

Public Comment to the California Ocean Protection Council
General Comments: Sept. 24, 2005 – January 13, 2006 2005

Date	Name	Affiliation	Subject of Communication
10-05-2005	Carl B. Lind	Private Citizen	California Ocean Protection Council Meeting, Sept. 23, 2005
10-28-2005	Charles F. Kennel	California Ocean Science Trust	Proposal for CalOST to serve as science advisory board to California Ocean Protection Council
11-10-2005	Rodleen Getsic	La Conchita	Ocean Protection at La Conchita, California
11-18-2005	Adina Abeles	COMPASS Hopkins Marine Station, Stanford University	Recommendations for the Ocean Protection Council's Science Advisory Team
11-23-2005	Lia Zadoyan	Eighth grade student	Ocean Concern

-----Original Message-----

From: Carl Lind [<mailto:clind1@san.rr.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, October 05, 2005 1:28 PM
To: Cyndy Paulsen; Mike Chrisman
Subject: Sept. 23rd Meeting

Mike Chrisman, Secretary for Resources
State of California
via Email

Secretary Chrisman:

I've just viewed the "Morning Web Cast" of the September 23rd meeting of the California Ocean Protection Council. During the public comment period a speaker gave information to the Council that was both incorrect and misleading. (The subject was San Diego's Children's Pool Beach and the harbor seals that sometimes reside there.)

The issue is not so much one of harbor seals, but one of clean water and public beach access. A few years ago a major environmental organization rated the Children's Pool as the most polluted beach in California. A lawsuit was filed pertaining to this situation and a judge has recently made a decision. For the Council's edification, should it desire to further research this matter, I am attaching a copy of the decision.

Please contact me if you are unable to open the attachment, or if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Carl B. Lind
247 Gravilla Street
La Jolla, CA 92037

(858) 459-6071



Copies sent to: BB
Date: 11-2-05

Connecting Science to Ocean Management
California Ocean Science Trust

3700 Chaney Court
Carmichael, CA 95608
Tel: 916.944.7315
Fax: 916.944.2256

The Honorable Mike Chrisman, Chair
California Ocean Protection Council
California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

October 28, 2005

Dear Secretary Chrisman:

I enclose a proposal for your consideration, requesting that the Ocean Protection Council designate the California Ocean Science Trust (CalOST) as its scientific advisory intermediary.

The CalOST is picking up steam with respect its core function of linking science, decision-makers, and end-users. Your approval of the mechanism we are proposing would augment and enhance this activity. While CalOST expands its capacity to shepherd projects demonstrating ecosystem-based management, it can also serve to facilitate the Council's need to refer important questions to scientific advisory panels of the first rank, quickly and efficiently.

This proposal has been circulated among CalOST board members and represents a fair consensus of our diverse perspectives. What it does not reflect in full measure is our confidence and enthusiasm that this direction will serve the Agency, the scientific and business communities, and the public far into the future.

I urge your favorable consideration of our request, and look forward to working more closely with the Council at your earliest behest.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles Kennel".

Charles F. Kennel

www.calost.org

CALIFORNIA OCEAN SCIENCE TRUST (CALOST)

PROPOSAL FOR CALOST TO SERVE AS SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD TO CALIFORNIA OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL

A. Background

At its September 23, 2005 meeting, the California Ocean Protection Council (COPC) proposed the formation of a "Science Advisory Team" to serve the COPC.

At its October 18, 2005, the CalOST Board of Trustees voted unanimously to submit a proposal to the COPC for CalOST to serve that role.

Preliminary discussions with COPC secretariat indicated that details regarding the purpose and function of this advisory team had not been finalized and that a proposal from CalOST would be welcomed by COPC.

