



Item 4A: Exhibit B

**Proposed Resolution of the California Ocean Protection Council regarding the
MPA Statewide Leadership Team Work Plan FY 18/19 -20/21
October 25, 2018**

WHEREAS, California has implemented an effective Marine Protected Area (MPA) Management Program that helps ensure the 124 MPAs that make up the statewide network support the natural diversity and abundance of marine life, habitats, and ecosystems as well as increasing our understanding of changing ocean conditions associated with climate change; and

WHEREAS, California's network of MPAs spans over 1,100 miles of coastline and crosses multiple jurisdictions of state and federal agencies as well as sovereign tribal lands; and

WHEREAS, California is preparing for the first ten-year management review since the completion of the entire MPA Network in 2012, which will require continued close coordination among state and federal entities, Native Tribes and Tribal Governments and outside partners to conduct the information gathering and analyses needed to inform the review in 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary for Natural Resources has designated the MPA Statewide Leadership Team¹, comprised of the Ocean Protection Council (OPC), Fish and Game Commission (FGC), Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Parks and Recreation and other partners, who have significant statewide authority or interests related to MPAs to ensure a coordinated and effective approach to MPA Network management; and

WHEREAS, the MPA Statewide Leadership Team serves as a standing advisory body to ensure active communication and collaboration related to the MPA Management Program and receives notification from all members of pending proposed regulatory or other actions that may affect the MPA network; and

WHEREAS OPC, as the policy lead for MPAs, administers the MPA Statewide Leadership Team, including facilitating the development of a triennial work plan that includes shared priorities for the MPA Management Program; and

WHEREAS, the "MPA Statewide Leadership Team Work Plan FY 15/16 – 17/18" was formally endorsed by both OPC and FGC in September 2015²; and

WHEREAS, the "MPA Statewide Leadership Team Work Plan FY 15/16 – 17/18" successfully

¹ <http://www.opc.ca.gov/programs-summary/marine-protected-areas/partnerships/>

² http://www.opc.ca.gov/webmaster/ftp/pdf/agenda_items/20150922/Item5_Attach2_MPALeadershipTeam_Workplan_FINALv2.pdf

directed the priority actions of the MPA Management Program partners leading to significant advances in the four focal areas of the Program which include: outreach and education; enforcement and compliance; research and monitoring; and policy and permitting; and

WHEREAS, the MPA Statewide Leadership Team has updated the work plan to reflect shared priorities among the members based on a comprehensive evaluation of the MPA Management Program progress-to-date informed by the guidance provided in the Marine Life Protection Act Master Plan and other related informational plans and reports; and

WHEREAS, the "MPA Statewide Leadership Team Work Plan FY 18/19 – 20/21" emphasizes a continued partnership-based approach to the MPA Management Program that includes leveraging resources, continued strong communication and collaboration with tribal and non-governmental partners and active engagement in all four focal areas of the MPA Management Program; and

WHEREAS, the MPA Statewide Leadership Team is actively engaged with tribal and non-governmental partners throughout the state including the MPA Collaborative Network to ensure local priorities are reflected in the work plan and their activities;

NOW, THEREFORE, the California Ocean Protection Council hereby:

RESOLVES to endorse the "MPA Statewide Leadership Team Work Plan FY 18/19 – 20/21" (Work Plan) which identifies strategic priorities, key actions and outcomes for effective MPA Network management; and

FURTHER RESOLVES that through the implementation of the Work Plan, California's natural resource agencies and supporting partners are committed to effective communication and coordination guided by mutual benefit, trust, transparency and accountability to support the effective management of the MPA network; and

FURTHER RESOLVES that OPC staff will continue to lead the MPA Statewide Leadership Team including completing periodic updates of the Work Plan to ensure it reflects emerging issues, learning from previous actions and is resulting in the continued successful management of the MPA network.