

# Ocean Protection Council Science Advisory Team (OPC-SAT) Workshop Agenda

## *“Exploring Ocean Health as a Scientific Concept and Management Goal”*

June 11, 2014  
10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

*Hosted by the California Ocean Science Trust*  
Elihu M. Harris State Building, Room 1, Oakland, CA



### **1. Introduction & Welcome**

*Skyli McAfee, Executive Director, California Ocean Science Trust*

### **2. OPC-SAT Business & Agenda Overview**

OPC-SAT Executive Committee presents OPC-SAT business and related updates.

#### *OPC-SAT Executive Committee*

- Skyli McAfee, California Ocean Science Trust, OPC science advisor
- Mark Carr, Professor, University of California Santa Cruz, Co-chair
- Karina Nielsen, Professor, Sonoma State University, Co-chair Elect
- Alexandria Boehm, Associate Professor, Stanford University, Co-chair Emeritus

#### **2a. OPC-SAT Business Updates**

- Welcome to New OPC-SAT Members

#### **2b. OPC-SAT Related Updates**

- The West Coast Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia Science Panel
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife Task Force on Scientific Collecting Permits
- Abalone Science Advisory Committee

### 3. Symposium: Ocean Health as a Scientific Concept and Management Goal

*Discussion Leader, Mark Carr, University of California Santa Cruz*

Across California ocean and coastal agencies and beyond – embedded in legal mandates, management plans, and policy guidance – there is a common theme: shared goals for a healthy, resilient California ocean. The scientific community has also been developing ideas and exploring different methodologies for measuring ocean health. By bringing the scientific and management communities together, we have the opportunity to begin a conversation around building a shared understanding of ocean health. In this workshop, we will explore the following questions:

- **How are California decision-makers engaged?** Gain an understanding of the different mandates, management levers, and policies related to ocean health that exist within California;
- **What are current science initiatives?** Discuss the role of science and scientists in supporting California policy and management goals related to ocean health; and
- **How do we build common approaches?** Learn about a case study and discuss how to bridge California agency needs and the role of the scientific community.

This workshop is intended to explore the value of a dialogue about ocean health as a scientific concept and management goal. The discussions will begin to test the utility of this concept for advancing California's ocean and coastal management and illuminate opportunities and challenges in moving forward.

#### 3a. Aligning the Policy and Management Vision Across the Landscape

From MPA management, fishery regulations and coastal development permitting, to reductions in marine debris and wastewater treatment, California regulators, managers and policymakers are already taking actions that promote a healthy, productive ocean. However, when trying to visualize this as an overarching management or policy goal, questions inevitably arise: what does a healthy, productive ocean for California mean, and how do we know we are on the right path? In this presentation series, decision makers operating under different authorities will share their perspectives on ocean health as a management goal.

*Moderator: Skyli McAfee, California Ocean Science Trust*

*Speakers:*

- Catherine Kuhlman, Deputy Secretary for Ocean and Coastal Matters, California Natural Resources Agency, and Executive Director, California Ocean Protection Council
- Jonathan Bishop, Chief Deputy Director, State Water Resources Control Board, California Environmental Protection Agency
- Sonke Mastrup, Executive Director, California Fish and Game Commission
- Louise Bedsworth, Deputy Director, Governor's Office of Planning and Research

---

*Lunch*

---

#### 3b. Panel Discussion: Mapping the Opportunities for Science and Scientists

Each agency has its own unique mission, mandates, management levers, and policies – different words, different cultures and different day-to-day operations. In this discussion, we will begin to explore some of the overlaps and differences among agencies, and explore the ways in which scientists could collaborate more closely with decision-makers across multiple jurisdictions.

