



**California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
North Coast Region**

Resolution No. R1-2017-0060  
Expressing Appreciation to

**Geoffrey Hales**

- WHEREAS, The members of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region, wish to thank Geoffrey Hales for his dedicated service to the people and water resources of the State of California as a Regional Water Board member; and
- WHEREAS, Geoff began his 10 year tenure with the Regional Water Board in February 2007 and served through June 2017. Despite his deep roots in Humboldt County, Geoff cares deeply for the entire North Coast region, ably representing all sectors, citizens, beneficial uses and geographic locations; and
- WHEREAS, Words that describe Geoff include: thoughtful, insightful, honest, inquisitive, diligent, totally competent and dependable, approachable, and a really nice guy; and
- WHEREAS, Geoff is a consummate professional and strong leader who always brought a calm, dignified approach to Regional Water Board hearings, while providing thoughtful insight and knowledge to the Board's deliberations; and
- WHEREAS, Geoff is a licensed California Professional Geologist, specializing in streamflow, geomorphology and sediment management needs to naturally restore fluvial processes on regulated rivers. As a hard core geologist, Geoff never sees a landslide that doesn't get him revved up with curiosity and keen interest to fix the problem; and
- WHEREAS, Geoff brought his technical skill and common sense to important and challenging issues before the Board, providing valuable input toward the development and adoption of the Klamath and Upper Elk River TMDLs, the Trinity River Restoration Program, and the Temperature and Restoration Policies, among many other important permits and policies; and
- WHEREAS, As a resident of Humboldt County, Geoff witnessed the environmental impacts and challenges to rural communities caused by the rapid expansion of cannabis cultivation and he was an early and strong advocate for the development of regulation to prevent waste discharges from this land use; and
- WHEREAS, Geoff served diligently as hearing officer in the matter of the Confusion Hill enforcement case, producing a lengthy order that withstood intense scrutiny by the State Water Board and Mendocino County superior court; and
- WHEREAS, Geoff participated and played guitar in numerous jam sessions in various locations in the North Coast, adding music and joy to the Board's work and travels; and
- WHEREAS, Geoff is an avid outdoorsman, athlete, and advocate of youth sports, shuttling his daughters up and down the state to soccer and basketball games. And, it was not uncommon for Geoff to show up on time to an all-day Board meeting having already been on the trail on his mountain bike; and
- WHEREAS, Despite his very full life working as a consulting geologist and being a dedicated family man, Geoff somehow manages to also teach at Humboldt State University and serve as an advisor to graduate students; and
- WHEREAS, Geoff willingly volunteered to serve on the Regional Water Board for an extra six months beyond his original appointment in order to help guide completion of the Elk River WDRs. Though we are indebted to Geoff, and incredibly grateful for his service on the Regional Water Board, we like to think that he is simply taking a sabbatical for now and may indeed return one day to serve on the Board again.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, wish to express their sincere appreciation for Geoff's distinguished service to the Regional Water Board and the people of the State of California.

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David Noren

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Valerie Minton

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John W. Corbett

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Greg Giusti

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Kelli Gant

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Hector Bedolla