B. CalOST's Proposed Advisory Role to COPC

1. Assist COPC in developing specific ocean science research goals that would support the mission of the COPC;
2. Assist COPC in developing guidelines for COPC support for and funding of ocean research;
3. Obtain expert advice on various science-related matters before the COPC; and
4. Form and engage technical advisory groups that would review and comment on ocean science related matters before the COPC; and

C. Suitability of CalOST to perform this Role

CalOST is ideally suited to perform the above articulated role to the COPC for the following reasons:

1. CalOST already exists and has already served in this role

CalOST was established by the California Secretary for Resources pursuant to the California Ocean Resources Stewardship Act of 2000 to operate as a non-profit organization, to fund marine and coastal research in California and encourage coordinated, multi-agency, multi-institution approaches to ocean resource science. The Trust operates as a 501c3 organization and has an Executive Director as staff.

At the request of the Chair of the OPC, CalOST conducted a public hearing on the California Ocean and Coastal Information, Research and Outreach (IRO) Strategy on July 6, 2005.

2. Compatible Missions and Complementary Tasks

The CalOST mission is compatible with the COPC Information, Research and Outreach Strategy adopted by COPC on September 23, 2005.

CalOST is currently engaged in ocean science research initiatives that are designed to assist the COPC and other ocean governance bodies in California. These include research into establishing ocean ecosystem health indicators or metrics and funding a review of implementation of a pilot coastal and ocean Ecosystem-Based management project. A full description of CalOST's activities is provided on its website at www.calost.org.

3. Diverse Science User and Researcher Representation on CalOST

The ten members of CalOST form a board of trustees with diverse representation and considerable professional expertise and experience. This membership provides the broad perspective needed to bridge institutional gaps in knowledge, communication, and working relationships that now hamper the development and use of appropriate science in California's complex ocean and coastal management system. The membership includes appointments from:

- Secretary of the California Resources Agency (One seat)
- Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency (One seat)
- Director of Finance (One seat)
- Chancellor of the California State University and President of the University of California (Jointly nominate three seats)
- Ocean and Coastal Interest Groups (Two seats)
- Representatives of the General Public (Two seats)

Through the organizations that the current members represent, CalOST is able access considerable resources that would be of significant value to COPC. The current appointees to the CalOST are:

1. Charles Kennel, PhD. Director, Scripps Institution of Oceanography (Chair)
2. Geraldine Knatz, PhD. Managing Director, Port of Long Beach (Vice Chair)
3. Russell Moll, PhD. Director, University of California Sea Grant (Secretary/Treasurer)
4. Mark Gold, PhD. Executive Director, Heal the Bay
5. Brian E. Baird, Assistant Secretary for Ocean and Coastal Policy
6. Beth Jines, Acting Deputy Director, State Water Resources Control Board
7. Honorable Fred Keeley, Santa Cruz County Treasurer
8. James Kelley, PhD. Professor Emeritus, San Francisco State University
9. Fred Klass, Program Budget Manager, Department of Finance
10. Vacant

4. Optimization of Ocean Research Coordination

Already a number of ocean research funding and coordination organizations such as the California Sea Grant College Program and UC Marine Council exist. The establishment of another new advisory group to serve the COPC may result in further fragmentation of ocean research coordination and duplication and redundancy. For these reasons, SCCOOS and CenCOOS (the regional associations (RAs) of California's coastal ocean observing system) and CalOST are also negotiating CalOST's advisory role to these two associations.

5. Operational flexibility

With its non-profit organizational status, CalOST enjoys an operational flexibility that would serve the COPC well. Through its extensive ties with the major research institutions and programs in the State, CalOST would be well positioned to form standing and/or ad-hoc technical committees or groups of specialists to address specific science subjects before the COPC.

D. Initial Proposed Structure and Functioning

CalOST offers the following considerations for the structure and functioning and structure of the COPC Science Advisory Team:

Organizational structure:

- CalOST will serve as the Science Advisory Board (SAB) with its current membership, non-profit status and by-laws.
- At the request of the COPC or under its own initiative, CalOST will form and direct ad-hoc Technical Advisory Committees, as needed.

