

CALIFORNIA WATER PARTNERSHIP



IMPLEMENTATION PRINCIPLES

The California Water Partnership supports Water Bond investments that implement a clear vision of California's water future in which communities and regions are supported by locally sustainable and resilient water supplies and environmental flows are sufficient to ensure thriving waterways, habitats and species throughout the state.

Projects that provide multiple benefits help achieve this vision and also leverage limited taxpayer dollars. Successful projects are locally supported by multiple types of stakeholders, leverage complementary funding sources where possible, and integrate benefits across a spectrum of services, including water supply and quality, public health and safety, environmental protection, economic stability and employment opportunities in impacted communities. Evaluation of such projects requires the application of objective, quantifiable criteria to measure their potential and actual benefits.

In developing criteria for expenditures, implementing agencies should consider the following:

- Actions that protect and restore the ecological function and processes of California's watersheds are an important piece of ensuring a sustainable water supply (through restored stream corridors and natural recharge systems), as well as providing sustenance to our state's unique biodiversity.
- California's rivers and ocean waters face pervasive pollution, and many are impaired from pollutants, such as heavy metals, excessive nutrients, bacteria and trash, that threaten public health as well as habitat. Bond priorities that promote pollution control measures can provide multiple benefits, including improved water quality, public health protection and increased water supply.
- Bond investments should support local water supply projects that measurably reduce reliance on water imports. Reducing water imports through the efficient, responsible, and integrated management of local water supplies (such as water use efficiency, recycling stormwater capture, and ground and surface water management) is cost-effective, climate-resilient, environmentally beneficial, and can provide additional local public benefits.
- The Human Right to Water, as enshrined in the California Water Code, requires implementing agencies to ensure that all Californians have access to clean, safe and affordable water and wastewater service. This requirement must be integrated into the implementation of every chapter of the bond. Bond investments should be paired with additional funding sources to address critical needs – such as the high cost of operating and maintaining a treatment system – that cannot be funded through bonds.
- Approved storage projects must be part of an integrated program that protects and restores needed flows to California's rivers, limits both regulated and unregulated diversions, minimizes energy consumption and provides local water supply reliability. Priority should be given to projects that restore the hydrologic functions of natural water storage and conveyance systems (e.g. aquifers, streams, meadows, wetlands, and floodplains).
- Bond funds should not be spent on energy-intensive ocean water desalination, but instead should prioritize treatment of brackish ground and surface water supplies located outside of coastal flood zones that utilize renewable energy sources.
- Large-scale infrastructure projects are generally not cost-effective, and do not provide the same return of public benefits as local, multi-beneficial water supply options.

WATER QUALITY SUCCESS STORIES FROM CALIFORNIA'S OCEAN LANDMARKS

INVESTING IN MULTI-BENEFIT SOLUTIONS

Through the strategic investment of state bond funds, California is improving water quality in the state's most ecologically vital places - with significant returns for ocean recreation and tourism. Projects from across the state provide examples of how future Proposition 84 and Proposition 1 investments can be leveraged to improve water quality and foster cleaner beaches, oceans, and thriving coastal ecosystems statewide.

HISTORY OF OCEAN LEADERSHIP

In 2013, California established the nation's first state-wide network of marine protected areas (MPAs), designating 124 special areas along the coast to conserve sea life and habitats, and enhance ocean recreation and science. MPAs include many of the state's most popular coastal destinations, such as Point Reyes, Point Lobos, Crystal Cove and La Jolla. They encompass tidepools, rocky reefs, kelp forests, submarine canyons and eelgrass beds that serve as feeding and breeding grounds for fish, shellfish, sea

birds, and marine mammals. California has also identified 34 Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS), specifically to protect water quality in some of the state's most unique and sensitive ocean environments. MPAs and ASBSs also provide research and recreation opportunities, and help safeguard the many jobs and businesses that rely on a healthy ocean.



