February 5, 2019

Senator Bob Wieckowski, Chair
Senate Budget Subcommittee 2
State Capitol, Room 4085
Sacramento, CA 95814

Assemblymember Richard Bloom, Chair
Assembly Budget Subcommittee 3
State Capitol, Room 2003
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: GGRF Funding for Natural Resources Programs

Dear Chairs Wieckowski and Bloom:

We are writing to request funding for natural resources programs critical to California’s pursuit of our ambitious climate goals. We are pleased that the Administration is proposing to invest in helping address concerns of increasingly severe wildfires in California. We also support the proposed investment in the Healthy Soils Program. However, all other natural resources programs that had previously been funded by GGRF are not included or fully represented in the current proposal:

- Urban Forestry Program under Cal Fire
- Urban Greening Program under the California Natural Resources Agency
- State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program (SWEEP) under the California Department of Food and Agriculture
- Wetlands and Watershed Restoration Program under the California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Programs under the Wildlife Conservation Board, California State Coastal Conservancy, California Coastal Commission, and San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission

These programs provide significant health, environmental and economic benefits to California communities. In addition to sequestering carbon, these investments provide multiple co-benefits that promote adaptation and resiliency, better preparing our state for the current and future impacts of climate change.
We respectfully ask that the Legislature appropriate $400 million from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund for the Urban Greening, Urban Forestry, Healthy Soils, SWEEP, Wetlands and Watershed Restoration, and Climate Adaptation Programs, including funding for the State’s Conservancies.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

[Signatures]