



**Discussion Item**  
June 10, 2025

Item 5

**Discussion Item:**  
**Draft OPC 2026-2030 Strategic Plan**

Jenn Eckerle, Executive Director

**Project Summary:**

On September 10, 2024, the Council had an [initial discussion](#) to identify key priorities that should be incorporated into OPC's next strategic plan. This discussion item will present the public draft of the 2026 – 2030 Strategic Plan, providing an opportunity for Council and public feedback. This draft Strategic Plan was shaped by input received between January and May 2025 through extensive outreach and engagement with Council members, OPC's Environmental Justice Advisory Board, local, state and federal agencies, tribes, conservation organizations, fishermen, scientists, community members, and the general public.

**Exhibits:** Draft OPC 2026 – 2030 Strategic Plan

**Overview:**

The purpose of the Strategic Plan is to articulate OPC's goals over the next five years and to direct policy and investment priorities through 2030. It also provides our partners and all Californians with a clear understanding of what we want to accomplish with the aim of aligning collective action toward these goals. The Plan includes clear targets to track progress and success, ensuring accountability and transparency in OPC's work. It aims to institutionalize our core values and maintain critical momentum and continuity for staff and partners through the end of the decade.

The Draft Strategic Plan is similarly ambitious to our previous strategic plan but provides increased focus on actions that OPC will lead, as well as elevating actions that are key priorities for collaborative work with state agencies and other partners. The Plan provides a high-level framework of OPC priorities and maintains flexibility to respond to new strategies and integrate emerging issues. It will guide more specific work plans to achieve these objectives.

## Goals and Objectives:

The draft 2026 – 2030 Strategic Plan builds on the four key goals in [OPC's 2020 – 2025 Strategic Plan](#) (climate change, equity, biodiversity, and a sustainable blue economy), and carries forward many objectives that remain relevant. The Plan also includes a section focused on tracking change over time, as well as issues that were not included in the previous plan, such as advancing 30x30 in coastal waters.

It provides an ambitious, science-based roadmap for protecting and restoring California's coast and ocean through the end of this decade that is anchored by four interconnected goals with associated objectives and targets. The entire draft Strategic Plan is provided in Exhibit A; goals and objectives are summarized below:

### Goal 1: Build Resilience to Climate Change

- Objective 1.1: Protect communities and ecosystems from the impacts of sea level rise, coastal storms, erosion, and flooding.
- Objective 1.2: Limit causes and impacts of ocean acidification, hypoxia, and harmful algal blooms.

### Goal 2: Maximize Community Benefits and Stewardship

- Objective 2.1 Strengthen partnerships with California Native American tribes.
- Objective 2.2: Expand engagement with underserved communities.
- Objective 2.3: Build an inclusive ocean and coastal workforce.
- Objective 2.4: Enhance public outreach, understanding, and awareness.

### Goal 3: Safeguard Coastal and Marine Biodiversity

- Objective 3.1: Conserve 30% of California's coastal waters by 2030.
- Objective 3.2: Strengthen the performance and durability of California's Marine Protected Area Network.
- Objective 3.3: Restore vulnerable coastal and marine ecosystems.
- Objective 3.4 Protect and improve coastal and marine water quality.
- Objective 3.5 Strengthen international partnerships to advance biodiversity conservation across the globe.

## **Goal 4: Enable a Sustainable Blue Economy that Protects Ocean Health**

- Objective 4.1: Support sustainable, climate-resilient fisheries and aquaculture.
- Objective 4.2: Understand and minimize impacts from offshore wind on the environment, tribal cultural resources, and coastal communities.
- Objective 4.3 Reduce impacts from other industrial uses of the ocean.

### **Next Steps:**

Following discussion at the June 10 Council meeting, OPC will host a public webinar, continue tribal consultation, and solicit tribal, agency, and public feedback through the end of July. The Strategic Plan will be finalized based on this input and posted in mid-November for final adoption at the Council's December 2025 meeting.