretation of this MOA.

**14. Waivers.** Waiver of any breach or default hereunder shall not constitute a continuing waiver or a waiver of any subsequent breach either of the same or of another provision of this Agreement and forbearance to enforce one or more of the remedies provided in this MOA shall not be deemed to be a waiver of that remedy.

**15. Third Party Beneficiaries.** This MOA shall not create any right or interest in any non-Party or in any member of the public as a third party beneficiary.

**16. Counterparts.** This MOA may be executed by the Parties in separate counterparts, each of which when so executed and delivered shall be an original. All such counterparts shall together constitute but one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have executed this Agreement:

<i>Herb Garms, Chair Sloughouse Resource Conservation District</i>	<i>Dated:</i>
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<i>Chris Hunley, Chair Cosumnes Groundwater Authority</i>	<i>Dated:</i>
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**EXHIBIT A**

**SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED**

Task 1: Serve as Cosumnes Groundwater Authority Secretary/Board Clerk

- i. Assist the Board of Directors in carrying out their policies and procedures while

- ii. serving as the Board Clerk.

**Task 2: SGMA Activities**

Confer with contractors to ensure that the CGA Board is staying on course to meet the corrective actions set up in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

**Task 3: Outreach and Engagement**

Serve as the Cosumnes Subbasin Public Information Officer and respond to all questions/requests from the public, media, and other stakeholders. Coordinate with GSA reps as warranted.

Coordinate the implementation of the Outreach and Engagement Committee.

**Task 4: Contract and Fiscal Management**

Work with the Cosumnes Groundwater Authority Treasurer.

Provide oversight of Cosumnes Groundwater Authority contracts and finances.

**Task 5: Miscellaneous**

Work with the Board of Directors to identify staffing needs.

Work collaboratively with the Cosumnes Subbasin Watershed Coordinator to ensure adequate staffing is provided to all tasks.

Other tasks and responsibilities identified by the Board of Directors and agreed to by Sloughhouse RCD.

<b>Schedule</b>	<b>Hourly Rate</b>	<b>Total Monthly Hours</b>	<b>Total Monthly Costs</b>
Board Meeting Months	\$75	80	\$6,000
Non-meeting Months	\$75	40	\$3,000

**Cosumnes Groundwater Authority  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: April 2, 2025  
Agenda Item #: 8  
Agenda Item Subject: Request Lower Cosumnes Partnership

To: CGA Board of Directors  
From: CGA Chair

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**Background**

In January, CGA was requested to support a coordinated watershed funding request for Prop 4 funding, in the form of our logo on a general request letter to the state legislature. This is an iterative concept document, with the initial proposal meant to demonstrate coordinated interest to the legislature so that funds are not reallocated from the programs in the watershed.

A follow-up email was sent in February and this letter is being used to speak to legislators about coordinated interest in Prop 4 funds and to continue to demonstrate the need for these funds and to not be reallocated in ongoing state budget considerations.

**Attachment:** [Sierra to Sea Climate Bond Support Request](#)

**Recommendations**

- Discuss proposal and determine if CGA would like to participate in this effort

# Sierra to Sea Regional Prop 4 Funding Proposal

**Request:** Following the Legislature’s historic passage of the Climate Bond, the [Governor has proposed spending \\$2.7B in 2025-2026](#). To maximize Prop 4 investment effectiveness, the following partners encourage the Legislature to frontload that investment, and drive investment from multiple programs into coordinated regional efforts that can deliver high-impact, cost-effective, integrated results. This “Sierra to Sea” partnership has already secured \$166M to begin work on several priority projects in the region, and now respectfully request \$75M in parallel funding from Prop 4 programs to more fully implement an integrated, data-driven regional resilience effort.



**Background:** In this Sierra to Sea region (Figure 1), a large and diverse group of partners are deploying a funding and implementation plan that integrates otherwise fragmented efforts from the forested headwaters of the Eldorado National Forest down through the American, Cosumnes, and Mokelumne Rivers and into the Delta. This approach cuts across jurisdictions, brings together siloed funding sources and partners, and delivers coordinated funding to a prioritized set of conservation projects that maximize water quality, water quantity, fire risk, flood risk, and GHG benefits.