It is not anticipated that CalOST or any Technical Advisory Committees would seek a retainer or any other indirect cost reimbursement. Reimbursement from COPC of actual administrative, travel, food and lodging costs incurred by CalOST or committees will be expected.

Functioning:

- At a minimum, one member of the CalOST SAB will attend each meeting of the COPC Board.
- As members' schedule allow, CalOST SAB meetings will be held within one week following the routine meetings of COPC.
- The CalOST SAB will review all agenda items prior to the OPC meetings and will make recommendations to the Chair of OPC regarding the science implications of each item.
- The CalOST SAB will perform other duties as requested by the OPC.

It is strongly recommended that the duties and obligations of the CalOST SAB to the OPC be memorialized in a Memorandum of Understanding prior to the formal assumption of this role by CalOST.

The COPC may contact CalOST Chair, Dr, Charles Kennel at ckennel@ucsd.edu or 858.534.2827 or Executive Director, Justin Malan at justin@calost.org or 916.944.7315 with questions or comments regarding this proposal or any other matter involving CalOST.

From: Rodleen Getsic [<mailto:getsic@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2005 4:11 PM
To: Brian Baird
Cc: Leah Akins; Penny Harding; mayajamalis@yahoo.com;
assemblymember.nava@assembly.ca.gov; Kirk Peterson
Subject: Ocean Protection at La Conchita, California

Dear Mr. Baird,

Water high in toxicity constantly runs into our little beach town, rivets in streams down our streets, and then it pours into the ocean. We estimate six to 8,000 gallons of water gushes out on a daily basis. This area has been prone to mudslides over the years, especially since the hill behind our community was turned from Dry Agriculture to Wet.

Last January, after a mudslide killed some of our loved ones and ruined part of our town, a Federal Disaster was declared here. We were sure that things would start getting cleaned up and worked out. But nothing has been done to even clean up the streets since the devastation occurred.

Mr. Baird, we live right on the ocean, and our ocean is in danger. Rainy Season is here. When it rains even more toxicity runs into the ocean. The hill behind La Conchita may fall again unless it is terraced and stabilized. We are surrounded by oil and natural gas companies. If the hill falls again, it could be worse next time.

It seems appropriate for California to respond to this situation. In your case, I am requesting your attention for Ocean Protection. Please. I urge you to have someone look into this.

Thank you. I look forward to your response.

With High Regards,

Rodleen Getsic
PR Chairman
La Conchita
cell: 310-400-4801

PS: Attached you will find a copy of the letter Ventura County sent last week to the Office of The Governor pertaining to "LA CONCHITA: REQUEST FOR STATE ASSISTANCE."

STABILIZE THE HILL!! www.LaConchita.net <<http://www.laconchita.net/>>

county of ventura

DL 10057
RECEIVED

OCT 26 2005

COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE
JOHN F. JOHNSTON
County Executive Officer

October 26, 2005

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
Office of the Governor
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: LA CONCHITA: REQUEST FOR STATE ASSISTANCE

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger,

As you know, on January 10, 2005 a mudslide event at La Conchita tragically claimed the lives of 10 Ventura County residents, buried or destroyed 13 homes, and severely damaged another 23. During your visit to the community two days later, you indicated to the residents that the State would make the community safe for them.

While Ventura is sympathetic to the plight of these private property owners, the County is not in a position to evaluate what could or should be done. Our understanding is there is no known practical or economic solution that will prevent future slides (see attachment), nonetheless we are willing to facilitate any plans you may have so long as any activities to stabilize the hillside that the State elects to carry out do not impose any liability on the County.

Susan Hughes in our legislative affairs unit is the contact person. She can be reached at 805 654-3836 and will assist connecting your staff with the appropriate local government officials.

