



The Campbell Foundation

June 14, 2013

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

Dear Chairman Laird,

Please accept the following letter of support for the California Ocean Science Trust (OST) in its role of providing science advice and services to the California Ocean Protection Council (OPC), and its work developing monitoring plans for the statewide network of Marine Protected Areas.

While there is a wealth of scientific knowledge and expertise oceans, it is often not incorporated into decision-making. I fully support the OST's core goals to 1) ensure that the best available science be integrated and institutionalized into California's coastal and ocean decision making; and 2) connect and/or translate science to policy and management through facilitating the exchange of information on existing and emerging issues. The OST is developing thoughtful and effective programs in partnership with the OPC to fulfill these goals.

Under the OST, the Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Monitoring Enterprise is working to ensure that newly implemented MPAs are working as they were intended under the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA). The Monitoring Enterprise provides a unique combination of science and policy expertise to lead the development and implementation of impartial, scientifically rigorous, and efficient monitoring of the MPAs so informed decisions can be made about their management.

I support continued funding for the important science integration work of the OST, including providing science advice and services to the OPC and the MPA Monitoring Enterprise. This is also a highly efficient investment on the part of California because it is leveraged with federal and private contributions.

Thank you for your continued leadership on ocean issues, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Samantha Campbell, President

Keith Campbell Foundation for the Environment

www.campbellfoundation.org

Chesapeake Grants Office

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Pacific Grants Office

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Assembly California Legislature



DAS WILLIAMS
ASSEMBLY MEMBER, THIRTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT

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June 18, 2013

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

Dear Chairman Laird,

I am writing to express my support for the California Ocean Science Trust (OST) to continue with its efforts to provide ongoing science advice to the California Ocean Protection Council (OPC), and its work developing monitoring plans for the statewide network of Marine Protected Areas.

In my work as an Assembly Member I have long considered ocean issues a priority. I support OST's goals to (1) ensure that the best available science be integrated and institutionalized into California's coastal and ocean decision making; and (2) connect and/or translate science to policy and management through facilitating the exchange of information on existing and emerging issues. Supporting the OST is also a highly efficient investment on the part of California because the OST is often able to leverage state dollars with additional federal and private contributions.

Under the OST, the Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Monitoring Enterprise is working to ensure that newly implemented MPAs are working as they were intended under the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA). The Monitoring Enterprise provides a unique combination of science and policy expertise to lead the development and implementation of impartial, scientifically rigorous, and efficient monitoring of the MPAs so informed decisions can be made about their management. I am particularly interested in the south coast region MPA network, which went into effect in January of 2012, as a portion of this network lies within my district.

The OST, through its science advisory role to the OPC, its coordination of the OPC Science Advisory Team, and the MPA Monitoring Enterprise, plays a crucial role in ensuring California's status as a leader on ocean policy development and implementation. Thank you for your continued leadership on ocean issues, including your commitment to incorporating sound science.

Sincerely,

DAS WILLIAMS
Assembly District 37





June 14, 2013

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

Dear Chairman Laird,

As Executive Director for the Center for Ocean Solutions and Director of the Environmental and Natural Resources Law and Policy Program at Stanford Law School, I am writing to express my personal support for the California Ocean Science Trust (OST) to continue its efforts to provide ongoing science advice to the OPC, and the Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Monitoring Enterprise.

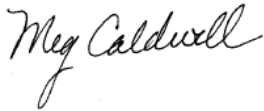
In my work, I strive towards many of the same core values demonstrated by the OST. Most importantly, we value credible and unbiased science. I support their goals to 1) ensure that the best available science be integrated and institutionalized into California's coastal and ocean decision making; and 2) connect and/or translate science to policy and management through facilitating the exchange of information on existing and emerging issues. The OST is developing thoughtful and effective programs in partnership with the OPC to fulfill these goals. This includes developing the infrastructure, processes, and protocols to run technical reviews, quickly develop working groups on priority issues for the state, and overseeing applied studies to ensure a credible and unbiased result. I believe the OST, with OPC's support, is making significant steps toward meeting these goals.

