



CALIFORNIA OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL

John Laird, Secretary for Natural Resources, Council
Matt Rodriguez, Secretary for Environmental Protection
Gavin Newsom, Lieutenant Governor, State Lands
Fran Pavley, State Senator
Bill Quirk, State Assemblymember
Geraldine Knatz, Public Member
Michael Brown, Public Member

To: California Ocean and Coastal Community

From: John Laird, Secretary for Natural Resources and Chair, California Ocean Protection Council

Date: September 22, 2015

Subject: Highlights from the September 22, 2015 Ocean Protection Council meeting

The Ocean Protection Council (OPC) held a meeting today, September 22, 2015 in Sacramento. Topics of discussion included adoption of Proposition 1 grant guidelines, Marine Protected Area (MPA) Statewide Leadership Team and work plan, and the MPA signage project. I look forward to seeing you at the next OPC meeting.

- Agenda item 4** **Action: Consideration of adoption of Proposition 1 grant guidelines**
The Council unanimously adopted the Proposition 1 grant guidelines. OPC will begin this new grant program with a solicitation period anticipated to open in late October 2015. These new grants will continue OPC's investment into improving and maintaining healthy coastal and ocean resources. (Laird-aye; Burns-aye; Schmidt-aye; Brown-aye)
- Agenda item 5** **Action: Consideration of adoption of a resolution regarding the Marine Protected Area (MPA) Statewide Leadership Team and work plan**
The Council unanimously adopted the resolution endorsing the MPA Statewide Leadership Team Work Plan FY15/16-17/18. This Work Plan will help state agencies and supporting partners identify strategic priorities, key actions and outcomes for effective MPA network management. Through using the Work Plan the MPA Statewide Leadership Team will continue to work together to support the effective management of the statewide network of MPAs. (Laird-aye; Burns-aye; Schmidt-aye; Brown-aye)
- Agenda item 6** **Informational: Update on Marine Protected Area (MPA) signage project**
OPC Sea Grant Fellow, Morgan Ivens-Duran, updated the Council on the permitting and installation status of 189 MPA signs in high-priority areas along the California coastline. These signs will increase public awareness of MPA regulations and cultivate increased stewardship of the MPA network.

A webcast of the meeting will be posted to the following website within the next 24 hours at <http://www.opc.ca.gov/category/meetings/> (click on “webcast” to the right of “September 22”).

The OPC meeting was preceded by a workshop: ‘Changing Ocean Conditions: Understanding El Niño’s Impacts on California’s Living Marine Resources Through Ocean Observations’. With the support of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, the workshop illustrated the effects of past El Niños on specific nearshore and coastal fisheries in light of the conditions currently predicted for the upcoming winter and spring. Additionally, opportunities for science-informed management action on living marine resources in the face of the predicted El Niño were discussed. For information specifically on the workshop, please visit <http://www.opc.ca.gov/category/meetings/> (click on “workshop” next to September 22, 2015). A recording and summary of the workshop will be available soon.

For more meeting details, please visit our website: <http://www.opc.ca.gov/category/meetings/>