Improving water quality in California's special ocean places is a smart investment that pays dividends for coastal communities. Special places like Carmel Bay and Fitzgerald Marine Reserve help power a \$39 billion ocean economy and 472,000 jobs. The state's oldest marine park, Point Lobos, draws over 40,000 visitors each year.

ECOSYSTEM AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS

California has a track record of successful water quality restoration and protection projects in MPAs and ASBS. By investing Proposition 84 funds in best management practices like grassy swales, porous pavement, catch basins and storm filters, the state has significantly reduced pollution entering these sensitive areas. The result - a cleaner ocean - is good news for wildlife, fishermen, coastal visitors, and local businesses from surf shops to whale watching boats. Scientific monitoring is already underway in MPAs and ASBSs to ensure a reliable benchmark to measure water quality improvements.



IN FOCUS: WATER QUALITY PROJECTS THAT WORK

JAMES FITZGERALD SWALE AND MEDIA FILTER

Montara MPA at Fitzgerald Marine Reserve ASBS



Famed for its spectacular tidepools, Fitzgerald is the site of countless research projects and school field trips. It also serves as a research lab for four unique stormwater management practices: a vegetated swale, a grassy swale, a BioClean® flume filter, and a Stormwater Management StormFilter®. These projects not only improve water quality, but serve as demonstration projects for stormwater management.

CARMEL BAY DIVERSION

Carmel Bay MPA at Carmel Bay ASBS



Carmel's scenery has inspired artists, poets and writers for more than a century. Today Carmel Bay draws SCUBA divers and ocean lovers from around the world to its sandy beaches and thriving kelp forests. The Carmel Bay Diversion Project is designed use gravity-fed diversions and regularly scheduled pump-outs to ensure the runoff from 23 different outfalls is kept out of the bay during peak tourist season.

ZUMA BEACH SEPTIC REPLACEMENT

Point Dume MPA at Lagunita Point to Latigo Point ASBS



The Zuma and Point Dume beaches are renowned for their surf breaks, but chronic water quality issues have plagued the area, making surfers sick and leading to beach closures. Los Angeles County's Zuma Beach Septic Replacement Project replaced 12 failing septic systems and leach fields, resulting in major reductions in fecal indicator bacteria. In 2013, there was not a single day where water quality posed a threat.

IRVINE COAST INFILTRATION PROJECT

Crystal Cove MPA at Irvine Coast Marine Life Refuge ASBS



Orange County's Crystal Cove is as popular with visitors as it is vital for wildlife. The Irvine Coast Infiltration Project treats polluted stormwater runoff from a busy beach parking lot using a combination of porous pavement, biotreatment, and an infiltration gallery. The project prevents large amounts of pollutants, from leaking car oil to toxic metals, from contaminating the ocean every year.

LA JOLLA DIVERSION AND ASBS PROTECTION IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

Matlahuayl MPA and La Jolla ASBS



Tidepoolers, divers, swimmers and kayakers flock to La Jolla year round. Visitors enjoy viewing leopard sharks, colorful Garibaldi, and playful sea lions. Two new projects have improved water quality at this popular spot: one captures and infiltrates stormwater runoff from a parking lot using porous pavement and an infiltration trench, the other diverts flows through a trash screen and into the sanitary sewer for treatment. The projects have removed nearly one million gallons of runoff.

Based on the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project Proposition 84 Grant Evaluation Report: Assessing Pollutant Reductions to Areas of Biological Significance (March 2015).

CONTACT: Sara Aminzadeh, Executive Director, California Coastkeeper Alliance, 415-794-8422

**CALIFORNIA
COASTKEEPER
ALLIANCE**



January 26, 2016

Mr. Steve Kinsey
Chair, California Coastal Commission
Via email: StatusOfExecutiveDirector@coastal.ca.gov

RE: Support for California Coastal Commission Executive Director Dr. Charles Lester

Dear Chair Kinsey,

We write to you on this 40th anniversary of the California Coastal Act – a world-renowned environmental law enacted under Governor Jerry Brown’s leadership in 1976 - to voice our pride in California’s long history of global leadership in coastal protection and our strong support for California Coastal Commission Executive Director, Dr. Charles Lester. Our organizations represent millions of Californians from all over the state, from inland and urban residents to rural coastal dwellers. We are deeply concerned over the unjustified and misguided attempt currently underway to oust Dr. Lester as Executive Director of the Coastal Commission.

