

RESOLUTION 81-5

Funding for Fire Presuppression

WHEREAS, a continuing concern of the Water Resources Board has been adequate staffing for an efficient water rights administration program; and

WHEREAS, one of the problems with this has been the use of staff budgeted for water rights administration on other non-water management related programs; and

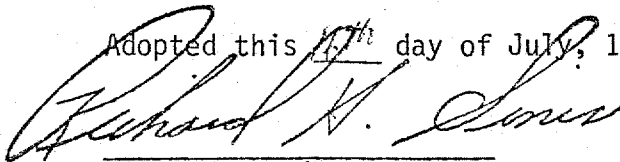
WHEREAS, annually water rights adjudicators are drafted to fight forest fires, disrupting work in progress and limiting the amount of time available to do field inspections during the relatively short summer field season; and

WHEREAS, the Water Resources Board recognizes that forest fire control is also an important responsibility of the Division of Forest, Land and Water Management and that one of the reasons for this disruption of other programs to fight large forest fires is the lack of adequate forest fire presuppression funds, particularly in contractual and training; and

WHEREAS, the Water Resources Board believes the old adage "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" applies to this situation and the presuppression program can stand on its own merits:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Water Resources Board urges that the Department of Natural Resources and the Administration strongly support an adequate fire presuppression program and that the Legislature fund such a program.

Adopted this 17th day of July, 1981



Richard H. Sims
Chairman