STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD **RESOLUTION NO. 2003 - 0068**

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE A STATE REVOLVING FUND (SRF) LOAN TO THE NATURE CONSERVANCY (TNC) FOR THE PALO CORONA WATERSHED PROTECTION PROJECT (PROJECT), SRF LOAN NO. C-06-6085-110

WHEREAS:

- 1. TNC submitted an application for a SRF loan for \$ 9,000,000 for the Project;
- 2. The Project is in accordance with the State Water Resources Control Board's (SWRCB) Antidegradation Policy and will protect and enhance beneficial uses for the various Waterbodies in the Central Coast region;
- 3. The Project is consistent with the SWRCB's "Plan for California's Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program" and is therefore eligible for (SRF) funding under Section 319 of the federal Clean Water Act;
- 4. The Dedicated Source of Repayment for the Project is the State Proposition 117 funds (Mountain Lion Protection funds), which dedicate \$1.5 million annually to acquisition of resource lands in the Santa Lucia Mountains and Big Sur region; and
- 5. The Project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code Section 21000 et. Seq., as a project to protect natural resources and the environment (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §§15307 and 15308).
- 6. The Board finds that this project warrants waiving the minimum cash balance of \$25 million maintained in the SRF Loan Program.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Resources Control Board approves a Resolution to authorize a State Revolving Fund Loan in the amount of \$9,000,000 to the Nature Conservancy for the Palo Corona Watershed Protection Project.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Clerk to the Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on October 15, 2003.

Debbie Irvin

Clerk to the Board