Under Dr. Lester’s leadership since September 2011, the Coastal Commission has successfully applied the new administrative penalty authority in 2014 to remedy violations of public access, completed a state-of-the-art guidance document to help local governments better plan for and adapt to sea level rise and the impacts of climate change, and made tremendous strides in updating Local Coastal Plans for 24 cities/counties across California thanks to new funding from the Legislature. The Commission has increased public transparency by creating a modern database that provides the public easier online access to information on projects, improved interagency collaboration, and significantly reduced processing times for permits and appeals.

Threats to our coast and ocean have never been more pressing. A changing climate is bringing rising sea levels, ocean acidification, and greater vulnerability to all of our coastal resources. Firing the Coastal Commission’s Executive Director would undermine our state’s effectiveness on coastal protection at a time when the need for such protection is at an all-time high. There is no public record that Dr. Lester’s performance as Executive Director is anything but exemplary.

The Commission’s 2015 sea level policy recognizes that coastal planning decisions must respond to environmental justice concerns and include low-income persons and communities in planning efforts. It was a condition of California joining the Union that beaches remain public. Yet much of the California coast was off limits to people of color for much of the twentieth century through discriminatory housing and mortgage restrictions. Commission staff are working with diverse allies to preserve and broaden public access.

Thank you for your support of the Coastal Commission’s leadership to address climate change. We urge your continued support for the fundamental tenets of the California Coastal Act – protection of coastal access and coastal resources for all Californians – now and in the future. And we urge you to support Executive Director Charles Lester and his entire team in their continued efforts to achieve these goals. Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions. You may directly contact Susan Jordan at sjordan@coastaladvocates.com and Stefanie Sekich-Quinn at Ssekich@surfrider.org.

Very respectfully,

Stefanie Sekich-Quinn
Surfrider Foundation

Robert Garcia
The City Project

Susan Jordan
CA Coastal Protection Network

Marce Gutiérrez-Graudinš
Azul

Mark Magaña
Green Latinos

Maite Arce
Hispanic Access Foundation

Ruben D. Arvizu
Jean-Michel Cousteau's Ocean Futures Society

Amy Trainer
Environmental Action Committee of West Marin

Debra Padilla
Social and Public Art Resource Center

Dan Jacobsen
Environment California

Matt O'Malley
San Diego CoastKeeper

Lennie Roberts
Committee for Green Foothills

Dan Silver
Endangered Habitats League

Jay Ziegler
The Nature Conservancy

Jean Watt
Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks

Jack Eidt,
SoCal 350 Climate Action

Miriam Gordon
Clean Water Action | Clean Water Fund

Sara Aminzadeh
California CoastKeeper Alliance.

Garry Brown
Orange County CoastKeeper

Don McEnhill
Russian Riverkeeper

Pam Heatherington
Environmental Center of San Diego

Peter Fugazzotto
Salmon Protection And Watershed Network

Xavier Morales, Ph.D
Latinos Coalition for a Healthy CA

Jeffrey Williams
Black Surfers Collective

Kathryn Philips
Sierra Club California

Sarah Abramson Sikich
Heal the Bay

Teresa Baker
African American Nat'l Parks Event

Annie Notthoff
Natural Resources Defense Council

Marco Gonzalez
Coastal Environmental Rights Fnd.

