



CALIFORNIA OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL

Mike Chrisman, *Secretary for Resources, Council Chair*
Steve Westly, *State Controller*
Linda Adams, *Secretary for Environmental Protection*
Sheila Kuehl, *State Senator, Ex officio Member*
Pedro Nava, *State Assemblymember, Ex officio Member*

MEMORANDUM

TO: California Ocean and Coastal Community

FROM: Mike Chrisman, Secretary for Resources
Chair, California Ocean Protection Council

DATE: June 26, 2006

SUBJECT: Ocean Protection Council June meeting highlights

The Ocean Protection Council (OPC) met at the Hyatt Regency Monterey on Thursday, June 8. Below is a summary of the actions taken by the council at this important public meeting. Since the meeting, I traveled to Washington, D.C. to talk about California achievements with the Coastal States Organization, the Coastal Coordination Committee, and the Joint Ocean Commission Initiative, and I participated in the Capitol Hill Ocean Week sessions. We were scheduled to testify about ocean governance issues before the Senate Commerce Committee, but that hearing was postponed. The Committee is anticipated to re-schedule the hearing later this summer and we hope to testify at that time.

Meeting Highlights

- *Voted* on formal operating policies for OPC meetings, including the procedure for allowing council member alternates to vote on action items on a meeting-to-meeting basis. These operating policies are available at http://resources.ca.gov/copc/6-8-06_meeting/0606 OPC Book/0606COPC02 OPC Operating Policy MEMO.pdf.
- *Adopted* the Five-year OPC Strategic Plan, after receiving extensive written and verbal public comments. The Strategic Plan will be a living document with evolving performance measures to ensure action and accountability. The plan is available at http://resources.ca.gov/copc/6-8-06_meeting/0606 OPC Book/0606COPC06 OPC Five Year Strategic Plan MEMO.pdf.
- *Authorized* development of the California Ocean Science Applications Program to move the state toward an integrated ocean observing system in California. The report, "California Ocean Observing Program: A Recommendation for Supporting State Ocean Observing Efforts," can be viewed at [http://resources.ca.gov/copc/6-8-](http://resources.ca.gov/copc/6-8-06_meeting/0606 OPC Book/0606COPC06 OPC Five Year Strategic Plan MEMO.pdf)

[06_meeting/0606 OPC Book/0606COPC07 CA Ocean Observing Program MEMO.pdf](http://resources.ca.gov/copc/6-8-06_meeting/0606 OPC Book/0606COPC07 CA Ocean Observing Program MEMO.pdf).

- *Adopted* design principles for Marine Protected Areas monitoring, which can be viewed at http://resources.ca.gov/copc/6-8-06_meeting/0606 OPC Book/0606COPC08 MPA Monitoring MEMO.pdf.
- *Concurred* that the State Water Resources Control Board ocean protection projects funding list, totaling \$10,021,317, met the mutual priorities of the council and the water board, and recommended the State Water Board fund these projects. Project summaries are available at http://resources.ca.gov/copc/6-8-06_meeting/0606 OPC Book/0606COPC09 State Waterboard OPP Funding List Ex3.pdf.

Projects

- *Dedicated* \$110,000 to develop a campaign for a consistent and effective statewide public ocean awareness and stewardship initiative, in cooperation with NOAA and the California Ocean Communicators Alliance. (http://resources.ca.gov/copc/6-8-06_meeting/0606 OPC Book/0606COPC11A CA Public Ocean Awareness Campaign.pdf)
- *Authorized* \$400,000 for substrate and habitat mapping of the Santa Barbara Channel in conjunction with the US Geological Survey. (http://resources.ca.gov/copc/6-8-06_meeting/0606 OPC Book/0606COPC11B Santa Barbara Channel Mapping.pdf)
- *Funded* a \$300,000 engineering study of power plants using once-through cooling technology, pursuant to the council's April 20 resolution on once-through cooling. (http://resources.ca.gov/copc/6-8-06_meeting/0606 OPC Book/0606COPC11C OTC Study.pdf)
- *Authorized* the use of \$300,000 to complete a coastal aquaculture Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PIER). (http://resources.ca.gov/copc/6-8-06_meeting/0606 OPC Book/0606COPC11D Aquaculture PEIR.pdf)

Thank you for your interest in protecting California's ocean and coast. The agenda, briefing documents, and archived webcast of the meeting can be found at http://resources.ca.gov/copc/6-8-06_meeting/.

Please visit <http://resources.ca.gov/copc/> for more information on the California Ocean Protection Council.