Sincerely,


JOHN F. JOHNSTON
County Executive Officer

C: Ron Coons
Marty Robinson



**Department of Biological Sciences
Hopkins Marine Station
STANFORD UNIVERSITY**

OCEANVIEW BOULEVARD
PACIFIC GROVE, CA 93950

TEL: (831) 655-6210
FAX: (831) 655-6215

November 18, 2005

Mike Chrisman,
Chair, California Ocean Protection Council
California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Recommendations for the Ocean Protection Council's Science Advisory Team

Dear Secretary Chrisman,

Thank you for the opportunity to recommend what types of science should be represented on the science advisory team of the California Ocean Protection Council. We applaud the Council's actions to protect California's most precious resource, its diverse marine ecosystems. The science advisory team will make an invaluable contribution to the Council's work by advising the Council on how best to develop and implement effective coordination and management strategies.

Two national ocean commissions reported a continuing decline in the health of our oceans, and with that, a decline in essential services the oceans provide to California's residents and visitors. These commissions called for an ecosystem-based management approach to restore our ocean resources, and to sustain them for future generations. The science advisory team's role will be critical, as the Council leads the nation in applying this approach to California's oceans and coasts.

Given the broad range of impacts and influences on California's coasts, the science advisory team should include - in addition to scientists that represent diverse disciplines - scientists that recognize the importance of the interconnectivity among these different disciplines. By bringing this team together, the Council will be better equipped to implement a new vision for healthy, productive, and resilient marine ecosystems that will provide stable fisheries, abundant wildlife, clean beaches, vibrant coastal communities and healthy seafood for Californians.

We recognize it is critical to include scientists that are experts in diverse disciplines such as marine mammals and birds; invasive species; ocean pollution and ecotoxicology; physical and chemical oceanography; wetlands/ estuaries; coastal and sediment transport; environmental engineering; fisheries; aquaculture; social science; economics, and; atmospheric science (e.g., atmospheric-ocean interactions relevant to climate change). We recommend that you ensure the participation of scientists with expertise in **ocean ecosystems, ecosystem functioning, and connections among marine systems and between terrestrial and marine systems**. Including scientists with this expertise will help to integrate specific disciplines, working toward a more holistic scientific foundation for ecosystem-based management.

There is a growing number of marine ecologists and marine environmental scientists researching and studying tenets of ecosystem-based management. Once the Ocean Protection Council disseminates its requirements for an effective Science Advisory Team, COMPASS and its partners in academic institutions would be happy to offer recommendations for specific scientists who could fill these roles, or discuss this with you at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Adina Abeles
California Science/Policy Coordinator, COMPASS
Hopkins Marine Station, Stanford University

Cc: Lieutenant Governor Cruz Bustamante
Secretary for Environmental Protection Alan Lloyd
Senator Sheila Kuehl
Assemblymember Pedro Nava

~~L. Snow~~
Res. Agency

83 Lehigh Aisle
Irvine, CA 92612

November 23rd, 2005

Mr. Lester Snow *Brian Baird*
~~President/Chairperson~~ *CA Ocean Protection Council*
Ocean Resources Department
1416 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Ocean Concern

Dear Mr. Snow:

Being an 8th grade middle school student, my friends and I are very outgoing people. We all love outdoor activities, including frequent trips to the beach. As I was taking a dip at a local beach (Laguna Beach), I smelled something unusual. However, I chose to ignore it. A little bit later, I realized that the water was different colors like green, yellow, and even a bit purple. As I looked closer, it began to look and smell like oil. The thought of swimming in oil bothered me so I got out of the water. While looking around, I also saw tons of trash everywhere. I picked as much up as I could, but there was just too much.

I was hoping you could help to fix this problem, or inform someone else about it. A way to fix this problem would be to have a beach clean-up crew. It would cut down a large amount of the trash that there is. My friends and I love going to the beach, especially when we live five to ten minutes away. It would be horrible if we stopped going. I hope to hear from you soon, and thank you for your time!

Sincerely,



Lia Zadoyan
Student