

August 20, 2018

RE: Marine Protected Area Statewide Leadership Team Work Plan (FY 18/19 – 20/21)

Dear Ocean Protection Council Members:

We the undersigned are members of the Marine Protected Area Statewide Leadership Team and we are writing to express strong support for the updated MPA Statewide Leadership Work Plan FY 18/19 – 20/21. The Work Plan (Work Plan) outlines the shared consensus priorities of the Leadership Team for the MPA Management Program. The Leadership Team was formed to ensure coordinated decision making related to the management of the state's globally significant MPA network. The Work Plan creates a road map for state and non-state partners to encourage collaboration and the efficient use of existing capacity and resources.

The priorities reflected in the document are grounded in core policy documents including the 2016 Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Master Plan, the MPA Partnership Plan, the MPA Monitoring Program Action Plan, and the Ocean Protection Council Once-Through Cooling Program Guidelines. In addition, Leadership Team members have ensured that priorities from stakeholders they have received, through both formal and informal processes, were part of the development of the document. The Work Plan defines a lead entity and key tasks for each of the four focal areas of the MPA Management Program: outreach and education; enforcement and compliance; research and monitoring; policy and permitting.

The Work Plan ensures we maintain momentum, address emerging needs and keep California's MPA network on track to meet the goals of the MLPA. Marine protected areas must be well managed to achieve their ecological goals and the work plan sets out a clear path to ensure effective adaptive management. Your continued support for the work of the Leadership Team helps maintain California's globally leadership in MPA management and establishes a clear road map for continued success at meeting the goals of the MLPA.

Sincerely,

The Marine Protected Area Statewide Leadership Team

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Deborah Halberstadt Date
Deputy Secretary for Ocean and Coastal Policy

8/23/18

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Charlton H. Bonham

Director, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

9/25/18

ate

Meline A. Weller Henson

Acting Executive Director, California Fish and Game Commission

9/10/18

Date

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Liz Whiteman Executive Director, California Ocean Science Trust

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Lisa Mangat

Director, California Department of Parks and Recreation

Eileen Sobeck

Executive Director, State Water Resources Control Board

John Ainsworth

Executive Director, California Coastal Commission

9-20-2018

Date

Jennifer Lucchesi

Executive Officer, California State Lands Commission

9/11/2018 Date

> Sept. 18 2018 Date

William Douros

West Coast Regional Director, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Regional Director, Pacific West Region National Parks Service

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Calla Allison

Director, California Marine Protected Area Collaborative Network

Much Martin

9/17/18 Date

Michael Mantell

President, Resource Legacy Fund