With continued support from OPC, the OST can deliver credible science to inform future policy and management and bring the best scientists together to bear on timely, and often complex, coastal and ocean issues. In particular, such support will enable the OST to continue to serve as Science Advisor to the OPC and co-chair the OPC Science Advisory Team, as well as support the MPA Monitoring Enterprise. The OST not only institutionalizes and enhances OPC's ability to integrate science into state-wide policy and management, but also facilitates the very necessary—and often overlooked—exchange of information between scientists and decision makers on important existing and emerging coastal and ocean issues and areas. An exceptional example of such work is the OST's efforts to put the state's network of MPAs to work for all of California, thinking how the new network could inform California's policy and strategies to address climate change and ocean acidification, water quality, and fisheries management. OST is reaching out to stakeholders and the academic community to ensure California gets the most out of the MPA network.

Jerry Yang & Akiko Yamazaki Environment & Energy Building
473 Via Ortega | Room 193B | Stanford, CA 94305-4205
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www.centerforoceansolutions.org

I believe that continued support for the OST/OPC nexus will strengthen existing partnerships and create further opportunities for collaborations among scientists, policy makers, and state agencies that lead to real and positive change. Thank you for your longstanding support for ocean policy that is based on the best available science.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Meg Caldwell".

Meg Caldwell, JD
Executive Director, Center for Ocean Solutions



Alexandria B. Boehm
Associate Professor
Environmental Engineering & Science Program
(650) 724 – 9128, aboehm@stanford.edu

Dept. of Civil & Environmental Engineering
Y2E2 189, Mail Code 4020
Stanford University
Stanford, CA 94305

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

Dear Chairman Laird,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Ocean Science Trust (OST) and convey to you the importance of the OST in coordinating between scientists and the Ocean Protection Council (OPC), policy makers, and State agencies.

I have had the opportunity to work closely with OST over the last five years through my membership on the OPC-Science Advisory Team (SAT). For the last two years I have served as the co-chair of the OPC-SAT. As you know, approximately two dozen high profile marine natural and social scientists are currently seated on the OPC-SAT. OPC-SAT members facilitate peer review of proposals received by the OPC, provide ad hoc advice on key ocean science policy issues to the OPC staff, and State agencies and politicians, and author position statements on key ocean science issues. The OPC-SAT provides independent, non-biased, objective scientific information to the State. This is essential for generating sound information to serve as a basis for strategic policy making that is protective of the State's marine resources. The OST coordinates seating scientists on the OPC-SAT and facilitates all OPC-SAT activities. The OPC-SAT could not function without OST.

OST is also coordinating the State's Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia (OA/H) Panel for which I serve as the chair. The panel is working to answer applied questions on how OA/H will impact the State's coastline and ecosystems. The panel's product will serve as a road map for future investments in research and monitoring related to OA/H, as well as inform the creation of new policies for the land-sea interface to protect our coasts. As panel Chair, I work weekly with the OST staff to coordinate panel activities.

I urge you to continue to provide support to the OST so they may maintain their role in providing sound science to the State on issues related to ocean and coastal management and policy.

Sincerely,

Alexandria Boehm

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 18, 2013

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

Dear Chairman Laird:

We write to express our strong support for the California Ocean Science Trust (OST) to continue providing ongoing science advice to the California Ocean Protection Council (OPC) and the Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Monitoring Enterprise. Continued support is critical to ensuring that the best available science serves as the foundation for the implementation of California's robust ocean and coastal programs, including the recently completed network of MPAs.

Representing more than half of the California coast, we want to laud the critical work that OST does to advance a constructive role for science in decision-making. By promoting collaboration and mutual understanding among scientists, citizens, managers, and policymakers working toward sustained, healthy, and productive coastal and ocean ecosystems, OST plays a critical role in advancing California's ocean conservation and management policies and programs.

