



CALIFORNIA OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL

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

Item 2

Dear Council Members and Ocean Community,

It is time for a celebration! We have hit a major milestone with the completion of a multi-year, multi agency work plan for managing our Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). This effort is both a culmination of some very thoughtful work stemming from the MPA Partnership Plan and a launch pad into the new era of managing our MPAs that will be codified in Fish and Wildlife/Fish and Game Commission's MPA Master Plan. The work plan, which will be presented at the OPC meeting, represents the best thinking of our State MPA Leadership Team and lays out a detailed road map for action. This collaborative approach to MPA management is unique to California and is a reflection of our Chair's emphasis on coming together to solve problems.

Our work on ocean acidification and hypoxia, through the work of the Ocean Science Trust, continues to garner increasing national attention. The partnership with Oregon, Washington and British Columbia under the umbrella of the Pacific Coast Collaborative is flourishing. Our meeting with EPA and NOAA leadership last month has led to an enriched partnership and a request to brief the National Ocean Council Steering Committee this month.

We are excited to be presenting our Prop 1 Grant Guidelines to our Council at this meeting. These guidelines reflect both the intent of the bond passed last fall and OPC's priorities. We have been privileged to travel the coast and meet with people to harvest their ideas for drafting the guidelines and I think the final product reflects their advice. Should the Council adopt the guidelines on September 22nd, we are committed to putting out the first request for project concepts in October.

Finally I hope you will be able to attend the joint OPC/Scripps workshop on the morning of September 22nd. The [workshop](#) will focus on understanding the effects of El Niño on California's living marine resources. Our expert panel will detail past El Niño events and explore opportunities for science-informed action as this year's event unfolds.

I hope your summer has been wonderful and I look forward to seeing you at our meeting September 22nd.

Warm Regards,

Cat

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Catherine Kallman".

Deputy Secretary for Ocean and Coastal Policy
Executive Director Ocean Protection Council