

## STAFF SUMMARY FOR OCTOBER 7-8, 2015

**23. ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS****Today's Item****Information** ☒**Action** ☒

This is a standing agenda item for FGC to provide direction on regulatory petitions and non-regulatory requests from the public, as well as other items of interest from previous meetings. For this meeting:

- (A) Action on petitions for regulatory change received at the Aug meeting and pending items from previous meetings.
- (B) Action on non-regulatory requests received at the Aug meeting and pending items from previous meetings.
- (C) Commission budget review
- (D) Update on bobcat trapping prohibition effective date
- (E) Update on fisheries-at-risk rulemaking.
- (F) Other
  1. Receive final Marine Protected Areas Statewide Leadership Team Work Plan, endorsed by Ocean Protection Council on Sep 22, 2015
  2. Update regarding legal questions from commission and staff (Exhibit F3)

**Summary of Previous/Future Actions**

- (A-B) FGC received the requests in exhibits A1 and B1 in three ways: (1) Requests received at the office through July 23 were published as tables in the June meeting binder, (2) requests received as late handouts were delivered at the June meeting, and (3) requests that were received during public forum at the June meeting.
- (C) FGC received a DFW and FGC budget overview at the Aug 2015 meeting. President Baylis requested more detail of the FGC budget
- (D) FGC adopted a bobcat trapping ban regulation at its Aug 2015 meeting
- (E) in Jun 2015 FGC adopted an emergency regulation for fisheries at risk that is set to expire on Dec 29, 2015. FGC also directed staff to begin work on a long-term solution for fisheries at risk.
- (F)
  1. Aug 4-5, 2015, Fortuna - FGC received update on implementation and management of California's marine protected areas, including work plan efforts
  2. During the Aug 2015 FGC meeting, several legal questions were raised and Deputy Attorney General Daniel Harris was asked to research and provide any information he could in response.

**Background**

## STAFF SUMMARY FOR OCTOBER 7-8, 2015

- (A-B) FGC provides guidance and direction to staff regarding requests from the public received by mail and email and during public forum at the previous FGC meeting. The public request logs listed as exhibits capture the regulatory and non-regulatory requests received through the last meeting that require FGC guidance.
- (C) FGC requested a review of its budget allocation. A staff presentation will address the allocated spending authority for the 2015-16 fiscal year.
- (D) FGC adopted a statewide bobcat trapping ban at its Aug 2015 meeting. Staff has been preparing the Final Statement of Reasons for review and approval by the Office of Administrative Law and Department of Finance; once their approval is received, the Secretary of State will provide the final approval, making the proposal law. Staff will provide an update on the expected date the regulations will be effective.
- (E) DFW will provide an update on efforts to develop a regulation for a long-term solution for fisheries at risk. See agenda item 29B for proposed additions to the rulemaking timetable.
- (F)
  1. In Aug 2015, FGC received a series of presentations covering implementation and management activities for California's marine protected areas (MPAs) being undertaken by State agency representatives (FGC, DFW, OPC) and partners. One activity highlighted by presenters was the near-completion of a three-year work plan by the MPA Statewide Leadership Team, which includes ongoing review and regulatory actions by FGC. The work plan is now finalized, and was endorsed by OPC at its Sep 22, 2015 meeting in Sacramento (see exhibits 23F.1 and 23F.2).
  2. Periodically, the FGC has questions regarding form or function of the commission that requires legal evaluation.

**Significant Public Comments**

- (D) Concerns have been raised about the potential effective date of the bobcat trapping ban being after the start of the season (see exhibits D.1-D.4).

**Recommendation**

- (A-B) Adopt staff recommendations for the regulatory and non-regulatory requests with either (1) deny the request, (2) grant the request, or (3) refer the request to MRC, WRC, TC, DFW staff, or FGC staff for further evaluation or information gathering. The exhibits contain staff recommendations for each request.
- (C) N/A
- (D) N/A
- (E) Accept the requested changes to the regulatory timetable under agenda item 29B.
- (F)
  1. N/A
  2. N/A

**Exhibits**

- A1. Regulatory requests received at the Aug 2015 meeting

## STAFF SUMMARY FOR OCTOBER 7-8, 2015

- B1. Non-regulatory requests received at the Aug 2015 meeting
- C1. Staff presentation on FGC allotment for 2015-16
- D1. Email from the Center for Biological Diversity raising concerns about the effective date for the bobcat trapping ban, received Aug 17, 2015
- D2. Email from M. Kirsh requesting that the bobcat trapping ban become effective immediately, received Sep 2, 2015
- D3. Follow-up email from the Center for Biological Diversity reiterating concerns about the effective date for the bobcat trapping ban, received Sep 14, 2015
- D4. Email from Kanta Masters requesting that FGC request an expedited review by the Office of Administrative Law of the bobcat trapping regulation, received Sep 23, 2015
- F1. MPAs Statewide Leadership Team Work Plan FY 15/16–17/18 and Executive Summary
- F2. Resolution of the Ocean Protection Council (adopted Sep 22, 2015)

**Motion/Direction**

(A-B) Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ that the commission adopts the staff recommendations for actions on August 2015 regulatory and non-regulatory requests.

