



Memorandum

Date: October 15, 2026
To: Board of Directors
From: Kellyx Nelson
Re: Status of Declaration of Emergency and Authorization for Noncompetitive Procurement for Wildfire Risk Reduction Activities

This memorandum provides a status of the declaration of emergency and authorization for noncompetitive procurement for wildfire risk reduction activities originally dated August 20, 2026. Per the declaration, at each regularly scheduled meeting thereafter until the emergency is resolved, the Executive Director shall report:

- the current status of the emergency;
- contracts and purchases made under this declaration;
- the purpose and amount of each procurement;
- the basis for using the emergency exception; and
- whether continued emergency procurement authority remains necessary.

I continue to find that the catastrophic wildfire risks identified in the Governor's March 1, 2025 proclamation affect the communities, landscapes, infrastructure, evacuation routes, watersheds, and natural resources served by the RCD. The following findings from August 20th also continue to be true:

1. Effective wildfire risk reduction depends on timely access to qualified contractors, consultants, equipment, materials, environmental support, and specialized services.
2. Many wildfire risk reduction activities must occur within limited seasonal, biological, operational, access, permitting, funding, or weather-dependent work windows.
3. Contractor and equipment availability may be constrained by regional demand, active wildfire response, prescribed-fire schedules, environmental work windows, grant deadlines, and other time-sensitive conditions.
4. Requiring a formal competitive solicitation for each emergency procurement may delay or prevent the RCD from completing necessary wildfire risk reduction work during available implementation windows.

5. These delays may increase costs, jeopardize grant funds, postpone critical treatments, reduce the availability of qualified contractors and equipment, or leave communities and public assets exposed to avoidable wildfire risks.
6. Immediate action is therefore necessary for qualifying procurements, and the emergency will not permit the delay associated with a competitive solicitation when the project-specific circumstances described in this memorandum and the associated procurement record apply.