

## EXHIBIT B

### RESOLUTION BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE LANDS COMMISSION OPPOSING THE CONVERSION AND EXPANSION OF THE MUSTANG AIRPORT

**WHEREAS**, the Cosumnes River supports a mosaic of habitats and is noted for its abundance of rare aquatic invertebrates, river otters, and native trout and salmon populations. The river's natural process of seasonal flooding creates ideal wintering grounds for hundreds of thousands of migratory birds, including the state-listed threatened greater sandhill crane, which is also designated as a fully protected species by the State of California; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cosumnes River Preserve (Preserve), located along the river in Sacramento County, through a highly successful public/private partnership, encompasses and protects over forty-five thousand acres of wetlands, including extensive vernal pools, and adjacent uplands which provide habitat for the giant garter snake and the Swainson's hawk, both listed as threatened by the State of California; and

**WHEREAS**, the Preserve, or significant areas of the Preserve, have been designated as an Important Bird Area by the National Audubon Society, an Ecological Reserve by the California Department of Fish and Game, and a National Natural Landmark by the National Park Service; and

**WHEREAS**, the California State Lands Commission owns as sovereign lands the bed of the Cosumnes River and some 270 additional acres purchased with Kapiloff Land Bank funds and included as part of the Preserve; and

**WHEREAS**, the Sacramento County Planning Commission certified a flawed Final Environmental Impact Report and approved a conditional use permit for the owner of the Mustang Airport to convert and expand a little-used private airstrip surrounded on three sides by the Preserve, to a public use airport with 100 hangars, 25 tie-downs and an estimated 12,000 take-offs and landings annually; and

**WHEREAS**, this increased airport activity adjacent to the Preserve, whose purpose is to attract large numbers of birds, creates a significant safety hazard for aircraft, people on the ground, and the wildlife that the Preserve is designed to attract; and, could jeopardize the very existence of the Preserve and destroy the \$150 million invested in the Preserve since 1987; and

**WHEREAS**, The Nature Conservancy, the Commission, and the other partners in the Preserve are currently appealing the Planning Commission decision to the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** by the California State Lands Commission, that it opposes any conversion to a public use airport or expansion of the Mustang Airport; and that the Commission urges the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors not to certify the Final

Environmental Impact Report and to deny the Use Permit for conversion and expansion of the Mustang Airport; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Commission's Executive Officer transmit copies of this resolution to the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, the Sacramento Area Council of Governments Airport Land Use Commission, and the California Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics.

Adopted by the California State Lands Commission \_\_\_\_\_