OST's mission, work, and expertise align directly with the goals of the OPC. For example, OST's scientists work to improve decision-making through the use of best available science by state entities and agencies charged with ocean and coastal stewardship. OST has a proven track record of engaging and leveraging the scientific community to support the development and implementation of the state's ocean policy and management. As such, OST uses sound science to promote the long-term health of California's marine ecosystem, the sustainability of marine fisheries, and the communities that depend upon these important resources.

California has one of the largest and most diverse communities of natural and social scientists that focus on ocean and coastal issues. OST leverages this tremendous intellectual capital by providing crucial science integration and coordination services to OPC. For example, OST's Executive Director serves as a Science Advisor to OPC and the organization coordinates the OPC Science Advisory Team. As a result, a broad range of scientific expertise is made available to the OPC and is used to help inform the MPA Monitoring Enterprise and other important State management and policy initiatives.

With support from OST, the MPA Monitoring Enterprise works to ensure that recently completed MPAs are working as they were intended under the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA). The Monitoring Enterprise provides a unique combination of science and policy expertise to lead the development and implementation of impartial, scientifically rigorous, and efficient monitoring of the MPAs so informed decisions can be made about their management. This work is not only crucial for California to successfully manage its' ocean resources, but also serves as a model for other states' ocean conservation and management programs.

The OST, through its science advisory role to the OPC, its coordination of the OPC Science Advisory Team, and the MPA Monitoring Enterprise, plays a crucial role in ensuring California's status as a leader on ocean policy development and implementation. Thank you for your continued leadership on ocean issues, including your commitment to incorporating sound science.

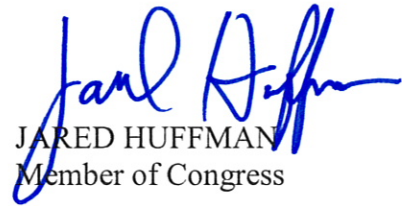
Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,



SAM FARR
Member of Congress

LOIS CAPPS
Member of Congress



JARED HUFFMAN
Member of Congress

cc: Skyli McAfee, Executive Director, California Ocean Science Trust

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WESLEY CHESBRO
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SECOND DISTRICT

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June 13, 2013

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

RE: California Ocean Science Trust funding for scientific monitoring of the state's Marine Protected Areas

Dear Chairman Laird:

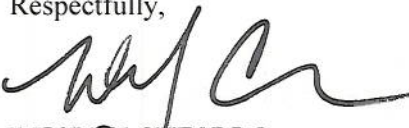
I am writing in support of authorization of funding for the California Ocean Science Trust (OST) to provide science advice to the California Ocean Protection Council, and develop monitoring plans for Marine Protected Areas (MPA).

I have long considered ocean issues a priority. I support OST's goals to 1) ensure that the best available science is integrated into California's coastal and ocean decision making; and 2) connect and/or translate science to policy and management.

Under the OST, the Monitoring Enterprise is working to ensure that newly implemented MPAs are adequately monitored as intended under the Marine Life Protection Act. It is critical that monitoring be conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of MPA's.

Thank you for your continued leadership on ocean issues, including your commitment to incorporating sound science. I urge you to grant funds for MPA monitoring efforts to continue. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Respectfully,


WESLEY CHESBRO
Assemblyman, 2nd District

WC:tw:mh

Cc: Skyli McAfee, Executive Director, California Ocean Science Trust

RECEIVED

JUN 19 2013
COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.





InterTribal Sinkyone Wilderness Council

P.O. Box 1523 Ukiah, CA 95482 Phone (707) 468-9500

InterTribal Cultural Conservation for Sinkyone Indian Lands



June 18, 2013

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

Dear Chairman Laird,

Please accept this letter of support from the InterTribal Sinkyone Wilderness Council for the California Ocean Science Trust (OST). The Sinkyone Council is a nonprofit consortium of ten federally recognized tribes. The OST works to advance a constructive role for science in decision-making by promoting collaboration and mutual understanding among scientists, citizens, managers and policymakers working towards sustained, healthy and productive coastal and ocean ecosystems.