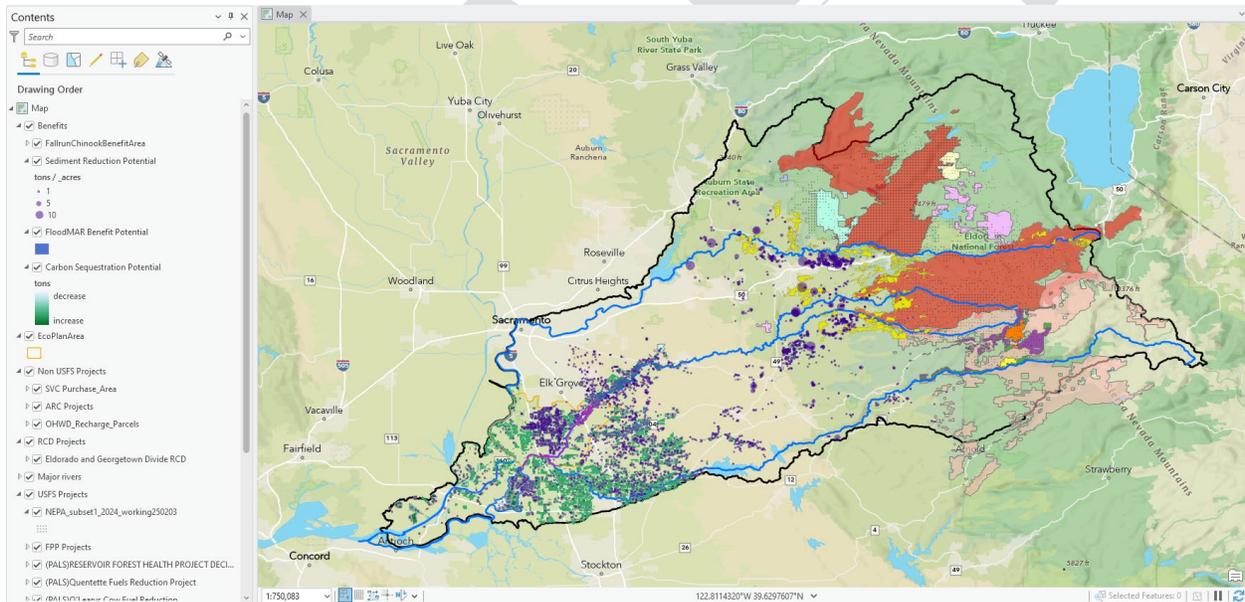


Figure 1. A snapshot of the region, including a list of CEQA & NEPA-ready planned projects and watershed benefits.

The partners agree that landscape-scale investment—not the current piecemeal project-by-project, funder-by-funder approach—is needed to adapt to the climate-driven fire, drought, and flood impacts impacting this region. To-date, agency-level block grants (e.g., Sierra Nevada Conservancy’s [SNC] Landscape Investment Program.) and multi-agency/county models (e.g., Cosumnes Groundwater Authority, joint power authorities, or Integrated Regional Watershed Management Program) have not unlocked sufficient results at speed and scale. This is because funding remains too fragmented to leverage and match at scale, common metrics are not available to unite partners around priority projects, and because operating a JPA or block grant at the *intergovernmental* level is too complicated.

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In response to these challenges, the partners are implementing a watershed-scale model through which project funding sources are aggregated and matched through a central “hub.” To make this work, partners have developed common project priorities using a uniform set of environmental metrics; are collectively pursuing, securing, and matching funding across the region; and then collaborating to implement an integrated portfolio of forest, on-farm, and watershed health projects. To track progress, all projects are quantified using the same metrics, and summed against regional targets, including the 30x30 Initiative. This transaction-based model does not require full agreement, like a JPA or block grant, just agreement on co-funding and prioritizing projects, and integrating historically siloed efforts.