Jennifer Kalt
Humboldt Baykeeper

Miyoko Sakashita
Center for Biological Diversity

Dorothy Kraus
Quality of Life Residents Coalition

Jerry Collamer
Wild Heritage Planners

Jessica Aldridge
Burbank Green Alliance

Kim Delfino
Defenders of Wildlife

Megan Brousseau,
Inland WaterKeeper

Sejal Choksi-Chugh
San Francisco Baykeeper

Johanna Felder
Village Laguna

Todd Steiner
Turtle Island Restoration Network

Ron Sundergill
National Parks Conservation Assc.

Linda Sheehan
Earth Law Center

John C. Philo
Sugar Law Center for Economic & Social Justice

Pete Shoemaker
Pacifans for Highway 1 Alternatives

Rick Frickmann
Santa Barbara Urban Creeks Council

Larry Glass
NorthCoast Environmental Center

D. Rick Van Schoik
North American Research Partnership

Suzanne Forster
Banning Ranch Conservancy

Marko Popovich
Still Protecting Our Newport

Nancy Negrete
Anahuak Youth Sport Association

Terry L. Cooper, Ph.D.
The Maria B. Crutcher Professor
USC Price School of Public Policy

Caryn Mandelbaum
Environment Now

Wesley Reutimann
day one

Scott Greacen
Friends of the Eel River

Jeremy Madsen
Greenbelt Alliance

Geoff Shester
Oceana

Dan York
The Wildlands Conservancy

Katie Johnson
Amigos de los Rios

Peter Loeb
Pacifans for a Scenic Coast

Mike Lynes
Audubon California

Owen Bailey
Environmental Defense Center

Robert Vogel
Friends of College Cove

Jeff Kuyper
Los Padres ForestWatch

Lisa Hoyos
Climate Parents

Marc Brenman
Social Justice Consultants

Jim Mosher
Stop Polluting Our Newport

Zachary Plopper
WILD COAST

Mark Williams
Concerned Citizens of South LA

Audrey Peterman
Diverse Environmental Leadership

Elizabeth Lambe
Los Cerritos Wetlands Land Trust

Greg Suba
California Native Plant Society

Pam Heatherington
ECO San Diego

Melanie Winter
The River Project

Mari Kloeppel
FANS of Elkhorn Slough

Jason A. Weiner
Wishtoyo Foundation

Jason Weiner
Ventura Coastkeeper

Kira Redmond
Santa Barbara Channelkeeper

Jackson Lam
Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council

Kim Kolpin
Bolsa Chica Land Trust

Doug Linney
California Wilderness Coalition

Chuck Mills
California Releaf

Mark Palmer
International Marine Mammal Project

Grant D. Werschull
Smith River Alliance

Tom Edminster
Pacifica Environmental Conversation

Bill Przylucki
People Organized for Westside Renewal

Merle Moshiri
Residents for Responsible Desalination

Mary Webb
Greenspace.

Nicole Capretz
Climate Action Campaign

Walter Moore
Peninsula Open Space Trust

Georgia Hancock
Animal Welfare Institute

Carlos Davidson
Pacifica Climate Committee

Sandra E Jerabek
Friends of Del Nor

Marcia Hanscom
Ballona Institute

Becky Dennison
Venice Community Housing

Cc: Governor Jerry Brown
California Resources Secretary John Laird
Senate Pro Tem Kevin de Leon
Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins
Assembly Speaker-elect Anthony Rendon
Dr. Charles Lester, Executive Director, California Coastal Commission

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA
95814

February 1, 2016

Supervisor Steve Kinsey
Chair, California Coastal Commission
3501 Civic Center Drive, Suite 329
San Rafael, CA 94903-4193

RE: Dr. Charles Lester, Executive Director of the California Coastal Commission

Dear Supervisor Kinsey:

We are writing to express our serious concern with the recent announcement of the possible termination of Dr. Charles Lester, Executive Director of the California Coastal Commission. Dr. Lester was unanimously appointed to lead the California Coastal Commission after the retirement of founding Executive Director Peter Douglas in 2011.