Under the auspices of the MPA Monitoring Enterprise program, OST is leading the design and implementation of scientifically rigorous and cost-effective monitoring of the network of marine protected areas established in California. Through MPA monitoring, the Monitoring Enterprise is developing new approaches to assess the changing condition of ocean ecosystems and evaluate the performance of the statewide MPA network. Along the North Coast of California, the Monitoring Enterprise has engaged with the community, including tribes, stakeholders and elected officials, to ensure that MPA monitoring reflects the interests and priorities of the region.

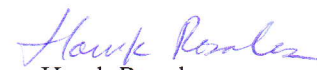
During its engagement in the North Coast, the OST has demonstrated respect and appreciation for the depth of traditional marine knowledge held by tribal members and tribal governments. We support the approach of the OST to build new collaborations and partnerships to effectively work together towards those goals. By sharing our knowledge, we can together build a body of information that is essential for managing our oceans effectively in a changing world.

We support continued funding for the important work of the OST. We also look forward to continuing to build partnerships with the OPC and other California state agencies to advance our collective ocean stewardship.

Thank you for your continued state leadership on ocean issues, and do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Priscilla Hunter
Chairwoman


Hawk Rosales
Executive Director

cc: Ocean Science Trust

InterTribal Sinkyone Wilderness Council is a Nonprofit Consortium of California Indian Tribes

• Cultural Conservation • Native Stewardship • Watershed Rehabilitation • Cultural Ecology Education



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Coastal Services Center
2234 South Hobson Avenue
Charleston, South Carolina 29405-2413

June 17, 2013

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

Dear Chairman Laird,

As West Coast Director and Regional Division Chief for the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Coastal Services Center, I am writing to express my support for the California Ocean Science Trust (OST) to continue with its efforts to provide ongoing science advice to the OPC and the Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Monitoring Enterprise.

NOAA supports the core goals of the OST to 1) ensure that the best available science be integrated and institutionalized into California's coastal and ocean decision making; and 2) connect and/or translate science to policy and management through facilitating the exchange of information on existing and emerging issues. The OST is developing thoughtful and effective programs in partnership with the OPC to fulfill these goals. With continued support from OPC, the OST can continue to ensure that credible science informs future policy and management in California on what are often complex, coastal and ocean issues. In particular, such support will enable the OST to continue to serve as Science Advisor to the OPC and co-chair the OPC Science Advisory Team, and the MPA Monitoring Enterprise.

I believe that continued support for the OST/OPC nexus will strengthen existing partnerships and create further opportunities for collaborations among scientists, policy makers, and state agencies. This is also a highly efficient investment on the part of California because it is leveraged with federal and private contributions.

Thank you for your continued leadership on ocean issues, including your commitment to incorporating sound science. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any additional questions.

Best regards,

Rebecca A. Smyth
West Coast Director and Regional Division Chief
NOAA Coastal Services Center



NOAA Coastal Services Center
LINKING PEOPLE, INFORMATION, AND TECHNOLOGY

www.csc.noaa.gov

National Ocean Service • National Marine Fisheries Service • National Weather Service
Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research • National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service



By Electronic Mail

June 18, 2013

Chair John Laird and Members of the
Ocean Protection Council
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, California 95814

Email: Cat.kuhlman@resources.ca.gov
coreilly@scc.ca.gov

Re: Disbursement of Funds to the California Ocean Science Trust

Dear Chair Laird and Members of the Ocean Protection Council:

On behalf of the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) and our over one million members and activists - more than 250,000 of whom reside in California – **we are writing to express our support for the disbursement of \$5,700,000 to the California Ocean Science Trust (OST)** to facilitate the integration of science into state ocean resource management and support scientific monitoring of the state's marine protected areas.

Science Integration

Bringing science to bear on ocean resource management is essential to ensuring the long-term health and sustainability of California's marine resources. OST is setting the standard for science integration and plays a critical role in connecting managers with the best available scientific information.

As an example, the Abalone Resource and Management Plan has served the state well, but some question its inclusion of a density-based management approach. Now, the state can turn to a respected, neutral entity, the OST, to update the peer review for plans like this, resulting in better management decisions going forward.

