



## CALIFORNIA OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL

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John Laird, Secretary for Natural Resources, Council Chair  
Matt Rodriguez, Secretary for Environmental Protection  
John Chiang, State Controller, State Lands Commission Chair  
Fran Pavley, State Senator  
Toni Atkins, State Assemblymember  
Geraldine Knatz, Public Member  
Michael Brown, Public Member

To: California Ocean and Coastal Community

From: John Laird, Secretary for Natural Resources and Chair, California Ocean Protection Council

Date: Dec. 2, 2014

Subject: Highlights from the Dec. 2, 2014 Ocean Protection Council meeting

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The Ocean Protection Council's (OPC) Dec. 2, 2014 meeting in Sacramento addressed topics including membership of the OPC's Science Advisory Team, marine protected area management, and grants related to incorporating sea-level rise planning into Local Coastal Programs. The following are highlights from the meeting. The meeting webcast will be posted to the following website within the next 24 hours: <http://www.opc.ca.gov/category/meetings/> (click on "webcast" to the right of "December 2"). I look forward to seeing you at the next OPC meeting.

**Agenda item 4 Consideration and possible selection of two new members to the Ocean Protection Council Science Advisory Team (OPC-SAT)**

The Council unanimously approved the appointment of Dr. Charles Striplen and Ms. Briannon Fraley to OPC-SAT. Dr. Striplen is an Environmental Scientist with the San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI). Ms. Fraley is the Self-Governance Director for the Smith River Rancheria. (Laird-aye, Rodriguez-aye, Gordon-aye, Knatz-aye, Brown-aye)

**Agenda item 5 Consideration and possible approval of a resolution supporting the "The California Collaborative Approach: Marine Protected Areas Partnership Plan" (Partnership Plan)**

The Council unanimously adopted the Partnership Plan as an overarching guide for how a variety of partners can engage in marine protected area (MPA) management. The Council also directed staff to continue to manage and update an internal workplan with core state agency partners that explicitly assigns roles and responsibilities for ensuring implementation of the Partnership Plan. The Council received a briefing from one of the chairs of the MPA Collaboratives on the results of a workshop held in conjunction with the OPC meeting (see below for more details). This item was presented by Liz Parissenti, Sea Grant Fellow and Cyndi Dawson, MPA Policy Advisor. (Laird-aye, Rodriguez-aye, Knatz-aye, Brown-aye).

**Agenda item 6 Consideration and possible selection of grants for the second round of the Local Coastal Program Sea-level Rise Grant Program; consideration of an interagency agreement for the California Coastal Commission to provide administration, technical, and policy integration services for said grants.**

The Council unanimously approved funding of seven competitive grants to provide funds for local and regional vulnerability assessments and updates to Local Coastal Programs to address sea-level rise, coastal hazards, and other climate change-related impacts. The Council also approved that the California Natural Resources Agency, on behalf of the OPC, may enter into a contract with the California Coastal Commission for its provision of grant administration, technical services, and policy integration work. The seven projects constitute the second round of competitive grants from an initial authorization of \$2.5 million in 2012. OPC's funding for these projects is helping to catalyze action for early adaptors who are leading the way by developing land use plans to reduce risk from sea-level rise. This item was presented by Climate Change Policy Advisor Abe Doherty. (Laird-aye, Rodriquez-aye, Knatz-aye, Brown-aye).

**Agenda item 7 Update on the California Thank You Ocean Campaign (TYO)**

TYO Project Manager Miho Umezawa provided an update on the campaign which is a joint effort between NOAA and the State of California on educating the public about the importance of the ocean and what steps people can take in their daily lives to protect the ocean.

The OPC meeting was preceded by a two-day workshop which brought together the chairs of fourteen MPA Collaboratives. Fourteen MPA Collaboratives have been established along the California coast (aligning generally with county boundaries) and are comprised of a broad range of citizens from different ocean user groups who are supporting effective MPA management. The group met December 1 and 2 to share lessons learned and coordinate more effectively with the state agencies involved in MPA management. For information specifically on the workshop, please visit: <http://www.opc.ca.gov/2014/11/mpa-collaborative-workshop-december-1-2-2014/>

For more meeting details, please visit our website: <http://www.opc.ca.gov/category/meetings/>