Under the authority of the California Coastal Act, the California Coastal Commission plays a critical role in ensuring the public's right to access our state's unsurpassed coastline and in protecting coastal resources for the use and enjoyment of all Californians, now and in the future. The Coastal Commission's charge is challenging, as they must balance the rights of individual property owners with their overarching mandate to safeguard the coastal commons that is a vital public trust resource.

Under Dr. Lester's leadership, the Coastal Commission has made significant progress by working proactively and collaboratively with its many partners to address the highest priority threats to our coast. This progress includes:

- In August 2015, the California Coastal Commission unanimously adopted a California Sea Level Rise Policy Guidance (SLR Guidance) document prepared by Dr. Lester and his staff. Training events designed to assist local communities in implementing the SLR Guidance document are underway.
- The Commission is currently supporting the update of Local Coastal Plans (LCPs) throughout the state, providing both direct financial assistance and staff support to local communities revising their LCPs to address sea level rise and climate change impacts.

- In 2014, the Governor and Legislature expanded the Coastal Commission's legal authority to impose fines against those impeding the public's right to access the beach. With this new authority, Dr. Lester has successfully eliminated obstructions to beach access around the state. Furthermore, during Dr. Lester's tenure as Executive Director, processing times for coastal development permits and appeals have been significantly reduced.

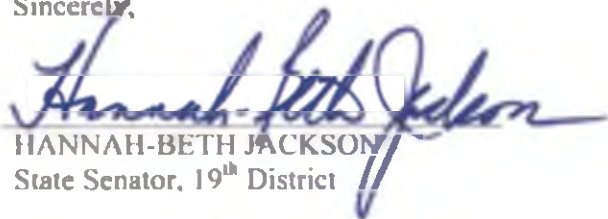
We strongly support the value of an independent Coastal Commission staff and we respect the commitment and accomplishments of Dr. Lester during his tenure as Executive Director. We fully recognize the complexities of balancing the provisions of the Coastal Act and believe that management of California's coastal resources requires input from all stakeholders in an open and transparent public process.

California's coast is as vulnerable as it is valuable. Threats, including pollution, coastal development, industrialization, and oil spills impact our coastal resources daily. The consequences of climate change are increasing including ocean acidification, sea level rise, more powerful storms, and more frequent flooding. Given the seriousness of these challenges facing our coast, California's ocean and coastal agencies and political leadership must redouble efforts to work together to achieve the goals and vision articulated in the Coastal Zone Conservation Act of 1972, passed by a strong majority of the public will.


We believe that firing Dr. Lester would be disruptive to achieving the state's coastal protection and management goals. We urge you to weigh in with support to maintain the independence of the California Coastal Program staff and retain Dr. Charles Lester as its respected and trusted leader.

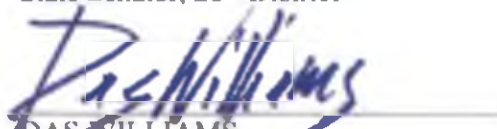
Thank you for your consideration of these comments and your continued environmental leadership.

Sincerely,


HANNAH-BETH JACKSON
State Senator, 19th District


MARK STONE
State Assemblymember, 29th District


BENJAMIN ALLEN
State Senator, 26th District


DAS WILLIAMS
State Assemblymember, 37th District

Supervisor Steve Kinsey
February 1, 2016
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RICHARD BLOOM
State Assemblymember, 50th District



LONI HANCOCK
State Senator, 9th District



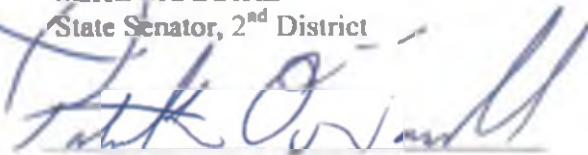
WILLIAM W. MONNING
State Senator, 17th District



