



RESOLUTION NO.

**OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF EL DORADO
IN SUPPORT OF EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT'S
APPLICATION FOR SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY PROPOSITION 1
IMPLEMENTATION GRANT FUNDS FOR THE
CAPLES WATERSHED ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION PROJECT**

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors recognizes that catastrophic wildfires in El Dorado County present significant risks to the health and safety, economics, and natural resources of our County and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, during 2013 through 2015 the Rim, King, Butte, and Valley Fires in the Sierra Nevada, foothills, and coastal ranges resulted in unprecedented fire behavior demonstrating the critical need for improved management of our forests to mitigate these unacceptable risks; and

WHEREAS, The County believes that active management of our forests will aid to mitigate these risks of catastrophic wildfire by improving the overall health of our forests and watersheds; and

WHEREAS, The El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) and Eldorado National Forest (ENF) have partnered over the past several years to the develop Caples Watershed Ecological Restoration Project (Project) to restore degraded watershed conditions in the Caples Creek watershed, which provides a significant portion of EID's water supplies, through active fuels reduction and meadow restoration over a five-year period; and

WHEREAS, in 2012 the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) joined the partnership by awarding a Proposition 84 planning grant to EID in the amount of \$75,000 toward the planning and federal environmental review efforts for the Project, which are nearly complete; and

WHEREAS, EID and ENF are now seeking a second Proposition 1 implementation grant from SNC in amount of approximately \$435,000 to conduct prescribed burning activities within approximately 8,675 acres of the Caples Creek Watershed through manual and aerial ignition methods over multiple burn entries, meadow restoration and trail rerouting activities on approximately 25 acres, and aspen restoration activities on approximately 25 acres; and

WHEREAS, the activities to be funded, in part, by the Proposition 1 implementation grant will help mitigate the current fire hazards existing in the Caples Creek Watershed and protect critical water supplies for the citizens of El Dorado County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado hereby:

- 1) Support the Caples Watershed Ecological Restoration Project; and
- 2) Recommend that the SNC approve grant funding for its implementation.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors, at a regular meeting of said Board held _____, by the following vote of said Board:

Attest: Ayes:
James S. Mitrisin Noes:
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Absent:

By: _____
Deputy Clerk Chair, Board of Supervisors