

RESOLUTION NO. .

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING: A) THE ADOPTION OF THE PESCADERO CREEK COUNTY PARK CLIMATE AND HABITAT RESILIENCY PLAN; AND B) THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PESCADERO CREEK COUNTY PARK TRUST FUND THAT WILL SUPPORT FUTURE RESTORATION AND STEWARDSHIP ACTIVITIES SOLELY WITHIN PESCADERO CREEK COUNTY PARK

RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

WHEREAS, as part of the San Mateo County Parks Department's ("Department") response to the CZU Lightning Complex Fire, a comprehensive forest resource assessment was conducted for Pescadero Creek County Park ("Park") that analyzed impaired forest conditions and opportunities to conduct forest management work within areas of the Park impacted by the fire and historic logging operations; and

WHEREAS, through this assessment, over 1,000 acres of the total 5,943 acres that comprise the Park were identified as areas where forest management work could improve ecological function of the forest and mitigate the risk of catastrophic wildfire; and

WHEREAS, to identify the type of work that could accomplish these goals and standards that should be met to maximize effectiveness, a Climate and Habitat Resiliency Plan ("CHRP") was developed for the Park; and

WHEREAS, the CHRP provides a comprehensive strategy and clear standards for forest management work in the Park as well as outlines the regulatory

framework these forest management projects may need to comply with prior to implementation; and

WHEREAS, the overarching goal for the CHRP is to promote the presence and enhancement of native species, habitats, and ecosystems in the Park that are resilient to disturbance (i.e., wildfire and drought) and climate change; and

WHEREAS, desired outcomes of this goal includes the development of old growth trees and habitat characteristics, promoting forest stand diversity, improving wildlife habitat including creation of additional high quality nesting habitat for the federally protected marbled murrelet, controlling/reducing non-native invasive species, reducing fire fuels that increase the threat of catastrophic wildfire, and promoting carbon sequestration to combat climate change; and

WHEREAS, upon adoption of the CHRP, the Department will be positioned to streamline project planning, permitting, and implementation with clear guidelines and strategy for responsible forest management as well as be prepared to seek grant funding for forest health and fuel reduction projects; and

WHEREAS, when conducting forest restoration work, it is sometimes necessary to reduce competition for resources including by removing redwood and Douglas fir trees and there are a variety of ways in which these trees can be used to advance further management and restoration of Pescadero Creek County Park including chipping the trees on site to create mulch that enhances soil composition, some can be repurposed for habitat and stream restoration project, and some can be sold to generate revenue that advances management practices; and

WHEREAS, it is part of the San Mateo County Parks Department's mission to restore and preserve parklands, and in this endeavor, the Department will only consider removing trees if it achieves habitat and resiliency benefits and enhances the ecological function of the forest; at no point will the Department remove trees for the purpose of financial gain; and

WHEREAS, if the Department removes redwood and Douglas fir trees during a restoration project and it is determined that the best use of the timber is to be sold for commercial purposes, the Department will deposit revenue generated from the commercial sale of timber into a trust account that is to be established for the sole benefit of Pescadero Creek County Park, and, funds from this trust can only be used to advance restorative projects in Pescadero Creek County Park and cannot be used for operations or recreational improvements.

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NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED that

1. This Board of Supervisors hereby adopts the Pescadero Creek County Park Climate and Habitat Resiliency Plan; and
2. The County Controller's Office is authorized and directed to establish the Pescadero Creek County Park Trust Fund for the sole purpose of restoration and stewardship projects within Pescadero Creek County Park.

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