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**Sonke Mastrup**, Executive Director

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**Fish and Game Commission**



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*Wildlife Heritage and Conservation  
Since 1870*

July 22, 2015

John Laird, Secretary  
Natural Resources Agency  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Secretary Laird:

The Fish and Game Commission (Commission) appreciates the leadership and generous support that the Natural Resources Agency and Ocean Protection Council (OPC) have provided toward implementing the Marine Life Management Act and the Marine Life Protection Act. Both the Commission and Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) have made realizing the vision of these acts priorities in our service to the people of California through management actions to support sustainable fisheries and marine protected areas.

Our collective work is far from done and there are many important tasks that still must be completed to see the vision come to fruition. I write this letter asking the leadership of the Agency and OPC to continue making strategic investments like those that have allowed us to make the significant progress we have realized to date; this includes OPC's scheduled action at its July 29, 2015 meeting to consider authorizing funds for new projects in support of California's state fisheries management. While the Commission is not in a position to support specific projects, it does rely on the Department's considerable experience and expertise to inform your decision-making process on our behalf.

The Commission looks forward to your support and wisdom, and stands ready to help in any way that it can.

Sincerely,

Sonke Mastrup  
Executive Director

cc: Members, Fish and Game Commission  
Members, Ocean Protection Council  
Catherine Kuhlman, Executive Director, Ocean Protection Council  
Charlton Bonham, Director, Department of Fish and Wildlife