EDMUND G. BROWN JR, Governor
NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD
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MAR 1 6 2018

Matt Botill, Branch Chief
Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Program
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Botill:

This Attestation Letter documents that the California Natural Resources Agency and the California Wildlife Conservation Board completed the attached Expenditure Record on March 15, 2018 for the Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program. The Expenditure Record is consistent with the statutory requirements of Government Code Section 16428.9 and with CARB's 2017 *Funding Guidelines for Agencies that Administer California Climate Investments* to support expenditures from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.

This Attestation Letter and Expenditure Record will be submitted to CARB for public posting on the CARB website at: www.arb.ca.gov/caclimateinvestments. Please direct questions on this Attestation Letter or Expenditure Record to Peter Perrine at (916) 445-1109 or by email to peter.perrine@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

John P. Donnelly, Executive Director
California Wildlife Conservation Board

John Laird, Secretary
California Natural Resources Agency

Enclosure

Wildlife Conservation Board
Expenditure Record for Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program
Draft Version dated March 15, 2018

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: Expenditure Record

California Wildlife Conservation Board
Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program

Authorizing legislation: Section 3640-101-3228 of the Budget Act of 2017 (Chapter 14, Statutes of 2017)

Element (1) A description of each expenditure proposed to be made by the administering agency pursuant to the appropriation.

❑ Agency that will administer funding	▪ California Wildlife Conservation Board
❑ Amount of proposed expenditure and appropriation reference	▪ The total expenditure is $20 million, per Section 3640-101-3228 of the Budget Act of 2017 (Chapter 14, Statutes of 2017).
❑ Estimated amount of expenditures for administering agency administrative costs	▪ Not more than 5 percent ($1.0 million) of the amount appropriated in Item 3640-101-3228 may be used for administrative costs of the Climate Change Adaptation Program.
❑ If applicable, identify laws or regulations that govern how funds will be used	▪ AB 1532 (Pérez, Chapter 807, Statutes of 2012), Senate Bill (SB) 535 (de León, Chapter 830, Statutes of 2012), SB 1018 (Budget and Fiscal Review Committee, Chapter 39, Statutes of 2012), SB 862 (Budget and Fiscal Review Committee, Chapter 36, Statutes of 2014), and AB 1550 (Gomez, Chapter 369, Statutes of 2016) provide the general framework for how the auction proceeds will be administered to further the purposes of AB 32. ▪ The Wildlife Conservation Law of 1947 established the authority for the program and provides direction on how the funds will be allocated to recipients, including requirements for project eligibility and program implementation. ▪ The Budget Act of 2017, as amended by AB 109, provides direction on the types of projects that should be funded.
❑ Continuation of existing Expenditure Record	▪ This is a new program that does not have an existing Expenditure Record.
❑ Project type(s)	▪ Climate adaptation and resiliency

❑ Describe the projects and/or measures that will be eligible for funding	▪ Conservation easements and long-term conservation agreements ▪ Working lands adaptation ▪ Technical assistance for natural and working land managers ▪ Improvement of rural-urban coordination
❑ Intended recipients	▪ Local governments ▪ Park and open space districts ▪ Resource conservation districts ▪ Private landowners ▪ Non-profit organizations
❑ Process for selecting projects for funding	▪ Competitive solicitation, evaluation, and selection of projects according to program guidelines.

Element (2) A description of how a proposed expenditure will further the regulatory purposes of Division 25.5 (commencing with Section 38500) of the Health and Safety Code, including, but not limited to, the limit established under Part 3 (commencing with Section 38550) and other applicable requirements of law.

❑ How the expenditure is reflected in the Investment Plan and the Scoping Plan	▪ AB 1532 requires that monies from the Fund be appropriated in a manner that is consistent with the three-year Investment Plan. The Cap-and-Trade Auction Proceeds Second Investment Plan identifies targets and goals for natural and working lands including direction to "protect, restore, and manage natural and working lands so they provide stable carbon stores and net GHG benefits". In addition, the plan also calls for projects that accomplish the following: "protect existing natural and working lands threatened by conversion to more carbon-intensive land uses", "strategically manage and restore lands to increase their capacity to sustainably store carbon and reduce GHG emissions, including short lived climate pollutants", and "promote restoration of forested lands, meadows, wetlands, and other natural areas". ▪ California's 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan identified key strategies and recommendations to continue reducing GHG emissions and achieve the goals and purposes of AB 32. The recommended actions include the need to "protect land from conversion to more intensified uses by increasing conservation opportunities" and "enhance the resilience of and potential for carbon sequestration on lands through management and restoration".

Element (3) A description of how a proposed expenditure will contribute to achieving and maintaining greenhouse gas emission reductions pursuant to Division 25.5 (commencing with Section 38500) of the Health and Safety Code.

❑ Describe how expenditures will facilitate the achievement of GHG emission reductions in the State	▪ Expenditures will achieve GHG emission reductions by funding projects that accomplish one or more of the following: - protect existing natural and working lands threatened by conversion to more carbon-intensive land uses. - Restoration or enhancement of habitats that directly and measurably enhance resilience to climate change for wildlife. Far fewer GHG emissions will be generated by increasing resilience, which assures that those habitats will continue to maintain vegetative communities that sequester carbon. - Development of tools to be used by land managers to improve long-term management of habitats and working landscapes to provide resilience to climate change. Benefits include habitat stability, resistance to natural disasters such as flooding and wildfire, or protection from sea level rise, all of which provide reduced GHG emissions or sequestration.
❑ Explain when GHG emission reductions and/or co-benefits are expected to occur and how they will be maintained	▪ For FY 2018/19 awards, net GHG benefits may begin as early as: - 2019: conservation easements to maintain and improve wildlife habitats and working lands to prevent conversion to more carbon-intensive land uses. - 2020: development of tools for land managers to provide enhanced climate change resilience and adaptation. - 2020: implementation of methodologies for land managers to provide greater resilience to climate change.