**OR**

Moved by \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ that the Commission adopts the staff recommendations for actions on August 2015 regulatory and non-regulatory requests, except for item(s) \_\_\_\_\_ for which the action is \_\_\_\_\_.

**CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME COMMISSION  
DECISION LIST FOR REGULATORY REQUESTS RECEIVED THROUGH AUG 5, 2015**

**FGC** - California Fish and Game Commission **DFW** - California Department of Fish and Wildlife **WRC** - Wildlife Resources Committee **MRC** - Marine Resources Committee

**Grant (previously Accept):** FGC is *willing to consider* the petition through a process  
**Refer:** FGC *needs more information* before deciding whether to grant or deny the petition  
**Deny (previously Reject):** FGC is *not willing to consider* the petition

 **Green cells:** Referrals to DFW for more information  
 **Lavender cells:** Accepted and moved to a rulemaking  
 **Blue cells:** Referrals to FGC staff or committee for more information  
 **Yellow cells:** Current action items

Date Received	Name of Petitioner	Subject of Request	Code or Title 14 Section Number	Short Description	FGC Decision	DFW/FGC Staff Response	Final Action, Other Outcomes
6/5/2015 7/8/2015	Michel & Associates, on behalf of the National Rifle Association of America and the California Rifle and Pistol Association	Correspondence		Requests regulation to require all (1) FGC and (2) DFW staff conduct correspondence concerning official business via government issued email addresses.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation: (1) Refer to legal counsel for evaluation, and, (2) Deny; FGC has no authority over DFW staff.</b>		
6/24/2015 6/24/2015 7/1/2015 7/6/2015 7/13/2015 7/28/2015	Joan Jones Holtz Dave Master Georganne Walker Elisabeth Lamar Erica Stanojevic Kimberlee Goebel	Crab fishing nets and traps in coastal waters		Requests ban on all crab fishing nets and crab traps in coastal waters due to whale entanglement risk.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation: Commercial-- Deny; FGC has no authority over this matter. Recreational-- Refer to DFW.</b>		
7/27/2015 8/4/2015	Center for Biological Diversity, et al. Oceana	Whale entanglement in commercial fishing gear		Request for actions to ensure CA fisheries are no longer responsible for whale entanglements.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation: Refer to DFW.</b>		
6/24/2015	Chip Warren	Commerical fishing and crabbing		Requests ban on commerical fishing and crabbing equipment that threatens marine life.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation: Deny; FGC has no authority over commercial crab fishing.</b>		

Date Received	Name of Petitioner	Subject of Request	Code or Title 14 Section Number	Short Description	FGC Decision	DFW/FGC Staff Response	Final Action, Other Outcomes
6/24/2015	Robin Wallace	Crab lines		Requests limitation on where crab lines may be placed during whale migrations.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation:</b> <b>Commercial-- Deny; FGC has no authority over this matter.</b> <b>Recreational-- Refer to DFW.</b>		
6/29/2015	Mia O'Dell	Sugar gliders		Legalize possession of sugar gliders.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation:</b> <b>Deny; no new data to support request.</b>		
6/30/2015, 8/5/2015	Eric Mills	Commission by-laws, public forum		Requests FGC adopt formal by-laws to (1) require a unanimous vote when only three commissioners are present; and (2) to add public forum to the beginning and end of each meeting day.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation:</b> <b>Grant; refer tp FGC meeting procedures rulemaking.</b>		
7/15/2015	Dennis Fox	Salmon restoration, take of predators in San Joaquin River		(1) Requests a review of the salmon restoration program; and (2) liberalized take of salmon predators in the San Joaquin River.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation:</b> <b>(1) Deny; FGC has no authority over the administration of DFW, and (2) Refer to DFW.</b>		
7/12/2015	Terr Jelcick	Shark feeding		Requests ban on shark feeding and baiting for research, education, etc., within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and West Coast of the U.S.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation:</b> <b>Refer to staff for evaluation.</b>		
7/13/2015	Trent Donohue, Wild Fish, et al.	Emergency fishing regulations		Requests implementation of emergency fishing closures when rivers exceed 18°C.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation:</b> <b>Grant; per current rulemaking process.</b>		
7/14/2015	Fred Darlington	Preference points		Requests to amend the hunting preference point system to permit opportunity.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation:</b> <b>Deny; Insufficient staff resources.</b>		
7/4/2015	Jason Robinson	Rock crab permit transfer process		Requests discussion of the rock crab permit transfer process at next FGC meeting.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation:</b> <b>Deny; Insufficient staff resources.</b>		

