



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: June 8, 2021

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____



4/5 Vote Required

Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma, State of California, Congratulating Sam Schuchat on His Retirement from the California State Coastal Conservancy

Whereas, Sam Schuchat has served as Executive Officer of the California State Coastal Conservancy since July 2001 and is expected to retire in the summer of 2021 following 20 years of service to the Conservancy and more than 30 years devoted to preserving California's natural resources; and

Whereas, Sam has worked with many representatives from Sonoma County's communities, local government agencies and districts, nonprofit organizations, and private landowners to implement projects and is highly respected for his big picture vision and leadership, his considerable knowledge and expertise in developing state and federal policy, and greatly appreciated for his keen sense of humor; and

Whereas, Sam's leadership at the Coastal Conservancy has benefited the citizens of Sonoma County and the State of California by preserving natural resources, enhancing habitats, safeguarding farming operations, and providing public access to lands along the coast, San Francisco and San Pablo bays, and throughout Sonoma County's watersheds; and

Whereas, Sam has worked on many important project acquisitions on Sonoma County's coast, baylands, and watersheds, including Tolay Lake, Roche Ranch, Sears Point, Haire Ranch, Jenner Headlands, Sonoma Mountain Ranch, Preservation Ranch, Kashia Coastal Reserve, Estero Ranch, Willow Creek, and Stewarts Point; and

Whereas, Sam played a key leadership role in the successful acquisition and implementation of the Napa Sonoma Marsh Restoration Project to restore the former salt ponds in the North Bay; and

Whereas, his work at the Conservancy has led to increased public access, including such examples as: the Bodega Bay Bicycle and Pedestrian Trails project (connecting the Bird Walk Coastal Access Park with Doran Beach Regional Park); funding to support purchase of the Jenner Headlands Preserve and to construct parking and a public trailhead; and grants to support purchase of Richardson Ranch and Estero Ranch, along with support for expansion of the California Coastal Trail, San Francisco Bay Trail, and Bay Area Ridge Trail; and

Whereas, Sam also serves as the Executive Officer of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority, leading the Authority's efforts to fund San Francisco Bay shoreline projects that protect, restore, and enhance the Bay through habitat restoration, flood protection (as part of habitat restoration) and shoreline access projects; including projects in the Sonoma Baylands such as the Sonoma Creek Baylands Strategy, the Restoring Wetland-Upland Transition Zone Habitat in the North Bay Project, and the San Pablo Baylands Collaborative Protection and Restoration (CPR) Project.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma do hereby congratulate Sam Schuchat on his retirement from the California State Coastal Conservancy.

Supervisors:

Gorin: Rabbitt: Coursey: Gore: Hopkins:

Ayes: Noes: Absent: Abstain:

So Ordered.