Element (4) A description of how the administering agency considered the applicability and feasibility of other non-greenhouse gas reduction objectives of Division 25.5 (commencing with Section 38500) of the Health and Safety Code.

❑ Expected co-benefits, particularly environmental, economic, public health and safety, and climate resiliency	▪ Conservation easements will protect habitats most resilient to climate change, but in addition may provide any of the following co-benefits: - Support of biodiversity and maintenance of wildlife habitat for state and federally listed species - Maintenance of refugia and migration corridors for wildlife - Preservation of cultural resources - Maintenance of existing employment opportunities - Enhancement of recreational opportunities and tourism revenue - Groundwater recharge - Water conservation - Soil retention - Flood control ▪ Implementation tools for land managers can take many forms and the specific co-benefits achieved will vary depending on the activities employed. Despite the variation, all such projects are expected to result in healthier, more resilient lands that provide numerous co-benefits including: - Avoiding or reducing the impacts from catastrophic wildfire. - Maintaining or improving water quality. - Support of biodiversity and wildlife habitats. - Maintenance and improvement of air quality. - Creation of new and maintenance of existing employment opportunities. - Employment and/or contracting opportunities for disadvantaged communities.
❑ How the project will support other objectives of AB 32 and related amendments	▪ The Climate Change Adaptation Program will fund projects that facilitate reductions of GHG emissions. In addition, projects funded will mitigate the risks of climate change, direct investment towards the State's most disadvantaged communities, and maximize environmental, economic, and public health benefits. ▪ The Program provides for technical assistance to identify and implement sustainable agricultural practices that

	promote the transitions to clean technology, water efficiency, and improved air quality.
❑ Percentage of total funding that will be expended for projects that benefit disadvantaged or low-income communities and low-income households per CARB guidance	▪ The WCB Strategic Plan has identified a target of providing some public access opportunities on 50 percent of all land acquisitions, including conservation easements, and that 50 percent of those projects that do provide access will benefit priority populations (disadvantaged communities, low-income communities or low-income households). Conservation easement acquisition projects will be evaluated as to their ability to fall within and benefit priority populations. ▪ Projects that develop and implement tools for land managers will be evaluated as to their ability to provide direct benefits to priority populations.
❑ Describe the benefits to disadvantaged or low-income communities and low-income households per CARB guidance	▪ Funding applications will include a checklist identifying applicable benefits to AB 1550 populations that a project will deliver and common needs of AB 1550 populations that the project will address. Benefits include: - Protection of land to provide public access and maintain wildlife habitats and working landscapes in the face of climate change. - Acquisitions of conservation easements that provide climate adaptation and resilience to wildlife could also provide any of the following benefits to priority populations: reduced flood risk, maintenance of water quality, watershed health, or educational opportunities through partnerships with local schools. - Technical assistance and development of tools to give land managers long-term climate adaptation strategies, which may provide additional employment opportunities to priority populations.
❑ Explain strategies the administering agency will use to maximize benefits to disadvantaged communities	▪ To help maximize benefits to disadvantaged communities, the Wildlife Conservation Board will coordinate with local and regional entities to host and participate in technical workshops, that allow applicants to receive assistance during the application process. ▪ In evaluating projects, points will be awarded for projects that are located within and provide benefits to disadvantaged and low-income communities and demonstrate that the project will meaningfully address an important community need. This will help maximize benefits and support efforts to meet, or exceed statutory requirements for expenditures that benefit disadvantaged and low-income communities.

Element (5) A description of how the administering agency will document the result achieved from the expenditure to comply with Division 25.5 (commencing with Section 35800) of the Health and Safety Code.

❑ How the administering agency will track / report progress to make sure projects are implemented per requirements in statute and CARB guidance	▪ The Wildlife Conservation Board will require funding recipients to maintain records and provide periodic status reports in accordance with the grant agreement. In addition, the WCB will conduct periodic reviews of selected projects. Project tracking and reporting will be conducted as described in CARB's funding guidelines. ▪ If a funding recipient does not perform in accordance with program requirements, the recipient will be subject to the remedies for non-performance, as identified in the program guidelines and grant agreement.
❑ Describe the approach that will be used to document GHG emission reductions and/or other benefits before and after project completion. Include citations for references that support methodology	▪ The Wildlife Conservation Board will coordinate with CARB to estimate GHG co-benefits, using CARB standardized methodologies. Staff will review documentation prepared by project proponents to ensure consistency with approved methodologies. ▪ WCB will collect data on the number of acres and projects that provide climate adaptation for wildlife. ▪ WCB will collect data on project success in achieving co-benefits, such as acres of habitat protecting essential habitat for species of fish and wildlife; acres of working landscapes protected, and number of easements providing public access opportunities, especially as they relate to disadvantaged communities and low-income communities. ▪ The WCB will provide regular updates on expenditures, project status, and benefits in reports prepared according to CARB's Funding Guidelines. At a minimum, the reports will include expenditure amounts, number of conservation easements and acreages of climate resilient habitats protected, status of projects that provide technical assistance to land managers or improve rural-urban coordination, and quantification of other applicable co benefits. Reports will also include information on project outcomes for 30 percent of projects over three years.