

LOIS CAPPS
23RD DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA



1110 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0522
(202) 225-3901

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
September 3, 2008

- DISTRICT OFFICES:
- 1411 MARSH STREET, SUITE 205
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93401
(805) 546-8349
- 101 WEST ANAPAMU STREET, SUITE C
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101
(805) 730-1710
- 2575 NORTH VENTURA ROAD, SUITE 105
PORT HUENEME, CA 93041
(805) 985-5807

The Honorable Mike Chrisman
Secretary for Resources
State of California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Secretary Chrisman:

I am writing to request your support for full funding of \$2.6 million requested for the Central Coast Groundfish Project submitted to the Ocean Protection Council by The Nature Conservancy.

The project will contribute to the preservation and sustainability of California's fishing heritage and its marine resources. In 2006, TNC acquired seven federal groundfish trawl permits in return for offshore habitat protection measures. Today, TNC and fishermen in my district are working together to foster more environmentally and economically sustainable approaches to fishing in order to increase both conservation benefits and economic and community sustainability.

The beneficiaries will be fishing communities in the Central Coast of California in addition to fishermen in this area who will be assured of future opportunities to fish. California will retain access to the groundfish resource off its shores, a resource which will be harvested in a way that is compatible with the extraordinarily diverse and productive marine ecosystems in this area. California consumers will have access to seafood products that are harvested in an environmentally sustainable matter. The tools and techniques developed in this project could serve as a model for communities elsewhere in California and beyond.

Again, I write in support of funding this worthy project, consistent with all relevant rules and regulations. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

LOIS CAPPS
Member of Congress



City of Morro Bay

Morro Bay, CA 93442

(805) 772-6200

August 27, 2008

The Honorable Mike Chrisman
Secretary for Resources
State of California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SUPPORT FOR FUNDING OF THE CENTRAL COAST GROUND FISH PROJECT

Dear Secretary Chrisman:

I am writing to ask your support for full funding requested for the Central Coast Groundfish Project submitted to the Ocean Protection Council by The Nature Conservancy (TNC). It is my understanding that the Council will consider this request at its September meeting.

The project will contribute to the preservation and sustainability of California's fishing heritage and its marine resources. In 2006, TNC acquired 7 federal groundfish trawl permits in consideration of a longer-term goal to help the PFMC establish additional offshore habitat protection required by law. Today, by working together, TNC and fishermen are working to foster environmentally and economically sustainable approaches to fishing in order to increase both conservation benefits and economic and community sustainability.

We believe the beneficiaries of the Central Coast Groundfish Project will be California's seafood consumers, the traditional coastal fishing communities who are struggling to maintain marine infrastructure and economies and California's remaining family owned fishing businesses. California will retain access to the groundfish resource off its shores, a resource that will be harvested in a way that is compatible with the extraordinarily diverse and productive marine ecosystems in this area. California consumers will have access to seafood products that are harvested in an environmentally sustainable matter. The tools and techniques developed in this project could serve as a model for communities elsewhere in California and beyond.

Thank you for your support for this important and innovative project.

Sincerely,

Janice Peters, Mayor

cc: Assemblyman Sam Blakeslee
Senator Abel Maldonado

FINANCE
595 Harbor Street

ADMINISTRATION
595 Harbor Street

FIRE DEPARTMENT
715 Harbor Street

PUBLIC SERVICES
955 Shasta

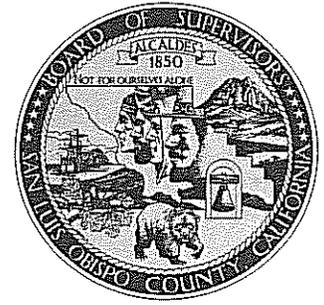
HARBOR DEPARTMENT
1275 Embarcadero Road

POLICE DEPARTMENT
870 Morro Bay Boulevard

RECREATION & PARKS
1001 Kennedy Way

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1055 MONTEREY, ROOM D430 • SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA 93408-1003 • 805.781.5450



BRUCE GIBSON
SUPERVISOR DISTRICT TWO

September 2, 2008

The Honorable Mike Chrisman
Secretary for Resources
State of California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for Funding of the Central Coast Groundfish Project

Dear Secretary Chrisman:

I am writing to urge your support for full funding of the Central Coast Groundfish Project, submitted to the Ocean Protection Council by The Nature Conservancy.