- Emily Knight, Program Manager, and Erin Meyer, Associate Scientist, California Ocean Science Trust
- Karina Nielsen, Professor, Sonoma State University
- Holly Doremus, Professor, Co-Director, Center for Law, Energy & the Environment, Director, Environmental Law Program, University of California Berkeley

### 3c. Case Study Discussion: Building Bridges Between the MPA and Water Quality Communities

From legal mandates to agency authorities, and management levers to monitoring programs, water quality and natural resource management are often largely separate endeavors. In this discussion, the speakers will share examples of collaborative projects underway in California that use science and common management goals for a healthy ocean to find synergies and efficiencies among these traditionally disparate communities.

- Stephen Weisberg, Executive Director, Southern California Coastal Water Research Project
- Liz Whiteman, Program Director, California Ocean Science Trust

---

*Break*

---

### 3d. Concluding Discussion: Tracking Our Progress

Policy-makers, managers, and OPC-SAT members will reflect on what we have learned today, ask additional questions, and offer new ideas.

*Moderator: Skyli McAfee, California Ocean Science Trust*



## Speaker Biographies

**Catherine Kuhlman**, Deputy Secretary for Ocean and Coastal Matters, California Natural Resources Agency, and Executive Director, Ocean Protection Council

Cat Kuhlman was appointed in April 2012 by Governor Brown to serve as the Deputy Secretary for Ocean and Coastal Policy at the Resources Agency and as the Executive Director to the Ocean Protection Council. Previously Cat was the Executive Director for the North Coast Water Quality Control Board, which is responsible for protecting and restoring water quality on the North Coast, including the coastline and major rivers from the Russian to the Smith. Before coming to the Board, Cat worked for the U.S. EPA managing diverse environmental problems along the U.S. Mexico border as well as a wide variety of federal water programs including the Clean Water, Safe Drinking Water Act and Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act. A water enthusiast, Cat has written papers on international environmental issues, and water quality standards. She and her husband love to explore streams and loaf on beaches.

**Jonathan Bishop**, Chief Deputy Director, State Water Resources Control Board, California Environmental Protection Agency

Jonathan Bishop received a B.S. degree in Environmental Engineering with an emphasis in water quality from Humboldt State University, and worked for the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board for 23 years. Some of the highlights of Jon's tenure with the Los Angeles Regional Board include the development of a new program to investigate the sources of groundwater contamination impacting drinking water wells, the development of a comprehensive water quality data management system for the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. From late in 1998 to mid-2004 Jon lead the effort to develop TMDLs in the Los Angeles Region, including the adoption of the first urban trash TMDL in the nation. In September 2004, Jon was named Executive Officer for the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board. In May of 2007, Jon accepted the position of Chief Deputy Director of the State Water Resources Control Board. During the spring and summer, Jon also works as a part-time River Guide and leads whitewater-rafting trips down the Rouge River.

**Sonke Mastrup**, Executive Director, California Fish and Game Commission

With degrees in Wildlife Management and Ecology from the University of California, Davis, Sonke Mastrup has been working to solve natural resource management challenges in California for the past 32 years. This has included work with upland game, waterfowl, big game, non-game, listed species, inland and marine fisheries, lands management, reptiles and amphibians, and marine protected areas, and has involved interacting with law enforcement, the state legislature, a very diverse set of federal and state agencies, more stakeholders than you can shake a stick at, and many of our Native American Tribal Nations. Sonke had the privilege of serving as deputy director of the Department of Fish and Game (now Fish and Wildlife) for ten years under four Directors and three Governors. He has been in his current position as Executive Director of the Fish and Game Commission since July 2011.

**Louise Bedsworth**, Deputy Director, Governor's Office of Planning and Research

Louise Bedsworth is the Deputy Director of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR). Prior to joining OPR in 2011, she was a Research Fellow at the Public Policy Institute of California where she focused on climate action at the local level, adaptation to climate change, and transportation and air quality. She has also held positions at the Union of Concerned Scientists, Redefining Progress, and the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis. Dr. Bedsworth served on the Advisory Council for the Bay Area Air Quality Management District from 2003 through 2011. She holds a BS in Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences from MIT and an MS in Environmental Engineering and a PhD in Energy and Resources from UC Berkeley.