

# EXHIBIT B



## GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ACTION REQUEST

TO: Dan Dunmoyer, Cabinet Secretary  
FROM: Mike Chrisman, Secretary for Resources  
VIA: Patrick Wright, Executive Director, CA Tahoe Conservancy  
PREPARED BY: <Author Name, Author Telephone, Author Email>  
DATE: August 22, 2007  
SUBJECT: Angora Fire Interagency Emergency Response Budget Change Proposal

Request for Approval  Request for Action  
 Request for Cabinet Discussion

**TIME FACTOR:** This request involves time-critical funding for recovery and restoration activities needed in response to the Angora Fire. Funding is needed to ensure that actions to secure and restore the burned area are completed (and their effectiveness monitored) before the onset of the 07-08 winter season; for planning and field activities necessary for homeowners to rebuild (some actions should be initiated during the current summer season); and for support of the Governor's Tahoe Basin Fire Commission, which will hold its first meeting on September 10, 2007.

**SUMMARY:** The California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy), California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board), and Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) (the Collaborating Agencies) collaboratively request a total of \$3,711,000 and 2.0 personnel years (PY) as deficiency authorizations to their 2007-08 fiscal year budgets. This will, consistent with the Governor's recent Executive Order S-09-07, provide necessary funding to the Collaborating Agencies for their efforts to:

- respond to the human and resource impacts of the recent Angora Fire;
- protect Lake Tahoe's extraordinary water quality from runoff this winter; and
- accelerate fuel reduction activities on State lands to reduce the threat of future wildfire in the Tahoe Basin.

**EFFECT ON EXISTING LAW:** N/A

**ESTIMATED COST:** The request involves deficiency authorizations in the 2007-08 fiscal year totaling \$3,711,000 and 2.0 PY. Of this amount, \$1,231,000 constitute one-time costs, with \$2,480,000 and 2.0 PY requested to be continued as baseline adjustments.

More specifically, the request includes the following elements:

3110—Special Resources Programs, Tahoe Regional	\$614,000, one-time		Joint planning/permitting effort with El Dorado
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Planning Agency			County
3125—California Tahoe Conservancy	\$125,000, one-time		Support of the Tahoe Basin Fire Commission
	\$2,000,000, deficiency authorization and baseline adjustment	1.0 PY	Accelerate Conservancy fuels reduction efforts
3790—Department of Parks and Recreation	\$92,000, one-time		Fire rehabilitation, Washoe Meadows State Park
	\$380,000, deficiency authorization and baseline adjustment		Accelerate DPR fuels reduction efforts
3940—State Water Resources Control Board	\$400,000, one-time		Monitoring of fire effects and recovery effectiveness
	\$100,000, deficiency authorization and baseline adjustment	1.0 PY	Enhanced fuel reduction permit processing
	\$3,711,000 total	2.0 PY	Total Deficiency Authorization Requested
	(\$1,231,000)		(one-time costs)
	(\$2,480,000)	(2.0 PY)	(baseline adjustments)

SWRCB has identified \$400,000 from its Permit Fee and Surcharge Account as a match for its ACOE monitoring grant. The remainder of the request should be funded from the General Fund or other appropriate funding source.

**DISCUSSION/PRO-CON ARGUMENTS: 1)** Provision of funding in the current year has the following pros:

- Fuels reduction efforts would be accelerated and assist in meeting the targets of the Lake Tahoe Basin Draft Fuels Management Plan. The proposed efforts would result in reducing the threat of catastrophic wildfire in the Tahoe Basin, thereby protecting this important and sensitive environment.
- Risk to the environment, in particular water quality, would be reduced by allowing timely implementation of needed mitigation measures within the Angora Fire burn area.
- Permits for rebuilding structures damaged or destroyed by the Agora Fire would be expeditiously processed, assisting in quick recovery for affected landowners.

**2)** It should be noted that deferring funding decisions to the 08-09 Governor's Budget and 2008 Budget Act would have several cons, including:

- Many of these activities are time-critical, and funding is needed immediately to enable them to take place

- Initial soil stabilization and erosion control measures, as well as related monitoring, must be in place before the onset of winter to avoid significant impacts to the watershed and the water quality of Lake Tahoe
- Planning and field activities can take place during the current summer season, allowing affected residents to rebuild as expeditiously as possible
- The Governor's Lake Tahoe Basin Fire Commission's first meeting is set for September 10<sup>th</sup>, and its final report is due by March 21, 2008.
- Conservation Corps and other forestry crews are available and can begin work throughout the current fiscal year, allowing the earliest possible fuels treatment in the highest priority areas.
- Deficiency authorizations can allow the initial, high-priority and time-critical activities to proceed, while allowing consideration of the longer-term aspects of the baseline adjustments in the Governor's Budget process.

3) A failure to provide the requested funding in either the current or future fiscal years would have several negative effects, including:

- Meeting Tahoe Basin fuel reduction efforts would take longer and extend the period of exposure to the threat of catastrophic wildfire.
- Full rehabilitation of fire-damaged properties would be delayed or not implemented, subjecting the burn area to a slow recovery and allowing likely significant impacts to the water quality of Lake Tahoe.
- Building permits for the rebuilding of private residences would be subject to the normal schedule for permit review and issuance, thus delaying rebuilding efforts.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Collaborating Agencies recommend that the Resources Agency and California Environmental Protection Agency support and forward this deficiency request to the Department of Finance and the Governor's Office for their review and approval. This will allow the Collaborating Agencies to provide for public health and safety, expedite the recovery from the effects of the devastating Angora Fire, provide additional fuel hazard reduction, and increase forest health enhancement efforts.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

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Patrick Wright, Executive Officer

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Date

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Mike Chrisman, Secretary for Resources

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Date

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Linda S. Adams, Secretary for Environmental Protection

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Date

Attachment(s): (1) Angora Fire Interagency Emergency Response Budget Change Proposal