**Watershed Readiness:** To enable this approach, partners in the [Healthy Eldorado Landscape Partnership \(HELP\)](#) have developed a “[watershed outcomes bank](#)”, which is managed by The Freshwater Trust (TFT). To pilot the bank, the US Forest Service and TFT are negotiating a partnership agreement, with watershed partners agreeing to a charter where they will commit to 1) use common metrics to help prioritize project funding and work in pursuit of watershed resilience targets, 2) prioritize high impact projects throughout the watershed, 3) jointly pursue funding and manage funds via a Bank, 4) use financing to get funds to projects and partners on-time, and 5) continuously maximize outcomes through coordinated implementation.

Because of the partners’ respective success and existing programmatic building blocks, this is the perfect region to pilot this approach. In the upper watershed, HELP has secured \$43M to restore the area burned by the Caldor Fire, \$12M to restore/reduce fire risk in the Crystal Basin, and \$17M in the Mokelumne. In the lower watershed, 1) Sacramento Sewer is implementing its \$600M [Harvest Water](#) program to fix a groundwater cone of depression that impairs the Cosumnes River, 2) Omochumne-Hartnell Water District is implementing managed aquifer recharge projects using flood flows, 3) the US Bureau of Land Management is removing a major fish passage barrier, and 4) the Northern Delta Groundwater Sustainability Agency is working to meet SGMA targets. Now we must integrate efforts.

**Detailed Funding Request:** As we have seen from the devastating fires in Los Angeles, post-disaster costs are extraordinary (hundreds of billions of dollars), so deploying resiliency dollars quickly and efficiently is essential to making our landscapes more resilient to climate change and keeping our communities safe. To that end, the partners strongly recommend: 1) **allocating significantly larger sums in 2025-2026** (see *Table 1*), 2) **driving coordinated funding from multiple Prop 4 programs into regional funding and implementation “hubs”**, and 3) **helping to direct \$75M to an initial group of priority Sierra to Sea projects** (see *Table 2*) to show how this approach can yield much better, faster results (at the state level, several mechanisms could be used to help direct parallel but highly coordinated funding into this effort across several agencies and programs<sup>ii</sup>).

Section	Prop 4 Funding Total and Purpose	Gov. 25-26	Suggested	Sierra to Sea
91013	\$200M to DOC for groundwater projects. <sup>iii</sup>	\$12M	\$50M	\$10M
91017	\$15M to DWR for stream gages/water data. <sup>iv</sup>	\$1M	\$4M	\$0.5M
91031	\$100M to DWR for IRWMP projects. <sup>v</sup>	\$0.469M	\$10M	\$7M
91040(a)	\$150M to WCB for streamflow enhancement. <sup>vi</sup>	\$21M	\$50M	\$8M
91520(a)	\$185M to DOC - regional forest & fire capacity. <sup>vii</sup>	\$6M	\$100M	\$5.5M
91520(b)	\$42.1M to SNC for landscape block grants. <sup>viii</sup>	\$79.5M	\$79.5M	\$10M
91520(c)	\$175M to CalFire for Forest Health program. <sup>ix</sup>	\$82.2M	\$82.2M	\$5M
93010(a)	\$300M to WCB - fish, wildlife, habitat grants. <sup>x</sup>	\$197M	\$197M	\$19M
93020	\$48M to SNC to reduce climate impacts. <sup>xi</sup>	\$10M	\$10M	\$5M
93510(b)	\$40M to CDFA for ag water efficiency projects. <sup>xii</sup>	\$37.6M	\$37.6M	\$5M

