

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-XXXX

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SUISUN RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT ADOPTING THE 2021 AMENDMENT TO THE SUISUN RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S COMPONENT OF THE SUISUN MARSH LOCAL PROTECTION PROGRAM

Whereas, the Suisun Marsh Preservation Act of 1977 requires the Suisun Resource Conservation District ("SRCD") to prepare a Component of the Suisun Marsh Local Protection Program ("SRCD LPP"),

Whereas, the SRCD LPP is required to include a water management program for each managed wetland in private ownership within the primary management area ("water management programs") and to specify all necessary development related to such management; and

Whereas, in 1980, the SRCD contracted with the U.S. Soil Conservation Service ("SCS") to prepare water management programs; and

Whereas, in 1984, the water management programs developed by SCS were incorporated into Individual Duck Club Management Plans ("original plans") and certified by the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission ("Commission"); and

Whereas, the water management programs and the original plans have not been updated since 1984 and no longer reflect best available science or up-to-date adaptive management strategies; and

Whereas, SRCD staff have worked with private managed wetland owners to draft new Individual Ownership Adaptive Habitat Management Plans ("revised plans") for each of the private owners that reflect the latest science and that provide private owners with a range of water management options that offer flexibility based on environmental, regulatory and maintenance needs as well as targeted habitat objectives; and

Whereas, the revised plans' flexible approach to water management alters the existing water management programs and cannot become effective until an amendment to the SRCD LPP is certified by the Commission; and

Whereas, the policies, plans, standards, objectives, diagrams, drawings, maps, charts, and supplementary data related to the proposed amendment found in Attachments (<https://suisunrcd.org/individual-management-plan-updates/>) (linked here and incorporated by reference into this Resolution) provide sufficient detail to allow the Commission to review the proposed amendment for conformity with the Provisions of the California Public Resource Code Sections 29000 through 29612, the policies of the Suisun Marsh Protection Plan, and the policies of the San Francisco Bay Plan; and

Whereas, the proposed amendment will provide private owners with water management tools to preserve, protect, and enhance the plant and wildlife communities within the primary management area of the marsh consistent with the terms and purpose Public Resources Code Section 29000 through 29612 and the policies of the San Francisco Bay Plan and the Suisun Marsh Protection Plan; and

Whereas, the SRCD Board finds that this project is categorically exempt from the requirements of the California Public Resources Code Section 21000 through 21177 (CEQA) under 14 CCR § 15301(i), 14 CCR § 15304(d), and 14 CCR § 15308; and

Whereas, the SRCD gave the public and affected agencies a maximum opportunity to participate in the component amendment process by: (a) issuing a preliminary notice of the April 14, 2021 hearing on March 19, 2021 directly to private managed wetland owners, interested parties, and the other entities responsible for Suisun Marsh LPP components; (b) posting a preliminary notice of the April 14, 2021 hearing at all SRCD office locations and on the SRCD website on March 24, 2021; (c) highlighting the April 14, 2021 public hearing in its April newsletter; (d) issuing a notice of the April 14, 2021 hearing on April 9, 2021 with access instructions and an invitation to submit written comments ahead of the meeting in writing to all other entities whose components would be affected by the amendment (documentation of which is found in Attachment (<https://suisunrcd.org/individual-management-plan-updates/>), linked here and incorporated by reference) and conducting noticed public hearings on April 14, 2021 and May 12, 2021; and

Whereas, no part of the proposed amendment would affect any area outside of Suisun Marsh.

Resolved, the Suisun Resource Conservation District Board of Directors does hereby adopt the Suisun Resource Conservation District's Amendment to its component of the Suisun Marsh Local Protection Program consisting of 122 Individual Ownership Adaptive Habitat Management Plans that alter the water management programs for each managed wetland in private ownership within the primary management area, as recommended by Staff and attached hereto as Attachment (<https://suisunrcd.org/individual-management-plan-updates/>); and

Resolved, the Suisun Resource Conservation District Board of Directors directs the Executive Director to file a Notice of CEQA Exemption with the Office of Planning and Research and the County Clerk that substantially conforms with the draft found in Attachment D (linked here and incorporated by reference into this Resolution); and

Resolved, the Suisun Resource Conservation District Board directs the Executive Director to submit the Amendment of the SRCD LPP including all attachments and a copy of the final Notice of CEQA Exemption to the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission for its review and certification.

Passed and adopted by the Suisun Resource Conservation District Board of Directors at its regular meeting on May 12, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES:	DIRECTORS	_____

NOES:	DIRECTORS	_____
EXCUSED:	DIRECTORS	_____

Tony Vaccarella, President
Suisun Resource Conservation District

ATTEST:

By: _____
Kelli Perez, Administrative Officer