Date Received	Name of Petitioner	Subject of Request	Code or Title 14 Section Number	Short Description	FGC Decision	DFW/FGC Staff Response	Final Action, Other Outcomes
7/23/2015	Jose Figueroa	Trapping		Request to ban all trapping in California because it is cruel and inhumane.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation: Deny; FGC has no authority, requires statutory change.</b>		
7/25/2015	Megan Clenney	Hedgehogs		Legalize possession of hedgehogs.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation: Deny; no new data to support request.</b>		
8/4/2015 8/24/2015	April Wakeman, The Sport Fishing Conservancy	Fishing and hunting license possession	Sec. 700, Title 14	Request to amend regulations to specifically include a digital license viewable on a cell phone or tablet as being 'in possession' if and when such digital licenses are authorized.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation: Refer to DFW.</b>		
8/4/2015	Dan Yoakum	Herring experimental gear		Request changes to regulation to permit experimental gear and conformance with NOAA regulations to exclude seals in fishery.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation: Deny; FGC will consider this during adoption of the FMP.</b>		
8/4/2015	Greg Helms, Ocean Conservancy, et al.	Forage Fishery		Consider initializing regulations to conform state regulations with PFMC guidelines and other federal regulations.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation: Deny; premature until PFMC final guidelines are published.</b>		
8/4/2015	Paul Weakland	Abalone		Request to re-open for abalone harvest the counties south of San Francisco.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation: Deny; no new data to support request.</b>		
8/4/2015	Lynn Cullens	Mountain lions		Requests changes to depredation regulations to require non-lethal methods prior to issuance of a lethal permit for take.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation: Deny; FGC has no authority over this matter, requires statutory change.</b>		
8/5/2015	Lynn Boulton	Trapping		Requests regulations to require hunters and trappers to provide all the same information required for bobcats to apply to all furbearers and nongame predators.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation: Refer to WRC</b>		

**CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME COMMISSION  
DECISION LIST FOR NON-REGULATORY REQUESTS RECEIVED THROUGH AUG 5, 2015**

**FGC** - California Fish and Game Commission **DFW** - California Department of Fish and Wildlife **WRC** - Wildlife Resources Committee **MRC** - Marine Resources Committee

**Grant (previously Accept):** FGC is *willing to consider* the petition through a process      **Deny (previously Reject):** FGC is *not willing to consider* the petition  
**Refer:** FGC *needs more information* before deciding whether to grant or deny the petition

 **Green cells:** Referrals to DFW for more information       **Blue cells:** Referrals to FGC staff or committee for more information  
 **Lavender cells:** Accepted and moved to a rulemaking       **Yellow cells:** Current action items

Date Received	Name of Petitioner	Subject of Request	Short Description	FGC Decision	DFW/FGC Staff Response	Final Action, Other Outcomes
7/21/2015	Dan Yoakum	HEOK Experimental Permit	Requests re-consideration of his experimental gear proposal.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation: Deny; no longer qualifies as experimental gear.</b>		
7/21/2015	Amie Akridge	LA-DWP Impacts on Native and Migratory Birds	Requests oversight of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's management impacts on native and migratory bird habitat in and around the Chatsworth Nature Preserve.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation: Deny; FGC ha no authority over this matter.</b>		
7/31/2015	Calif. Sea Urchin Commission	Sea Urchin Fishery	Requests sea urchin be placed on October meeting agenda for authorization to publish notice.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation: Deny; item not yet scheduled for action.</b>		
7/28/2015	Peggy Palmer	Banning Ranch Conservancy	Request to help stop development activity by City of Newport Beach due to negative impacts on Banning Ranch Conservancy.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation: Deny; FGC ha no authority over this matter.</b>		
8/5/2015	Tom Raftican, The Sport Fishing Conservancy	WRC Meetings	Request to move the January 2016 WRC meeting from Sacramento to Los Alamitos in order to accommodate participation from non-consumptive users dealing with wildlife issues in their neighborhoods.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation: Deny; FGC adopted 2016 meeting locations in August 2015.</b>		
8/5/2015	Eric Mills	Public Forum and Live Animal Food Markets	Requests the Commission (1) add public forum to the end of the agenda, as well as to the beginning. There should be multiple opportunities for people to comment. And, (2) reagendaize live animal food markets for consideration.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation: (1) Grant; refer to FGC meeting procedures rulemaking, and (2) Deny; No new data to support request.</b>		