**TABLE 2: DETAILED SIERRA TO SEA PROJECT NEEDS**

Project Description	Match & Existing Activity	Prop 4 Funding Request
<p><b>Capacity Building and Planning:</b> To operate at this regional level, resources are needed for partner coordination, project prioritization, project cultivation/permitting, fund aggregation, co-funding, and quantification/tracking/reporting. To ensure good choices are made and show progress against targets, all project results should be quantified using the same uniform metrics.</p>	<p>TFT has secured two IFNF grants to help build up this capacity (\$150K feasibility, \$300K piloting – active through 2026), develop a regional planning toolkit (including a Solver Tool that helps identify the optimal mix of projects in order to achieve water quality, water quantity, fire risk reduction, and GHG targets), and develop the coordinated funding and prioritization infrastructure to integrate many of the region’s currently siloed efforts. TFT is also working closely with SacSewer to quantify the multiple benefits from its Harvest Water program and identify opportunities to provide match for projects throughout the watershed that have benefits in the <i>EcoPlan</i> benefit area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$500K from DWR IRWMP (section 91031) for project quantification, planning, NEPA/CEQA compliance. Spread evenly 2025-2027.</li> <li>• \$500K from DOC Regional Forest &amp; Fire Capacity Program (section 91520(a)) added to SNC’s existing grant for regional forest and fire capacity program</li> </ul>
<p><b>Restoration &amp; Reforestation of Caldor Fire-Affected Watersheds:</b> The Caldor Fire burned over 219,000 acres. Following the fire, the USFS estimates that 76k acres need to be reforested, 29k acres thinned, 28k acres treated to reduce hazardous fuels, 193 miles of fuel breaks implemented, 66k acres treated with prescribed burning, and 544 acres of meadows restored. The proposed and ongoing work will reduce the risk of uncharacteristic or catastrophic wildfires, restore severely burned areas, and repair fire-damaged infrastructure. At current costs, this work is estimated to be \$215M. The Forest Service has identified ~30k acres of priority reforestation, aligned with broader plans for mechanical site preparation.</p>	<p>\$50.9M has been secured for Caldor reforestation/ restoration (\$33M from USDA Disaster supplemental funding, \$8.1M to American Forests/American Rivers from NFWF for restoration and reforestation, \$3.1M to American Forests for Caldor Fire reforestation (\$2.1M via Reforestation Trust funds and \$1M via The Coca-Cola Foundation), \$435K USDA IRVM for a post-fire full watershed assessment beginning in FY25, \$620K from WCB for implementation of a Caldor Fire Meadow Restoration project in FY25).</p> <p>Significant additional funding is needed to restore this fire-affected area. In addition, while many specific projects in this footprint are NEPA-ready, some additional analysis is required to scale these efforts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$5M from SNC/CAL FIRE regional block grant program (section 91520(b))</li> <li>• \$5M from the CAL FIRE Forest Health Program in section 91520(c) for improved management, forest watershed restoration, reforestation, prescribed fire, etc.</li> <li>• \$5M from WCB (section 93010(a)) for a grant to restore habitat for the benefit of fish and wildlife, and support climate adaptation/resiliency</li> </ul>
<p><b>Supplemental Forest Thinning in the Upper Mokelumne Watershed:</b> The large Upper Mokelumne landscape, recently suffering or threatened by multiple catastrophic wildfires (Caldor, Butte, Power, et al.) is the high value target for principal coalition partners</p>	<p>The Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority (UMRWA) is leading a coalition of partners in planning and implementing projects to restore and enhance disaster resilience to Upper Mokelumne forests. Beginning early 2022 the coalition began aggressively pursuing the two-phased, ~\$65M Mokelumne Amador Calaveras (MAC) <a href="#">Forest Health and</a></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$5M from SNC Climate Change Risk Reduction (section 93020(9)) to reduce impacts upon communities, fish and wildlife, and natural resources</li> </ul>

