

Exhibit 1: Letters of Support



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southwest Region
777 Sonoma Ave., Room 325
Santa Rosa, CA 95404-6528

December 8, 2005

The Honorable Mike Chrisman
Chair, California Ocean Protection Council
The Honorable Douglas Bosco
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612
c/o Abe Doherty, Project Manager

Re: Support for the San Francisco Bay Subtidal Goals Project

Dear Mr. Chrisman and Mr. Bosco;

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries (NMFS) would like to express our support for the San Francisco Bay Subtidal Habitat Goals Project which is being submitted to the Council for approval and funding at the January 13, 2006 meeting. Our colleagues at NOAA Ocean Services (NOS) have also submitted a letter in support of this project. NOAA believes that the outcome of this project will provide a more comprehensive understanding of the Bay's subtidal habitats, as well as, provide a vision for the management of the bay ecosystem.

The Subtidal Goals Project is one of three studies that will collectively build a balanced management strategy that extends from the depths of San Francisco Bay to the upper extent of bay watersheds. State coastal management agencies, NMFS and NOS are working collaboratively through this project to develop a vision that will balance utilization, conservation, and restoration of the subtidal ecosystem in San Francisco Bay. Since 2000, NOAA has provided over \$1 million towards research, surveys, and staff time to characterize subtidal habitats in the Bay and has recently provided \$120,000 to support the Project. NOAA will continue to provide ongoing technical support through completion of the Project.

We request that the Ocean Protection Council find that the San Francisco Bay Subtidal Goals Project is a high priority, and to authorize the Coastal Conservancy to expend \$125,000 to contract for services to complete this project. NMFS believes that continuing to improve our knowledge of San Francisco Bay's ecosystem will result in resource management decisions that are based on the best available information.

Sincerely,

Steve Edmondson
Northern California Habitat Supervisor

Patrick J. Rutten
NOAA Restoration Center Supervisor

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OAKLAND, CALIF.



Exhibit 1: Letters of Support



Making San Francisco Bay Better

December 6, 2005

The Honorable Mike Chrisman
Chair, California Ocean Protection Council
The Honorable Douglas Bosco
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612
c/o Abe Doherty, Project Manager

SUBJECT: Support for the San Francisco Bay Subtidal Goals Project

Dear Mr. Chrisman and Mr. Bosco:

I am writing to express my support for the Ocean Protection Council designating the San Francisco Bay Subtidal Goals Project as a high priority at its January 13, 2006 meeting and for the Council to authorize the Coastal Conservancy to take steps necessary to develop and provide \$125,000 in contracts for the Project.

The San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) has partnered with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the San Francisco Estuary Project, the Coastal Conservancy, and the US Environmental Protection Agency to develop the San Francisco Estuary Subtidal Habitat Goals Project, a collaborative process that will establish a comprehensive, long-term management vision for protection, restoration, and appropriate use of the subtidal system in the San Francisco Estuary. The objectives of Subtidal Habitat Goals Project include: 1) developing subtidal habitat goals for management, protection and enhancement; 2) identifying and prioritizing research needs; and 3) characterizing the subtidal habitats and their functions. In addition, the Subtidal Goals project will complement the Baylands Habitat Goals Project, which was completed in 1999, and the Upland Goals Project, which is on-going.

BCDC fully supports the development of the Subtidal Goals Project and has dedicated available staff time and resources to the Project. If authorized by the Ocean Protection Council, the \$125,000 would fund critical components of the Project, including contracts for writing, facilitation, data collection and GIS development, and printing and distribution of materials, including the final Subtidal Habitat Goals report, which is scheduled to be released by April 2008. I encourage the Ocean Protection Council to find that the San Francisco Bay Subtidal Goals Project is a high priority and for the Coastal Conservancy to use \$125,000 of funds dedicated for use by the Council to contract for services to complete this project.

Sincerely,

WILL TRAVIS
Executive Director

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OAKLAND, CALIF.

Exhibit 1: Letters of Support



1515 Clay Street • Suite 1400
Oakland, CA 94612-1413
510 622.2465
Fax: 510 622.2501

December 8, 2005

The Honorable Mike Chrisman
Chair, California Ocean Protection Council
The Honorable Douglas Bosco
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612
c/o Abe Doherty, Project Manager

Re: Support for the San Francisco Bay Subtidal Goals Project

Dear Mr. Chrisman and Mr. Bosco;

I am writing on behalf of the San Francisco Estuary Project's Implementation Committee to express our support for the Ocean Protection Council designating the San Francisco Bay Subtidal Goals Project as a high priority at its January 13, 2006 meeting and for the Council to authorize the Coastal Conservancy to take steps necessary to develop and provide \$125,000 in contracts for the project. The contracts will fund writing, facilitation, data collection and GIS datalayer development, and printing and distribution of materials, including the final Subtidal Habitat Goals report, which is scheduled to be released by April 2008. The objectives of Subtidal Habitat Goals project include 1) developing subtidal habitat goals for management, protection and enhancement; 2) identifying and prioritizing research needs; and 3) characterizing the subtidal habitats and their functions. Government agencies with authority over managing the Estuary lack sufficient information on the subtidal habitats of the bay and a focused effort is needed in order to improve management of the bay's resources. Emerging restoration and enhancement efforts for the subtidal habitats need a coordinated approach to designing restoration projects in an efficient and effective manner. The Subtidal Goals project will complement the Baylands Ecosystem Habitat Goals Project, completed in 1999, and the Upland Goals Project currently underway, to develop a comprehensive, long-term management vision for the San Francisco Bay Area.