Monitoring Marine Protected Areas and Sharing Information

OST did an excellent job presenting the results of the Central Coast Baseline Monitoring Project and helping convene the Central Coast Marine Protected Area Symposium, which drew over 350 attendees, most of whom stayed for all three days of the symposium. OST's continued oversight of monitoring in other regions is essential to making sure these areas are well designed and live up to their promise to safeguard marine habitats and wildlife.

We also appreciate OST's effort to encourage citizen science and the development of OceanSpaces, an online community designed to engage scientists, fishermen, policymakers, and citizens and communicate

new information about ocean health. This shared body of scientific knowledge can serve as the basis of participation in ocean resource management and stewardship in California.

OST is strategically positioned to work at the nexus between the state and scientific communities. Their objective, science-based approach, which relies on peer review and expert judgment to inform management decisions, provides transparency and credibility - promoting collaboration among the public, scientists and policymakers working to protect California's ocean ecosystems. They serve as a vital bridge linking science to policy, and we strongly support the continued funding of their work.

Thank you for opportunity to comment on this issue.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Garrison". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Karen Garrison
Co-Director, Oceans Program
NRDC



June 24, 2013

The Honorable John Laird
Chair, California Ocean Protection Council,
California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento CA. 95814

Re: California Ocean Science Trust...Funding

Dear Chairman Laird:

The California Sea Urchin Commission (CSUC) supports the Ocean Protection Council continuing the funding of the Ocean Science Trust (OST).

California's sea urchin industry has a long history of working collaboratively with the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and marine scientists, to help build a well-managed and sustainable sea urchin fishery for the people of California. We are pleased to be working with the OST, as well as the Monitoring Enterprise, in helping develop the rigorous, and unbiased science, across all the relative science disciplines, necessary to ensure that California continues to be at the forefront of resource management through sensible, science based, public policy, and that its fishers are the role models for proper stewardship of marine resources.

By continuing the funding of the OST, the OPC will be sending a strong message that California is committed to a new emphasis on stakeholder cooperation, where the empirical knowledge of the fishing community is viewed as a strong asset in building the creditable science, that the policy makers must have in order to make the sound policy decisions so necessary for the long term health of our ocean environment.

Cordially,

Bob Bertelli

Bob Bertelli
Chairman
California Sea Urchin Commission

RESOURCES LAW GROUP, LLP

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916.442.4880 916.442.4193 (FAX) www.resourceslawgroup.com

June 27, 2013

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

Chair John Laird and Members of the Ocean Protection Council
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chair Laird and Members of the Ocean Protection Council:

I am writing in support of Ocean Protection Council's allocation of \$5.7 million to the California Ocean Science Trust (OST) to continue its role in supporting the Council's Science Advisory Team, in integrating science into policy making by state agencies, and in organizing cost-effective and systematic monitoring of the statewide marine protected area (MPA) network.

In the last several years, OST has made great strides in fulfilling the mission that the framers of the California Ocean Resources Stewardship Act had in mind in 2000—to leverage the tremendous scientific talents of the state and the common interests of public and private organizations in securing the very best scientific advice to guide management of California's ocean heritage. OST's ability to assemble funding from diverse public and private sources provides California with a unique mechanism to advance scientific analysis of pressing ocean issues. It is this very mechanism, and the professionalism of the OST staff, for example, that have attracted funding from the philanthropic community to build the MPA Monitoring Enterprise, one important program of OST. The Monitoring Enterprise is spearheading groundbreaking approaches to monitoring the performance of the state's MPAs and to informing other important programs from fisheries to water quality management and climate change impacts on ocean ecosystems.

The challenges that California's coastal communities and ocean ecosystems are going to face in the not-too-distant future require that we draw on the deep scientific expertise of our public and private universities and colleges, businesses, and non-government organizations in managing now-inevitable change in an informed fashion. In my view, OST is essential to meeting these challenges, and would have to be invented if it did not already exist.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Michael L. Weber
Program Officer
Oceans, Coasts, and Fisheries