<p>Eldorado NF, Stanislaus NF, Amador Calaveras Consensus Group, Sierra Nevada Conservancy and CAL FIRE. By completing this forestry work, more water will be delivered downstream to at-risk Sustainable Groundwater Act high priority subbasins.</p>	<p><a href="#">Resilience Project</a> (formerly The Forest Projects Plan). The MAC project plan, completed in January 2023, prescribes treatments to about 26k priority acres.</p> <p>UMRWA has secured 2 CALFIRE grants that total ~\$12 million, and an SNC grant of ~\$5 million. In addition, Blue Forest has developed a Forest Resilience Bond in the Upper Mokelumne to fund restoration treatments for Phase I of this project in the Eldorado National Forest. Blue Forest has secured a \$100K commitment from PG&amp;E and \$500K from Pepsi.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$5M from SNC/CAL FIRE regional block grant program (section 91520(b))</li> <li>• \$5M from DOC (section 91520(a) Regional Forest &amp; Fire Capacity Program) added to SNC's existing grant for projects that improve forest health and fire resilience</li> <li>• \$5M from WCB Streamflow Enhancement Program (section 91040(a)) for forest thinning that improves water yields</li> </ul>
<p><b>Crystal Basin – Restoration, Thinning &amp; Prescribed Burning on USFS Lands:</b> The USFS estimates that 7k acres need to be thinned, 26k acres need to be treated to reduce hazardous fuels, 480 acres of pilings need to be implemented, 31k acres treated with prescribed burning, and 164 acres of meadows restored. At current costs, this work is estimated to be \$75M.</p>	<p>Through a block grant managed by SNC (\$1M USDA, \$7M CAL FIRE, \$2M SNC), Great Basin Institute is implementing multiple activities in the Crystal Basin through FY28 (John Don't, O'Leary Cow Reservoir, Wrights Lake, SMUD UARP projects). \$1.1M in USDA BIL/IRA funding was secured to implement the Crystal Basin ERP (Cleveland Icehouse, Wrights Lake Fuels), starting in FY25. \$500K in USDA funding was secured to implement the NWTF Cleveland Icehouse Project, starting in FY25. And \$400K from CAL FIRE for hazardous fuels reduction and prescribed fire.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$5M from DWR IRWMP (section 91031) for integrated regional water management projects that improve climate resilience</li> <li>• \$5M from WCB (section 93010(a)) for a grant to restore habitat for the benefit of fish and wildlife, and support climate adaptation/resiliency</li> </ul>
<p><b>Fish Passage, Flood Risk Reduction &amp; Groundwater Recharge Project:</b> The Blodgett Dam is a fish passage barrier in the Cosumnes River that blocks 16 miles of habitat for Fall-run Chinook. Additional funds would secure a permanent habitat and flood easement, and reconstruct a portion of the floodplain to enhance groundwater recharge during low flow years and ease flow management during floods. Restoration work will open 16 miles of Chinook salmon spawning habitat, improve instream and riparian habitat, and decrease flood risk.</p>	<p>TFT received \$294k from US BLM to remove the barrier and complete elements of the federal permitting.</p> <p>Additional funds are required to develop a more comprehensive plan for the in-channel restoration (beyond the structure removal), including field surveys to assess cut/fill volumes, detailed flow stage-wetted area curves, and a comprehensive riparian vegetation re-establishment plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$3M from the WCB Streamflow Enhancement Program (section 91040(b)) for a fishery enhancement project that supports salmon reintroduction into cold water habitat in the Sacramento watershed</li> <li>• \$4M from WCB (section 93010(a)) for a grant to restore habitat for the benefit of fish and wildlife, and acquire flood easements</li> </ul>
<p><b>Groundwater Replenishment using Peak Flood Flows:</b> Omochumne-Hartnell Water District is the first in the state to hold a 5-</p>	<p>TFT secured funding from two corporations to buy the replenishment credits from seasonal application of flood flows on agricultural fields where there is high potential for water</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$10M from the DOC Multi-Benefit Land Repurposing program (section</li> </ul>