DAVID CHIU State
Assemblymember, 17th District



MIKE MCGUIRE
State Senator, 2nd District



PATRICK O'DONNELL
State Assemblymember, 70th District



JERRY HILL
State Senator, 37th District



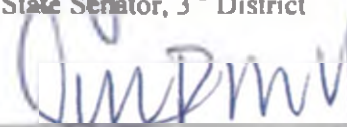
PHILIP Y. TING
State Assemblymember, 19th District



MARK LENO
State Senator, 11th District



LOIS WOLK
State Senator, 3rd District



JIM WOOD
State Assemblymember, 2nd District



MARTY BLOCK
State Senator, 39th District

Cc: The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr, Governor, State of California
The Honorable Kevin De León, California State Senate President pro Tempore
The Honorable Toni G. Atkins, California State Assembly Speaker
The Honorable Anthony Rendon, California State Assembly Speaker-elect
Dr. Charles Lester, Executive Director, California Coastal Commission

February 1, 2016

Commissioner Steve Kinsey, Chair
California Coastal Commissioners
Via email: StatusOfExecutiveDirector@coastal.ca.gov

RE: Support for California Coastal Program and Executive Director Dr. Charles Lester by Former California Coastal Commissioners

Dear Chair Kinsey and Commissioners,

Forty years ago, Governor Jerry Brown's visionary leadership saved the California coast from uncontrolled development when he signed the California Coastal Act of 1976 (the Coastal Act) into law. The Coastal Act has been an amazing success – it has enabled maximum public access to, and recreation along, our magnificent coastline for all Californians, awed visitors from around the globe, preserved sensitive habitats and natural resources and served as a source of inspiration and reverence.

As former Coastal Commissioners, we understand very well the complexities of balancing the Coastal Act's priority needs of public access and resource preservation with the ever-present development needs in a growing state. We took our responsibility as Commissioners seriously, considering each and every project before us on its merits and are proud to have been part of this world-renowned forty-year success.

We know that an essential component to the Coastal Act's success has been the independence of the Coastal Commission staff and its executive director to provide to Commissioners for their consideration objective, technical and scientific-based analyses and factual findings for each proposed coastal development. This independence has served the people of California, and our \$40-plus billion coastal economy well for decades.

Since Dr. Charles Lester was unanimously selected to lead the Coastal Program in September 2011 he has worked diligently to uphold the Coastal Act and to serve the interests of all Californians. Our state is facing a period of unprecedented change and challenge, with a rapidly growing population and the impacts of climate change increasing threats to our coast. Dr. Lester's professional leadership provides a critical steady hand at the helm during these particularly challenging times.

Firing the Coastal Commission's Executive Director would significantly undermine California's Coastal Program. It would also undermine Governor Jerry Brown's great legacy to leave intact the coastline's exquisite aesthetic, recreational, spiritual, biological and economic benefits. Please, support Dr. Lester's continued tenure as Executive Director of the Coastal Commission and the independence of this agency that has served all Californians so well for the past forty years.

Thank you for your consideration, and for your dedication to the coast.

Respectfully yours,

Pedro Nava

Melvin L. Nutter

Judy Rosener

Ruth Galanter

Gary Patton

Lennie Roberts

Steve Blank

Shirley Dettloff

Christina Desser

John Hisserich

Zad Leavy

Mike Reilly

Linda Moulton-Patterson

Dwight Worden

Bruce Reznik

Jeff Duclos

David Allgood

Patricia McCoy

John Woolley

Assembly Member Khatco
Achadjian

Congressman Alan Lowenthal

Phyllis Faber

Arlen Gregorio

Jim Wickett

Frederick Lyon

Patrick Kruer

Sara Wan

April Vargas

Beth Wyman

Maggie Hardy

Deborah Ruddock

Stephen C. Padilla

Esther Sanchez

Cc: Honorable Governor Jerry Brown
John Laird, Secretary, California Resources Agency
Senate President Pro Tempore Kevin De Leon
Speaker of the Assembly Toni Atkins
Speaker-elect of the Assembly Anthony Rendon
Dr. Charles Lester, Executive Director, California Coastal Commission