



December 5, 2025

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.

California Ocean Science Trust strengthens the bridge between scientific research and sound ocean management. Created by state legislation, we support and bring world-class science and innovation together with state and federal policymakers to accelerate progress toward a healthy and resilient coast and ocean. With the release of our updated Strategic Direction, 2026-2030, 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 advice in shaping effective and policy-relevant paths forward.

As the scientific community faces federal headwinds, we are proud to support California in strengthening evidence-based decision-making for a sustainable and equitable coast and ocean future. The new vision for the OPC Science Advisory team strengthens California's policy connections to our state's scientific public and private institutions, facilitating the critical breadth of expertise, voices and perspectives necessary to deliver sound science advice.

As a nonprofit partner to the State, we will continue to seek opportunities for rapid response to state priorities, to build innovative public-private science partnerships, and to amplify state investments with external funding.

Sincerely,

*gary griggs*

Dr. Gary Griggs  
Chair, Ocean Science Trust Board of Trustees

