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RESOLUTION OF THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF TRANSFER OF GRANT RESPONSIBILITY (in substantially the form as presented to the Board) FROM THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD (WCB) FOR THE ACQUISITION OF A CONSERVATION EASEMENT, ON THE REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AS USAL REDWOOD FOREST, IN MENDOCINO COUNTY

The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection for the State of California does hereby find and resolve as follows:

Section 1, the legislature of California passed the California Forest Legacy Program Act of 2007 allowing the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to acquire conservation easements and that funding shall be obtained from gifts, donations, federal grants and loans, other appropriate funding sources, and from the sale of general obligation bonds.

Section 2, on October 17, 2011 the Wildlife Conservation Board entered into an "Agreement" (Grant Number WC-1054TM) with the Land Conservation Fund for the acquisition of a conservation easement on the Usal Redwood Forest.

Section 3, the People of California found that it is in the public interest to provide for the acquisition, development, rehabilitation, restoration, and protection of real property benefiting fish and wildlife, for the acquisition, restoration, or protection of habitat that promotes recovery of threatened, endangered, or fully protected species, maintains the genetic integrity of wildlife populations, and serves as corridors linking otherwise separate habitat to prevent habitat fragmentation.

Section 4, the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection hereby approves the transference of the Agreement of \$19,500,000.00 from the Wildlife Conservation Board as allowed by its paragraph 5.8. The State of California proposes to acquire the working-forest conservation easement on 49,576 acres of Douglas fir/redwood forest, oak woodlands and rangeland (real property) known as the Usal Redwood Forest in Mendocino County. While restricting subdivision and vineyard conversion, the easement will continue to allow commercial timber harvest and maintain the significant forest, watershed, view-shed, open space and other fish and wildlife habitat resources, cultural heritage, social and economic agricultural and forest product contributions.

Section 5, the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection hereby accepts the responsibility for the grant funds from the Wildlife Conservation Board for the acquisition of a conservation easement on the Usal Redwood Forest in Mendocino County (*APN #s attached*), and hereby approves the terms and conditions of Wildlife Conservation Board Grant Agreement.

Section 6, the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection hereby appoints the Director of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, or designee as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to applications, agreements, payment requests and compliance with all applicable current state and federal laws, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned projects.

Section 7, The Executive Officer for the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection shall certify the adoption of this Resolution.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this day of _____

J. Keith Gillless, Chair

ATTEST:

George Gentry, Executive Officer