NOAA, BCDC, the Conservancy, the San Francisco Estuary Project and the EPA are coordinating this project, which has significant support from many other federal and state agencies. NOAA has contributed \$120,000 and the San Francisco Estuary Project is providing \$18,000 in support of the Subtidal Goals Project. The Subtidal Goals Project will carry out actions in the Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan for the San Francisco Estuary. I strongly encourage the Ocean Protection Council to find that the San Francisco Bay Subtidal Goals Project is a high priority and for the Coastal Conservancy to use \$125,000 of funds dedicated for use by the Council to contract for services to complete this important project.

Sincerely,


Lawrence P. Kolb
Chair, Implementation Committee

Exhibit 1: Letters of Support



State of California - The Resources Agency

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov>

Marine Region

20 Lower Ragsdale Drive, Suite 100

Monterey, CA 93940



November 16, 2005



The Honorable Mike Chrisman
Chair, California Ocean Protection Council
The Honorable Douglas Bosco
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612
c/o Abe Doherty, Project Manager

Re: Support for the San Francisco Bay Subtidal Goals Project

Dear Mr. Chrisman and Mr. Bosco;

I am writing to express support for the Ocean Protection Council designating the San Francisco Bay Subtidal Goals Project as a high priority and for the Council to authorize the Coastal Conservancy to provide \$125,000 in contracts for the project. The contracts will fund writing; facilitation; data collection and GIS data development; and printing and distribution of materials, including the final Subtidal Habitat Goals report, which is scheduled to be released by April 2008.

The objectives of Subtidal Habitat Goals project include 1) developing subtidal habitat goals for management, protection and enhancement; 2) identifying and prioritizing research needs; and 3) characterizing the subtidal habitats and their functions. Information on the subtidal habitats of the bay is generally lacking and a focused effort is needed in order to improve management of the bay's resources. The project will also compliment the Department of Fish and Game's efforts to implement the Marine Life Protection Act in the San Francisco Bay region by providing needed habitat information and management priorities.

The successful completion of this project will provide significant benefits to the management of the State's marine resources. I look forward to seeing its results.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Ugoretz".

John Ugoretz
Nearshore Ecosystem Coordinator /
Central Marine Region Manager

Conserving California's Wildlife Since 1870

Exhibit 1: Letters of Support

350 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Suite 900
Oakland, CA 94612-2016

t. 510.452.9261
f. 510.452.9266

www.saveSFbay.org

December 8, 2005

The Honorable Mike Chrisman, Chair
California Ocean Protection Council
1330 Broadway, Suite 1100
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Support for the San Francisco Bay Subtidal Goals Project

Dear Mr. Chrisman;

Save The Bay encourages the Ocean Protection Council to designate the San Francisco Bay Subtidal Goals Project as a high priority and to authorize the State Coastal Conservancy to provide \$125,000 to support the project. Save The Bay is the largest and oldest organization working exclusively to protect, restore and celebrate San Francisco Bay, with more than 10,000 members. The Bay Area's economy and quality of life depend on a healthy and vibrant Bay, and our work to make the Bay cleaner and healthier has yielded important success. The Bay now provides millions of dollars in economic benefits annually from tourism and commerce, and preserved recreation and beauty for the region.

While scientists have produced a regional blueprint for shoreline habitat restoration around San Francisco Bay, the *Baylands Ecosystem Habitat Goals* (1999), we desperately need better information on the subtidal habitats of the bay to ensure coordinated ecosystem restoration, and to prevent additional degradation of sensitive resources. The Subtidal Goals Project will help address that need, and allow Bay resource agencies to develop a comprehensive, long-term plan to restore the precious natural treasure in our midst.

The Subtidal Habitat Goals Project will characterize the Bay's subtidal habitats and their functions, identify management, protection and enhancement goals, and prioritize future research needs. Save The Bay has been a forceful advocate for this project, and for funding to support it, with the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission and others. The Ocean Protection Council can and should give this project a significant boost by encouraging the Coastal Conservancy to provide funds for its advancement.

Thank you for your consideration of these views.

Sincerely;



David Lewis
Executive Director

cc: Honorable Doug Bosco, State Coastal Conservancy



SAVE THE BAY

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OAKLAND, CALIF.