I believe this project will improve the fishing industries' productivity, protect the health of the Central Coast marine ecosystem and help to preserve the local fishing industry, thereby benefitting the community economically.

As the County Supervisor whose district includes the City of Morro Bay, I am most concerned about the well being of the local fishing industry and its effect on this coastal community. Please consider funding the Central Coast Groundfish Project at your September meeting.

Thank you in advance for your support of this important project.

Sincerely,

BRUCE GIBSON
District Two Supervisor,
San Luis Obispo County

[9/3/08]

The Honorable Mike Chrisman
Secretary for Resources
State of California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Secretary Chrisman:

I am writing to ask for your support for full funding requested for the Central Coast Groundfish Project submitted to the Ocean Protection Council by The Nature Conservancy. I urge the Council to consider this request at its September meeting.

The fisheries of California deserve the best protections to insure that the resources that we remove are done so respectfully in a way that allows sufficient targeted yields. This project will contribute to the preservation and sustainability of California's fishing heritage and its marine resources. Working together TNC and fishermen are forging an allegiance that will bring sustainability to the central coast fisheries and economic stability.

As a wholesaler of high quality seafood in the Bay Area and beyond, I can say that the funding of the CCGP will not only benefit the communities of the central coast with a higher economic return for their catch, but at the same time preserve the environment as a productive ecosystem for future generations.

Thank you for your support for this important project.

Sincerely,

Tom Worthington
Monterey Fish Market
Pier 33
San Francisco CA, 94111

9/2/08

The Honorable Mike Chrisman
Secretary for Resources
State of California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Secretary Chrisman:

I am writing to ask for your support for full funding requested for the Central Coast Groundfish Project submitted to the Ocean Protection Council by The Nature Conservancy. It is my understanding that the Council will consider this request at its September meeting.

In keeping with the goals of the Ocean protection council the project will contribute to the preservation and sustainability of California's fishing heritage and its marine resources. This project will foster habitat protection and further environmental and economic sustainability in our fishing community.

We need to assure California fishermen they will have the opportunity to fish in the future, keep California groundfish resources in California and encourage a transition to less harmful gear. This project will also bring sustainably harvested seafood to California consumers. As a California seafood wholesaler I wholeheartedly endorse this project and believe the techniques developed in this project can serve as a model for communities elsewhere in California.

Thank you
Paul Johnson
Monterey Fish
S.F. Ca.
510-774-5778
Author "Fish Forever"



NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL

September 2, 2008

The Honorable Mike Chrisman
Secretary for Resources
State of California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Central Coast Groundfish Project Funding: Support

Dear Secretary Chrisman:

On behalf of the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), I am writing to encourage your support for funding for the Central Coast Groundfish Project, submitted to the Ocean Protection Council by The Nature Conservancy. It is our understanding that the Council will consider this request at its September meeting.

This project will help sustain marine resources and support California's fishing heritage. In 2006, TNC acquired 7 federal groundfish trawl permits in return for offshore habitat protection measures. This project aims to develop tools and techniques that can serve as replicable models for switching from groundfish trawl to more environmentally friendly gear, and for reducing the footprint and impacts of trawling. Today, by working cooperatively, TNC and fishermen are fostering more environmentally and economically sustainable approaches to fishing, with benefits in California and beyond.

This project will have many beneficiaries in the Central Coast and throughout the state. Fishermen and fishing communities will benefit far into the future as fish populations become healthier and more productive. Shifting the groundfish fishery to a sustainable basis is an important part of maintaining California's extraordinarily diverse and productive marine ecosystem. California consumers will have better access to seafood products that are harvested in an environmentally sustainable manner. This project's tools and techniques can be shared with other struggling fisheries and the communities they support, adding project beneficiaries far beyond the Central Coast project area.

