
Dear Chair and Council members,

On behalf of the City, I would like to thank you for your consideration to allocate grant funds for the preparation of the City's first ever Local Coastal program. I would be there in person to speak, however, I was prevented by car troubles.

The Monterey coastline is unique in that it contains intact beaches, coastal dependent recreational activities, active commercial and recreational fishing harbors and many visitor-serving businesses. The City has, over many years, worked to preserve our coastal resources and increase public access. In addition, we have attempted to address the issue of coastal erosion and sea level rise through beach nourishment, managed retreat and partnerships with other public agencies. The City is excited to prepare a long range plan to address coastal erosion, sea level rise and enhanced public access on a larger scale to preserve and enhance the coastal experience and to do our part to protect the Monterey Bay and its resources. Thank you again for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Christine Hopper

Senior Planner

City of Monterey

--

Christy Hopper

Senior Planner

PEEC Division

City of Monterey - Colton Hall

570 Pacific Street

Monterey, CA 93940

831.646-3910 (*Direct Line*)

831.646.3885 (*Main Office*)



November 24, 2014

John Laird
Secretary for Natural Resources
Chair, California Ocean Protection Council
California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Attention: Cyndi Dawson, MPA Policy Advisor

Re: Adoption of the California Collaborative Approach: Marine Protected Areas Partnership Plan

Dear Secretary Laird,

As co-chairs of the Golden Gate Marine Protected Area Collaborative (GGMPAC), we are writing in support of the Proposed Resolution of the California Ocean Protection Council regarding the California Collaborative Approach: Marine Protected Areas Partnership Plan under consideration at the Ocean Protection Council's December 2, 2014 meeting. The Partnership Plan is comprehensive and is a solid step in creating community involvement for the long-term implementation of the network of marine protected areas off our coast.

The document is particularly helpful in its identification of all of the various levels of government and other partners in the process. This appears to be the result of the extensive involvement from agency and non-agency partners in the development of the document. This is extremely helpful. We are also pleased to see the discussion of potential funding sources. We believe that the Collaboratives make efficient use of available funds by harnessing local and regional expertise. We hope to work with you and your staff to identify ongoing sources of funding for our activities, and of course to support the Department of Fish and Wildlife for their critical activities in the field.

Congratulations on the completion of the California MPA network and for this forward looking, and inclusive, approach to implementing these special areas off our coast.

Sincerely,

Brian Baird
Co-Chair – GGMPAC,

David McGuire,
Co-Chair – GGMPAC



November 23, 2014

John Laird
Secretary for Natural Resources
Chair, California Ocean Protection Council
California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Via electronic mail to COPCpublic@resources.ca.gov

Re: Adoption of the California Collaborative Approach: Marine Protected Areas Partnership Plan

Dear Secretary Laird,

We are writing in support of the adoption of *The California Collaborative Approach: Marine Protected Areas Partnership Plan*. The Partnership Plan provides important high-level thinking on how to advance the monitoring and management of California's network of MPAs, now that the network is fully in effect. The Partnership Plan is an important tool in delineating the complex landscape of governance, enforcement, monitoring, scientific guidance, stakeholder involvement, and financial considerations that must be incorporated into the successful management of the MPA network. It develops a framework for how all stakeholders can be involved in supporting and enriching the MPA network through a partnership-based approach, and encourages full participation from all sectors.

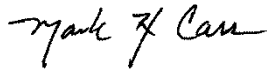
The Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans (PISCO) is a consortium of scientists from Oregon State University (OSU), Stanford University's Hopkins Marine Station, University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC), and the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB), as well as collaborators from other key institutions. PISCO plays a key role in monitoring the ecological aspects of MPAs, as well as working with citizen science groups and others. PISCO scientists participated in California's planning processes for the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) by providing scientific expertise and acting as members of the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force and the Ocean Protection Council Science Advisory Team. We have also performed baseline monitoring and data integration in all MLPA regions. We look forward to continued engagement with state organizations, citizen science groups and others on

monitoring and management of the MPA network, through activities such as scientific advising, collaborations, and long-term ecological monitoring. In conclusion, we appreciate these opportunities to comment, commend you on this final draft, and reiterate our support for the Partnership Plan and its framework for managing the MPA network.


Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kristen Milligan". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Kristen Milligan, PISCO Program Coordinator

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mark Carr". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Mark Carr, University of California Santa Cruz

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pete Raimondi". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Pete Raimondi, University of California Santa Cruz



November 21, 2014

Secretary John Laird
Chair
Ocean Protection Council
State of California
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA. 95814

Dear Secretary Laird:

It is with great pleasure that we, as co-chairs of the Orange County Marine Protected Areas Council (OCMPAC), write you in support of the adoption of the California Collaborative Approach: Marine Protected Areas Partnership Plan by the Ocean Protection Council at its December 2, 2014 meeting.

Begun with the adoption of the MLPA Initiative, OCMPAC is a collaboration of city, county and federal agencies, institutional representatives, environmental consultants, academic faculty and non profit organizations. Our goal has been to set the standard for localized implementation of marine conservation efforts through regional communication and cooperation.

Channeling the stakeholder efforts surrounding the implementation of the MPAs into regional collaboratives statewide is a natural extension of the MLPA process. Further, it increases the effectiveness of each individual collaborative in their goals of research, monitoring, education, outreach and enforcement by broadening their outlook and resources and by engaging them with the whole.

Given the potential challenges facing the California coastline over the next century, only the most comprehensive holistic approach to coastal management will be effective in conserving this incredible natural resource. This is not any one entity's problem; it is everyone's problem. The Partnership Plan recognizes and embraces this holistic approach while valuing the individual entities and the specific knowledge and challenges they each may have, knowing that each will serve to strengthen the other.

The members organizations of OCMPAC applaud and support the adoption of the California Collaborative Approach: Marine Protected Areas Partnership Plan.

Sincerely yours,

Jayson Smith, PhD
Co-Chair
Assistant Professor
Biological Sciences Department
Cal Poly Pomona

Louise Thornton
Co-Chair
Chair
Laguna Ocean Foundation



November 25, 2014

Catherine Kuhlman
 CA Natural Resources Agency
 1416 9th Street, Suite 1311
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Kuhlman,

The California Association for Recreational Fishing (CARF) is a broad-based coalition of freshwater recreational anglers, lake and marina operators, fish farmers and businesses dependent on a strong and vibrant outdoor tourism industry.

On Monday, November 24, we were notified that the newest version of the Marine Protected Area Partnership Plan had been released. While CARF is strictly a freshwater organization and rarely comments on policy decisions that affect saltwater fishing, we were dismayed to see that the latest version of the Plan lists the Fish and Game Preservation Fund as a potential source for MPA management.

The Preservation Fund is funded by hunting and fishing license sales and, by statute, may only be used to fund game activity by the Department of Fish and Wildlife. The license fees anglers pay are intended and expected to fund activities and programs that benefit the future of angling. For example, the Preservation Fund helps with the costs associated with the Department's trout hatcheries, enforcement of Department regulations and fishery management, all of which go towards improving the freshwater fishing experience for generations to come. Illegally using these funds for MPA management would betray the trust of anglers who expect their fees to go towards improving their sport.

Since using the Preservation Fund for nongame activities like MPA management violates the letter and spirit of the law, we respectfully request that the adopted version of the Plan does not include the Preservation Fund as a potential funding source.

Sincerely,

Craig Elliott
 President

