



December 8, 2023

California Natural Resources Secretary Crowfoot, Chair
California Ocean Protection Council
715 P Street, 20th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: OPC Science Advisor

Dear Secretary Crowfoot and members of the Ocean Protection Council,

As Chair of the Ocean Science Trust Board of Trustees, I am writing on behalf of the full board to express our appreciation for your consideration of continued support for the Ocean Science Trust to serve as OPC Science Advisor.

We reaffirm our commitment to the partnership between OST, OPC and the OPC Science Advisory Team. Together we have led the nation in responding to global challenges such as sea-level rise, microplastic pollution and ocean acidification, demonstrating the value of interdisciplinary science in shaping effective and policy-relevant paths forward.

With the opportunity for renewed engagement with California's academic community - across both University of California and California State University campuses and beyond - we are committed to providing the scientific syntheses, recommendations and reasoned advice needed for California. As Secretariat to the OPC SAT we are proud to have played a leading role in convening a multidisciplinary team of distinguished and independent scientists to support OPC in science-based actions and decisions.

As a nonprofit partner to the state, we will continue to seek opportunities for rapid response to state priorities, to build innovative science partnerships, and to amplify state investments with external funding. We look forward to continuing to work with OPC and the science advisory team to find solutions to pressing challenges and accelerate progress towards a healthy and productive ocean future for California.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nancy Sutley", is written over a light blue circular watermark.

Nancy Sutley
Chair, Ocean Science Trust Board of Trustees