



MEMORANDUM

TO: California Ocean Protection Council

FROM: Drew Bohan, Executive Policy Officer, OPC
Neal Fishman, Deputy Executive Officer, SCC
Christine Blackburn, Project Manager, OPC
Marina Cazorla, Project Manager, OPC

DATE: November 28, 2006

RE: Ocean Protection Council-Department of Fish and Game Joint Work Plan

ATTACHMENTS: [Proposed work plan and detailed budget](#)

REQUESTED ACTION: Staff recommends that the Council approve the following resolution:

“The Ocean Protection Council approves the OPC-DFG joint work plan outlining \$8,000,000 in expenditures for implementing Marine Life Management Act and Marine Life Protection Act, and authorizes its submittal to the Legislature as required in the Budget Act of 2006.”

BACKGROUND:

The Budget Act of 2006 allocated \$8 million to the Coastal Conservancy with the direction that the funds should be used to implement the Marine Life Protection Act and the Marine Life Management Act (Stats. 2006, ch. 47 § 2). The specific budget language is:

Of the funds appropriated in this item, \$8,000,000 shall be available for implementation of the Marine Life Protection Act and Marine Life Management Act. These funds shall be expended pursuant to a plan developed jointly by the Ocean Protection Council and the Department of Fish and Game. The plan shall be submitted to the chairpersons of the fiscal committees in each house of the Legislature and the Chairperson of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee.

The expenditure of these funds shall occur no sooner than 30 days after the plan has been submitted to the chairpersons of the fiscal committees in each house of the Legislature and the Chairperson of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee. These funds shall be available for expenditure until June 30, 2009.

In accordance with this budget language, staff members from the OPC and Department of Fish and Game have drafted a joint work plan for the Council's approval (attached).

The work plan details several projects for the next two years that focus on data collection, data analysis, DFG program support, and DFG general infrastructure. The proposed projects for OPC will be funded primarily through direct contracts, in close coordination with DFG staff. In addition to the \$8 million specific to the budget language above, the plan also includes projects that will be funded through \$2 million that was appropriated to DFG in the 06/07 budget for similar purposes, and other proposed expenditures from additional funding sources within DFG and OPC.