



**Napa County Resource Conservation District**  
1303 Jefferson St., Ste. 500B, Napa, California 94559  
(707) 690-3110, [NapaRCD.org](http://NapaRCD.org)

**August 11, 2022**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-03**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NAPA COUNTY RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT COMMITTING TO ACT ON THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, on October 8, 2018, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change ("IPCC") released a report, "Global Warming of 1.5 degrees C," stating that "limiting global warming to 1.5 degree C would require rapid, far-reaching and unprecedented changes in all aspects of society", and projected that the earth could reach and exceed this temperature threshold by as early as 2030, far earlier than previously anticipated; and

**WHEREAS**, climate modeling shows that it is not possible to stabilize global mean temperature rise at or below 1.5 degree C through emission reduction alone; and

**WHEREAS**, Governor Newsom signed Executive Order No. N-82-20 in 2020 to combat the biodiversity and climate crises, declaring that it is the goal of the state to "... identify and implement near- and long-term actions to accelerate natural removal of carbon and build climate resilience in our forests, wetlands, urban greenspaces, agricultural soils, and land conservation activities in ways that serve all communities and in particular low-income, disadvantaged, and vulnerable communities"; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Legislature finds that, to meet the natural sequestration goal established in the Natural Carbon Sequestration and Resilience Act of 2022, it is likely that the state will need to sequester additional greenhouse gases on at least 20 percent of the state's natural, working, and urban lands and waters; and

**WHEREAS**, Napa County, its residents, economy, and environment have experienced adverse and severe effects associated with climate change, and can expect to experience other effects in the near future, including prolonged and more severe wildfire seasons, firestorms, rising temperatures, rising sea level, mudslides, severe droughts, harmful effects to local agriculture, property destruction, and infrastructure damage; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Napa and all its incorporated municipalities recently adopted Climate Emergency Declarations — with the goal of achieving net zero climate pollution by or before 2030 — that would benefit from a coordinated regional approach among public and private entities to inform immediate and urgent actions with transparent and up-to-date science; and



**WHEREAS**, the Napa County Resource Conservation District ("District") recognizes that climate change represents a global catastrophic risk to human health, safety, and economic prosperity, as well as a grave threat to ecosystem health, structure, and function; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1945, the District has helped residents of Napa County prepare for and mitigate the impacts of drought, floods, wildfires, extreme heat, and frost; most recently through the implementation of carbon farming best management practices on vineyards; and

**WHEREAS**, the District's Strategic Plan commits it to partner with other organizations — in Napa County, regionally, and statewide, on large-scale approaches to today's most pressing natural resource challenges, including climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, the District's mission, programs, and theories of change put it in a unique situation to significantly narrow the gap between knowledge and action related to climate change mitigation and adaptation in Napa County.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Directors of the Napa County Resource Conservation District as follows:

1. **Help lead regional climate planning, tracking and reporting for individual and cumulative outcomes.** The District will supply technical expertise, research-based best practices, and collaboration for a regional climate action plan coordinated among public and private entities collaborating toward achieving the 2030 net-zero climate pollutant goal. While operating under the principle of "first, do no further harm," the District will leverage research and best practices to implement Climate and Program metrics that evaluate and enhance the efficiency, effectiveness, and transparency of climate-related actions. The District will collaborate with related agencies and organizations to set specific and measurable goals, and promote measurable, effective, and efficient actions. As we increase carbon sequestration and reduce climate pollutants, actions will be recorded in a digital tracking system, available to all, that measures progress toward the 2030 goal.
2. **Provide science-based programming and advisory functions.** The District will help design and deliver objective, science-based programs and advisory services that encourage climate change mitigation in the following areas:
  - a. Forest Health
  - b. Watershed Sustainability
  - c. Regenerative Agriculture
  - d. Community Education and Engagement

e. Biodiversity Enhancement

3. **Support and provide outreach and education to accelerate broad-based adoption and implementation of the regional climate action plan.** The District will make its outreach, community engagement, and education efforts more effective and efficient. Importantly, the District will strive to ensure all outreach and education efforts are inclusive and accessible to all community members, with an emphasis on serving and incorporating the voices of historically marginalized and vulnerable groups. The District will work with educational and community organizations to help educate and engage stakeholders, across all of Napa County's diverse sectors about the global climate emergency and the ways stakeholders can collaborate toward increased climate resilience and solutions.
4. **Secure financial support for climate-related programs, including those that serve communities disproportionately affected by climate change.** The District will seek funding from a range of public and private sources related to climate change mitigation, adaptation and training which includes communication with non-English speaking groups.
5. **Reduce climate pollutants associated with the District's internal operations.** The District will manage its own internal operations to reduce the climate pollutants it generates, including:
  - a. Converting District vehicles, tools, and appliances to all-electric and/or superior carbon neutral technologies to the greatest extent feasible as existing resources are replaced.
  - b. Transitioning to a fully renewable electric power utility plan by fiscal year 2023.
  - c. Developing policies and programs to incentivize employee proximity housing, alternative commute modes, and telework.
  - d. Minimizing the climate impact of all District purchasing decisions, such as utilizing native and locally-sourced building materials where available, minimizing packaging, favoring plant-based food products, and preferring products with the least life-cycle carbon effect.
  - e. Requiring Board of Directors approval for any District-funded airplane travel and allowing such travel only when imperative for District management and/or operations.
  - f. Installing electric vehicle charging stations, energy efficient fixtures, and solar panels at the District leased office facility.



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The District supports the Napa County Board of Supervisors' goal of achieving net zero climate pollution by or before 2030, as doing so would be a crucial step toward maintaining the basic health and wellness of humans and all other lifeforms that share this planet. The sooner we act in unison, the better our chance will be able to preserve the culture, community, and natural support system we know and love.

To that end, the District recognizes its technical role within Napa County and pledges its ability to conduct studies and provide results, assist with climate adaptation, and communicate strategies for achieving climate adaptation goals with all communities we serve.

People and organizations within Napa County that seek to influence change in accordance with the aforementioned 2030 climate goals are encouraged to reach out to the District to see how it can support your needs. Depending on the nature of the project, the District may be able to provide direct service, assist with fundraising, or extend educational opportunities to your area. The District looks forward to partnering with you in this urgent undertaking.

**THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS DULY AND REGULARLY ADOPTED** by the Board of Directors of the Napa County Resource Conservation District at its regular meeting held on the 11th day of August 2022, by the following vote:

<b>AYES:</b>	Bruce Barge, Rainer Hoenicke, Jon Kanagy, Jim Lincoln, and Bill Pramuk
<b>NOES:</b>	None
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Gretchen Stranzl McCann
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	None
<b>SIGNED:</b>	<i>Bruce Barge</i>
	BRUCE BARGE, President Board of Directors



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<p>APPROVED AS TO FORM Office of County Counsel</p> <p>By: /s/ Wendy M. Dau District Counsel</p> <p>Date: August 11, 2022</p>	<p>ATTEST: ANNA MATTINSON Secretary of the Board of Directors</p> <p>By: <u>Anna Mattinson (e-sign)</u></p> <p>Date: August 11, 2022</p>
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