Thank you for your support for this important project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Leila Monroe". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Leila Monroe
Oceans Policy Analyst

cc: Brian Baird, California Resources Agency, Assistant Secretary for Ocean and Coastal Policy
Drew Bohan, California Resources Agency, OPC Executive Policy Officer
Sam Schuchat, State Coastal Conservancy, Executive Officer; OPC, Council Secretary
Neal Fishman, State Coastal Conservancy, Deputy Executive Officer, Ocean Program Manager
Christine Blackburn, State Coastal Conservancy, Project Manager

55 C Municipal Wharf
Santa Cruz, CA 95060



831.425.1363 Telephone
831.425.5604 Facsimile
www.oceanconservancy.org

Delivered by email to: COPCpublic@resources.ca.gov

September 3, 2008

The Honorable Mike Chrisman
Secretary for Resources
State of California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Secretary Chrisman:

I am writing to ask for your support for the Central Coast Groundfish Project submitted to the Ocean Protection Council by The Nature Conservancy (TNC). It is my understanding that the Council will consider this request at its September meeting.

The project will contribute to the future sustainability of California fishing. In 2006, TNC acquired 7 federal groundfish trawl permits in return for offshore habitat protection measures. Today, TNC and fishermen are working together to pursue more environmentally and economically sustainable approaches to fishing in order to increase both conservation benefits and economic and community sustainability.

Ocean Conservancy supports efforts to ensure that all fishing in California is conducted in a way that is compatible with the extraordinarily diverse and productive marine ecosystems in our area. We believe that this project will contribute to our understanding of the impacts of trawl gear on the marine environment and may help improve the sustainability of groundfish fisheries throughout the West Coast in the long-term.

Thank you for your support for this important project.

Sincerely,



Kaitilin Gaffney
Pacific Ecosystem Program Director

Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Organization
P.O. Box 450
Morro Bay, CA 93442

September 6, 2008

Re: OPC request summary 080819

To Chris Blackburn,

The Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Organization would like to show their support of the Nature Conservancy's grant project request to the Ocean Protection Council. The project described in their grant application will be used to supply and enhance much needed research information that we in the fishing community feel will benefit all. The Nature Conservancy has been and is working with the commercial fishing industry, and with their help we hope to see a brighter future for fishermen in the state of California. This project funding would serve to benefit the people of California across the board whether environmental interests, fishing interests, or those involved in state and federal management of our oceans. We hope the Ocean Protection Council will agree with our views on this. We hope to continue our relationship with the Nature Conservancy and those involved in these projects to assist the fishing community in using the most sustainable methods and practices when dealing with our natural resources.

Sincerely,

Jeremiah O'Brien
President of the Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Organization

Cc; Michael Bell
Rick Algert



San Mateo County Harbor District

*Boban/BB ←
Please prepare response
for my signature
MC
9/5*

Board of Harbor Commissioners

Ken Lundie, President
Leo Padreddi, Vice President
Sally Campbell, Treasurer
Pietro Parravano, Secretary
James Tucker, Commissioner

Peter Grenell, General Manager

1933 - 2008
Celebrating 75 Years

September 4, 2008

The Honorable Mike Chrisman
Secretary for Resources
State of California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Secretary Chrisman:

I ask for you to support full funding for the Central Coast Groundfish Project submitted to the Ocean Protection Council by The Nature Conservancy. I understand that the Council will consider this request on September 10th. The project will contribute to the preservation and sustainability of California's fishing heritage and its marine resources. In 2006, TNC acquired 7 federal groundfish trawl permits in return for offshore habitat protection measures. TNC and fishermen are working together to foster more environmentally and economically sustainable approaches to fishing in order to increase both conservation benefits and economic and community sustainability.

While the project has begun in the Morro Bay area, Pillar Point Harbor fishermen are actually involved. We urge that the project extend to the San Mateo Coast area as well.

The beneficiaries will be fishing communities in the Central Coast of California in addition to fishermen in this area who will be assured of future opportunities to fish. California will retain access to the groundfish resource off its shores, a resource which will be harvested in a way that is compatible with the extraordinarily diverse and productive marine ecosystems in this area. California consumers will have access to seafood products that are harvested in an environmentally sustainable manner. The tools and techniques developed in this project could serve as a model for communities elsewhere in California and beyond.

Thank you for supporting for this important project.

Sincerely,
SAN MATEO COUNTY HARBOR DISTRICT

Peter Grenell
Peter Grenell
General Manager