Collaborative Agreement on

Inclusive Stakeholder Engagement

to Support Development of 30x30 Strategy

January 11, 2021

This agreement establishes a shared effort to ensure that development of the "Pathways to 30X30" document (30x30 Pathways Document) and the Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy (Climate Smart Lands Strategy) is informed by inclusive and constructive stakeholder engagement.

<u>Overview</u>

Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-82-20 in October (Executive Order) to elevate the role of nature-based solutions in addressing climate change and the biodiversity crisis. In this Executive Order, the Governor established a goal of conserving 30 percent of California's lands and coastal waters by 2030 (30X30) and called for agencies to establish a set of strategies to meet this goal by February 2022. The Executive Order also called for development of an associated Climate Smart Lands Strategy by October 2021.

The 30X30 goal provides a clear, mobilizing target to expand and improve conservation across California. It also represents a new, spatially-based conservation approach that requires a sophisticated understanding of California's lands and waters and thoughtful planning through inclusive, transparent processes and science-based tools, including CA Nature GIS, a publicly available decision-support system that is being developed through a partnership of state agencies and Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (Esri) to inform the 30X30 Pathways Document and Climate Smart Lands Strategy, and to guide the state's implementation of both.

State agencies will develop a set of strategies to meet 30x30 within the 30x30 Pathways Document that will be completed and issued publicly by February 2022. Agencies will also develop the Climate Smart Lands Strategy by October 2021 that will complement and inform the 30x30 effort.

In developing these guidance documents, the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) will oversee a broad and diverse stakeholder engagement process that is called for in the Executive Order. To do so, CNRA seeks support from Resources Legacy Fund (RLF) to bring additional capacity and expertise necessary to enable CNRA to design and implement a meaningful, efficient, and inclusive stakeholder engagement process. RLF's efforts to support CNRA's 30x30 process will be integrated with the work of Esri and CNRA in developing and implementing CA Nature GIS. In parallel with the stakeholder engagement process, CNRA will lead a formal government-to-government, consultation process with tribal governments and communities on the 30x30 effort.

Inclusive Engagement

The 30x30 Pathways Document and the Climate Smart Lands Strategy are intended to be informed by the perspectives of, and drive action amongst, a diverse group of partners and stakeholders: federal, tribal, state, and local agencies; private landowners and managers; scientists and researchers; local communities; public health groups; recreational associations; environmental conservation groups; justice and equity organizations; capital investors; businesses; hunters and fishermen; and more.

Given the purpose of these strategies to empower and mobilize this broad range of stakeholders, these strategies must be informed through extensive engagement with these stakeholders and all interested members of the public. The engagement process is expected to involve myriad venues and efficient processes subject to further development by CNRA that are designed to provide useful guidance and credibility, likely including public workshops, focused advisory committees, digital communications, and internal work groups.

CNRA will be responsible for executing public outreach and engagement to inform the 30X30 Pathways Document and the Climate Smart Lands Strategy that:

- Enable comprehensive, collaborative input from diverse stakeholders and the public by offering a range of opportunities for engagement, including topic/sector based workshops, facilitated convenings, regional dialogues, and written input.
- Utilize data and technology, including the CA Nature GIS decision-support system being developed, during the stakeholder engagement process to advance collaborative discussions and creative suggestions and ideas.
- Incorporate information from other state-led processes including the AB32 Scoping Plan update, the State's Adaptation Strategy update, the State Wildlife Action Plan, and the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.
- Position stakeholder engagement as a foundation for implementation of these strategies in coming years, including energizing stakeholders' interest in partnering to implement these solutions.

Roles and Responsibilities

CNRA will coordinate with other state agencies to plan and execute effective stakeholder engagement with critical support from RLF.

CNRA will maintain responsibility for planning and executing effective engagement to ensure that the 30x30 Pathways Document and the Climate Smart Lands Strategy benefit from comprehensive public input. CNRA's commitments include:

- 1. Developing a Stakeholder Engagement Plan that encompasses the full range of public outreach necessary in the coming months for both the 30x30 Pathways Document and Climate Smart Lands Strategy, and which includes goals, milestones, and deliverables. (There will be separate but overlapping engagement processes for these two strategies that will be clarified in terms of goals, milestones, and deliverables in the combined Stakeholder Engagement Plan.)
- 2. Coordinating participation of several state agencies in planning and executing the stakeholder engagement process, including California Environmental Protection Agency, the California Department of Food and Agriculture, and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research.
- 3. Leading the formal government-to-government tribal consultation process.
- 4. Ensuring coordination and alignment of the CA Nature GIS tool development and implementation with the stakeholder engagement process development and implementation.

RLF will provide capacity and support to CNRA staff and the state interagency team in developing and delivering an effective stakeholder engagement process informing the 30x30 Pathways Document and the Climate Smart Lands Strategy. RLF's commitments include the following, subject to RLF's ability to raise funds to support these efforts:

- 1. Engaging a professional consultant firm, reviewed by CNRA, with demonstrated expertise in strategic engagement, communications, and project management to support design and implementation of the comprehensive stakeholder engagement process.
- 2. Upon approval by CNRA, contributing in-house expertise to advise on the stakeholder engagement strategy and process, and support CNRA's development and implementation of engagement process goals, milestones, and deliverables through regular meetings between CNRA and RLF staff.
- 3. Providing additional support as identified by CNRA to facilitate CNRA efforts to undertake the stakeholder engagement process and development of the 30x30 Pathways Document and the Climate Smart Lands Strategy.
- 4. Coordinating fundraising, reporting, and regular communications with RLF private funders providing support through RLF for CNRA's stakeholder engagement needs.

CNRA and RLF will together develop a Stakeholder Engagement Plan and schedule that ensures implementation of the engagement strategy kicks off in January 2021 and proceeds on schedule through release of the 30x30 Pathways Document. This work plan will ensure early engagement meets the needs of the Climate Smart Lands Strategy, which has an earlier deadline than the 30X30 Pathways Document. CNRA and state agency partners will retain all decision-making authority for the 30x30 Pathways Document and the Climate Smart Lands Strategy. This agreement is not a contract, but defines a cooperative process between CNRA and RLF. This agreement is for the benefit of CNRA and RLF and is not intended to benefit or to be enforceable by any third party.

Signed:

January ¹¹____, 2021 Wade Crowfoot, Secretary California Natural Resources Agency

Michael Mantell

Michael Mantell, President **Resources Legacy Fund**

January ____, 2021

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SIGNATURE CERTIFICATE

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