

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Certified copy of portion of proceedings, Meeting of December 13, 2016

RESOLUTION NO. 16-142

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TO SUBMIT A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN ALTERNATIVE FOR THE EEL RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

WHEREAS, the Department of Water Resources ("DWR") designated the Eel River Valley groundwater basin ("Basin") as a medium-priority basin for the initial prioritization under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act which went into effect on January 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act authorizes local agencies to submit an Alternative to a Groundwater Sustainability Plan ("Alternative") that provides analysis of basin conditions demonstrating that the basin has operated within its sustainable yield over a period of at least 10 years (California Water Code §10733.6); and

WHEREAS, the content of an Alternative must contain the functional equivalent of Articles 5 and 7 of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan regulations (California Code of Regulations, Title 23, §358.2(d)); and

WHEREAS, an Alternative must be submitted to DWR for review by January 1, 2017, and every five years thereafter; and

WHEREAS, the County of Humboldt is a local public agency with land use responsibilities within the unincorporated areas of the Basin; and

WHEREAS, the County of Humboldt serves as the monitoring entity for the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring program within the Basin in collaboration with DWR; and

WHEREAS, on October 6, 2015, the Board of Supervisors approved the formation of an Eel River Valley Groundwater Working Group to consist of stakeholders representing agricultural, municipal, and environmental interests and provide input on organizing the local response to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act for the Eel River Valley; and

WHEREAS, the Eel River Valley Groundwater Working Group has convened seven meetings between October 21, 2015, and December 2, 2016; and

WHEREAS, in July 2016, DWR awarded the County of Humboldt a Proposition 1 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant to conduct a geologic and hydrogeologic investigation to determine whether groundwater levels within the Eel River Valley groundwater basin are declining or fluctuating to the point of causing impacts such as reduced groundwater storage, seawater intrusion, threatening or degrading water quality, land subsidence, and/or surface water depletion; and

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WHEREAS, the results of the aforementioned technical studies indicate that there is sufficient evidence to prepare an Alternative for the Basin.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HUMBOLDT COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS THAT:

1. In accordance with California Water Code §354.6(d) and §358.2(c)(3), the County of Humboldt has the legal authority to submit and implement an Alternative to a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Eel River Valley Groundwater Basin; and
2. The Public Works Department is hereby authorized to prepare and submit an Alternative to a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Eel River Valley Groundwater Basin by January 1, 2017.

Dated: December 13, 2016



MARK LOVELACE, Chair
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

Adopted on motion by Supervisor Fennell, seconded by Supervisor Sundberg, and the following vote:

AYES:	Supervisors	Sundberg, Fennell, Lovelace, Bohn
NAYS:	Supervisors	--
ABSENT:	Supervisors	Bass
ABSTAIN:	Supervisors	--

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
County of Humboldt)

I, KATHY HAYES, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, County of Humboldt, State of California, do hereby certify the foregoing to be an original made in the above-entitled matter by said Board of Supervisors at a meeting held in Eureka, California.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of said Board of Supervisors.



By ANA HARTWELL
Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of
the County of Humboldt, State of California