<p>year Temporary Permit (2023-2027) from the State Water Resources Control Board to divert peak flood flows to recharge groundwater. Currently, this practice requires the SWRCB permit, a 1600 series SBAA, and a compliant CDFW fish screen.</p> <p>The partners plan to expand this effort by identifying projects with high groundwater infiltration and flood flow reduction overlap, and pursue a programmatic permitting approach with the state so that this practice can be enabled across the watershed during high flow events.</p>	<p>infiltration, also known as managed aquifer recharge (MAR). NRCS is currently in discussions with TFT to develop a handbook that would allow them to expand their EQIP and RCPP funding for MAR.</p> <p>Through its Phase II IFNF funding, TFT is developing an analytical model to identify the points in the Cosumnes system where MAR could recharge groundwater effectively, help reduce peak flood flows and minimize flood risk to built infrastructure. In the lower watershed, multiple partners including DWR, the County of Sacramento, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, various local Land Trusts, and RD 800 within the Harvest Water Program footprint are interested in securing conservation easements that can accept flood flows and support MAR.</p>	<p>91013) to repurpose peak flood flows to recharge groundwater in priority areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$5M from WCB (section 93010(a)) for a grant to acquire flood easements, and support climate adaptation/resiliency</li> <li>• \$1M from DWR IRWMP (section 91031) to develop a regional water permitting approach that repurposes peak flood flows to recharge groundwater in priority areas, and helps enable federal NRCS funding to better flow to these projects.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agricultural Water Use Efficiency:</b> The Cosumnes subbasin under SGMA has its own Groundwater Sustainability Plan. There is a groundwater demand that is greater than natural recharge.</p>	<p>Harvest Water is a significant source of new water, but the subbasin still needs additional groundwater demand reductions to be sustainable. A variety of different approaches could be applied to support that efficiency ranging from MAR to cover cropping.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$5M from CDFA State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program (section 93510(b)) for on-farm irrigation upgrade and other projects.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Expand Watershed Water Data:</b> Additional gages and water level management equipment are needed in the Cosumnes River watershed to help improve the linkages between forest management, flood flow management, and SGMA/Harvest Water needs in the lower watershed.</p>	<p>In the lower rivers, TFT is coordinating with local partners around the current DWR CalSIP funding opportunity to ensure alignment on potential new gage locations and enhancements to existing gages in the Cosumnes and Mokelumne watersheds.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$500K from DWR (section 91017) for stream gages and water data.</li> <li>• \$500K from DWR (section 91031) to improve climate resilience across the watershed.</li> </ul>

<sup>i</sup> For example, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy made a \$10M Landscape Investment Program block grant to HELP (\$5M Cal Fire, \$2M SNC, \$1M USFS), which is being implemented by the Great Basin Institute. SNC, co-funding agencies, and GBI encountered several implementation issues when packaging funds from multiple state agencies even though all agencies had similar objectives. Each agency had different agreement structures, compliance processes, board approval processes, administrative approaches, and reporting requirements/intervals. Participating funder agencies did not fully delegate decision-making authority to SNC, which caused duplicative work instead of the intended streamlining. Funding partners were challenged to align on a common set of project priorities, which complicated the coordinated effort. While agencies were aligned at a high level, these practical implementation issues highlight the limitations of a multi-state agency block grant program.

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- ii For example, once obligated multiple SNC funding amounts could be consolidated under the section 91520(b) block grant authority. DOC could deliver funds to the effort through SNC's Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program block grant. Finally, WCB could replicate its Sierra Meadows block grant model to help deliver its Prop 4 funds to the effort.
- iii For projects *“that reduce groundwater use, repurpose irrigated agricultural land, provide wildlife habitat, improve drought resilience or floodwater management, or support implementation of the [SGMA].”*
- iv To *“improve water data management and ... to reactivate existing stream gages and deploy new gages.”*
- v For *“projects related to integrated regional water management to improve climate resilience ...”*
- vi For *“projects ... including the acquisition of water or water rights, acquisition of land that includes water rights or contractual rights to water, and short- or long-term water transfers and leases.”*
- vii To *“increase regional capacity to prioritize, develop, and implement projects that improve forest health and fire resilience, implement community fire preparedness demonstration projects, facilitate greenhouse gas emissions reductions, and increase carbon sequestration in forests and other landscapes across regions ....”*
- viii To *“implement regional projects, including, but not limited to, ... projects that implement strategies developed by state conservancies through block grants and direct appropriations by the Legislature.”*
- ix For *“long-term forest health projects, including improved forest management, prescribed fire, prescribed grazing, cultural fire, forest watershed restoration, reforestation, upper watershed, riparian, and mountain meadow restoration, and activities that promote long-term carbon storage and sequestration. ....”*
- x For *“grant programs to protect and enhance fish and wildlife resources and habitat and achieve the state's biodiversity, public access, and conservation goals. ...”*
- xi To *“reduce the risks of climate change impacts upon communities, fish and wildlife, and natural resources ....”*
- xii To *“promote on farm water use efficiency with a focus on multiple-benefit projects that improve resilience to climate change and save water on California agricultural operations.”*