RESOLUTION NO. 11-1

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE

PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT

SUPPORTING ACWA POLICY PRINCIPLES ON

IMPLEMENTATION OF STATE AND FEDERAL ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

WHEREAS, ESA implementation activities in California- particularly in the Delta – have had a major impact on water deliveries in recent years. Restrictions on water diversions to protect Delta smelt and salmon have exacerbated the effects of multiple dry years, resulting in significant economic disruption without a measurable improvement to the Delta ecosystem or affected species; and

WHEREAS, the current situation in the Delta provides a significant opportunity to improve the implementation of the state and federal Endangered Species Act (ESA); and

WHEREAS, the current approach of trying to protect aquatic species through a single action only – restricting water diversions from the south Delta – is not working for either ecosystem sustainability or water supply reliability; and

WHEREAS, local water agencies support the goals of the ESA but believe that the state and federal agencies have greater discretion to develop comprehensive strategies that also consider economic and social stability; and

WHEREAS, the timing is critical to make sure the new state administration and the Obama administration understand the importance and broad support among the water community for co-equal goals; and

WHEREAS, the Association of California Water Agencies Board of Directors adopted policy principles in July on ESA implementation issues developed by a diverse group of ACWA members; and

WHEREAS, these policy principles outline a more effective approach to ESA implementation that incorporates the co-equal goals of water supply reliability and ecosystem enhancement that are the basis of California law; and

WHEREAS, these policy principles identify the direction ESA implementation must take to meet the needs of species and the state's communities, farms and businesses in the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that California's water future rests on linking commitment to restoration and supply reliability; and

WHEREAS, we urge senior management at the ESA implementing resource agencies to use these principles to implement a more integrated and diversified approach.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District believes the principles developed by ACWA can help move the dialog on a path that leads to constructive improvements in ESA implementation at the state and federal levels; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Palmdale Water District Board supports the Association's policy principles on "Implementation of State and Federal Endangered Species Acts."

I certify that this is a true copy of Resolution No. 11-1 as passed by the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District at its meeting on January 12, 2011 in Palmdale, California.

January 12, 2011

Date

Gordon Dexter, President,
Board of Directors
Palmdale Water District

Attest:

Raul Figueroa, Secretary,
Board of Directors
Palmdale Water District