

INTERIM FUNDING, PROJECT SELECTION, AND APPLICATION GUIDELINES

In furtherance of the objectives and mandatory provisions of the California Ocean Protection Act, the California Ocean Protection Council has identified the following interim criteria to guide its selection of projects and programs to help manage and protect California's ocean and coastal resources. The council will consider supporting projects that meet these criteria in the areas of governance; economics; research, education, technology; or stewardship. The council encourages projects that involve new and innovative approaches serving both long-term visionary goals, as well as more immediate or urgent issues.

Funding and Project Selection Criteria

The council will give high priority to directing funds to projects and programs that are consistent with the following criteria:

- Projects supported by the council must implement the statutory purposes and policies of the California Ocean Protection Act, including one or more of the following objectives of the act:
 - Improve management, conservation, and protection of coastal waters and ocean ecosystems;
 - Encourage those activities and uses that are consistent with sustainable, long-term protection and conservation of ocean and coastal resources;
 - Promote aesthetic, educational, and recreational uses of the coast and ocean;
 - Improve monitoring, data gathering, and advances in scientific understanding of the ocean and coastal environment;
 - Improve the quality of ocean and coastal waters;
 - Improve the health of fish and foster sustainable fisheries in ocean and coastal waters;
 - Help to integrate and coordinate the state's laws and institutions responsible for protecting and conserving ocean and coastal resources;
 - Help to coordinate the collection and sharing of scientific data;
 - Identify changes in federal law and policy necessary to achieve the state's goals for the coast and ocean.
- Projects and programs must be consistent with the purposes of the funding source.
- Projects and programs must have demonstrable support from the public.
- Projects and programs must directly relate to the ocean, coast, associated estuaries, and coastal-draining watersheds.
- Projects and programs must be of greater-than-local interest.

The council will give additional consideration to a proposed project or program that does one or more of the following:

- Helps implement the California Ocean and Coastal Information, Research, and Outreach Strategy and other priorities of local, state, or federal advisory groups, or scientific or policy reports, adopted by the council;
- Would not occur without council participation;
- Has an element of urgency (there is an immediate threat to a coastal/ ocean resource from development or natural or economic conditions, a pressing need, or a fleeting opportunity);
- Helps resolve more than one issue;
- Includes a contribution of funds or services by other entities;
- Helps with conflict resolution;
- Involves innovation (e.g. environmental or economic demonstration);
- Is ready to implement (grantee or contractor will start and finish the project in a timely manner); or
- Involves a combination of local, state, or federal agencies or is a public/private partnership.

Developing and Submitting Project Proposals

The council may direct the expenditure of funds for ocean and coastal protection from a wide variety of sources. Generally, the council will consider directing funds on a continuous basis, without specified application deadlines. Prior to submitting written proposals, potential grantees should first contact the Executive Officer of the State Coastal Conservancy, acting as Secretary to the council, to discuss the availability of funds and the consistency of the proposal with the council's interim criteria. Sponsors of projects and programs that may meet the council's criteria and for which funding may be available will be directed to supply additional information or complete a written grant application for future consideration by the council. Applications will be submitted in hard copy and electronically, and will at a minimum contain the following information:

- 1) Contact information for project leader and collaborators including affiliation, address, phone, fax, and email;
- 2) Project title;
- 3) Project timeline;
- 4) Amount of requested funds;
- 5) Amount and source of matching funds;
- 6) Statement of the problem;
- 7) Overall project goal or objective including: who would do the work; what the final product would be; and what the expected or intended result would be;
- 8) Specific description of how the project would meet the California Ocean Protection Council Funding and Project Selection Guidelines
- 9) Approach to be used;
- 10) Who would benefit from the results of the project and how?

Contact Information

Parties wishing the council to consider their proposals must contact the Executive Officer of the Conservancy at one of the following addresses or phone number:

Sam Schuchat
California Ocean Protection Council, Secretary
State Coastal Conservancy, Executive Officer
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612

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phone 510-286-1015