Resolution No. 2013-01 BOARD OF DIRECTORS SACRAMENTO RIVER CONSERVATION AREA FORUM

At the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sacramento River Conservation Area Forum ("Forum") on May 23, 2013 in Willows, California, the following resolution was adopted by the board:

WHEREAS, the Forum was established to represent the diverse interests along the Sacramento River corridor and to identify and advocate for the needs of rural communities and agriculture;

WHEREAS, the Forum works with communities, agricultural interests, landowners, organizations, and agencies along the Sacramento River from Keswick to Verona to facilitate resource management and restoration efforts to be more effective, balanced, and sensitive to the needs of local communities;

WHEREAS, the Forum supports effective and voluntary restoration projects, and serves as a forum for sharing, a facilitator of solutions, and a partner for projects that protect both the natural values of the Sacramento River and the communities it runs through;

WHEREAS, consideration of a programmatic Safe Harbor Agreement ("PSHA") under the authority of the federal Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.)("Act") has been undertaken by the Forum as a means to provide landowners who voluntarily choose to perform certain beneficial conservation activities on their private lands with certain regulatory assurances with respect to the Act;

WHEREAS, while development of a PSHA is only one of many efforts of the Forum, its adoption and implementation will materially advance the mission and goals of the Forum;

WHEREAS, the PSHA has been in various stages of development and circulation for more than four years, with landowner concerns being addressed during the latter stages of the PSHA's development;

WHEREAS, many amendments to the PSHA have been incorporated to address issues of importance to agricultural landowners, including confidentiality of landowner information, communication with neighboring landowners, development of management plan to resolve neighboring landowners' concerns, and compatibility with local land use planning;

WHEREAS, the Forum Board of Directors adopted an Administrative Policy to direct the implementation of the PSHA by the Forum on December 15, 2012;

WHEREAS, the Forum has and will continue to retain its own legal counsel to assist the organization in development of the PSHA;

WHEREAS, as a regional-based organization with both local leaders and agricultural landowners on its governing board, the Forum is uniquely capable of implementing a program sensitive to the concerns of communities and farmers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Forum hereby authorizes its Executive Director to execute a <u>Programmatic Safe Harbor Agreement</u> which is consistent with the foregoing and conforms to the Administrative Policy as adopted by the Forum on December 15, 2012.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution passed by the Board of Directors of the Forum on May 23, 2013.

vrinel Pollock

Chairman, Board of Directors

Attest

Jane Dolan

Executive Director