Date Received	Name of Petitioner	Subject of Request	Short Description	FGC Decision	DFW/FGC Staff Response	Final Action, Other Outcomes
8/5/2015	Tom Wheeler, Environmental Protection Information Center	Northern Spotted Owl CESA	Request FGC take a firmer stance and demand DFW bring it's status review of the NSO petition sooner as opposed to later. The status review has been delayed twice thus far.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation: Deny; FGC will receive the review when it is completed by DFW.</b>		
6/19/2015	Lisa Belenky, Center for Biological Diversity	Tricolored Blackbird	Request to reconsider the decision on whether listing the tricolored blackbird as threatened or endangered species may be warranted.	Action scheduled 10/7-8/2015 <b>Staff recommendation: Grant; scheduled for consideration at October 2015 meeting.</b>		
9/24/2015	Sean Brady, Michel & Associates, representing National Rifle Association	Committee Procedures	Requests rules and procedures be established for the WRC through normal regulatory approval process before WRC takes any further action.	<b>Action Scheduled 12/9-10/2015</b>		
8/6/2015	Iison New representing Dan Yoakum	HEOK Experimental Permit	Requests clarification on the definition of HEOK fishing.	<b>Action Scheduled 12/9-10/2015</b>		
9/10/2015	Michael Flores, Al Taucher Conservation Coalition	Predator Policy Workgroup	Requests clarification of actions the at FGC Aug meeting in Fortuna whereby individuals were publicly appointed to the Predator Policy working group in conflict with the process previously established by the Commission.	<b>Action Scheduled 12/9-10/2015</b>		
8/11/2015	Diane Pleschner-Steele, CA Wetfish Producers Association	WRC Meeting	Request to provide update on squid research at MRC and FGC meetings.	<b>Action Scheduled 12/9-10/2015</b>		
9/11/2015 9/13/2015	Hazel Kimberly Leonard Frances LiBrandi	Urban Coyotes	Request to help control urban coyote problems.	<b>Action Scheduled 12/9-10/2015</b>		
6/18/2015	William Lemos	North Coast Human Waste	Requests something be done to address the human waste problem occurring along the north coast during abalone season.	<b>Action Scheduled 12/9-10/2015</b>		

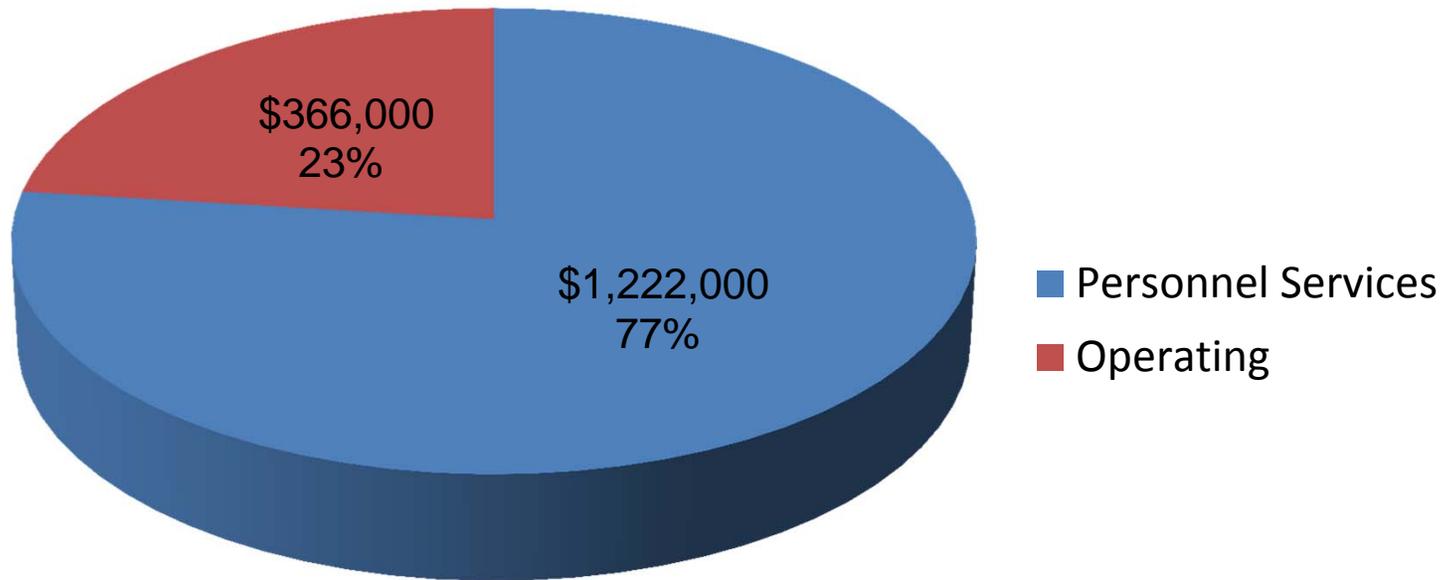
# **Commission Budget**

2015-16 Allotment

Presented to the California Fish and Game Commission by  
Commission Staff on October 8, 2015

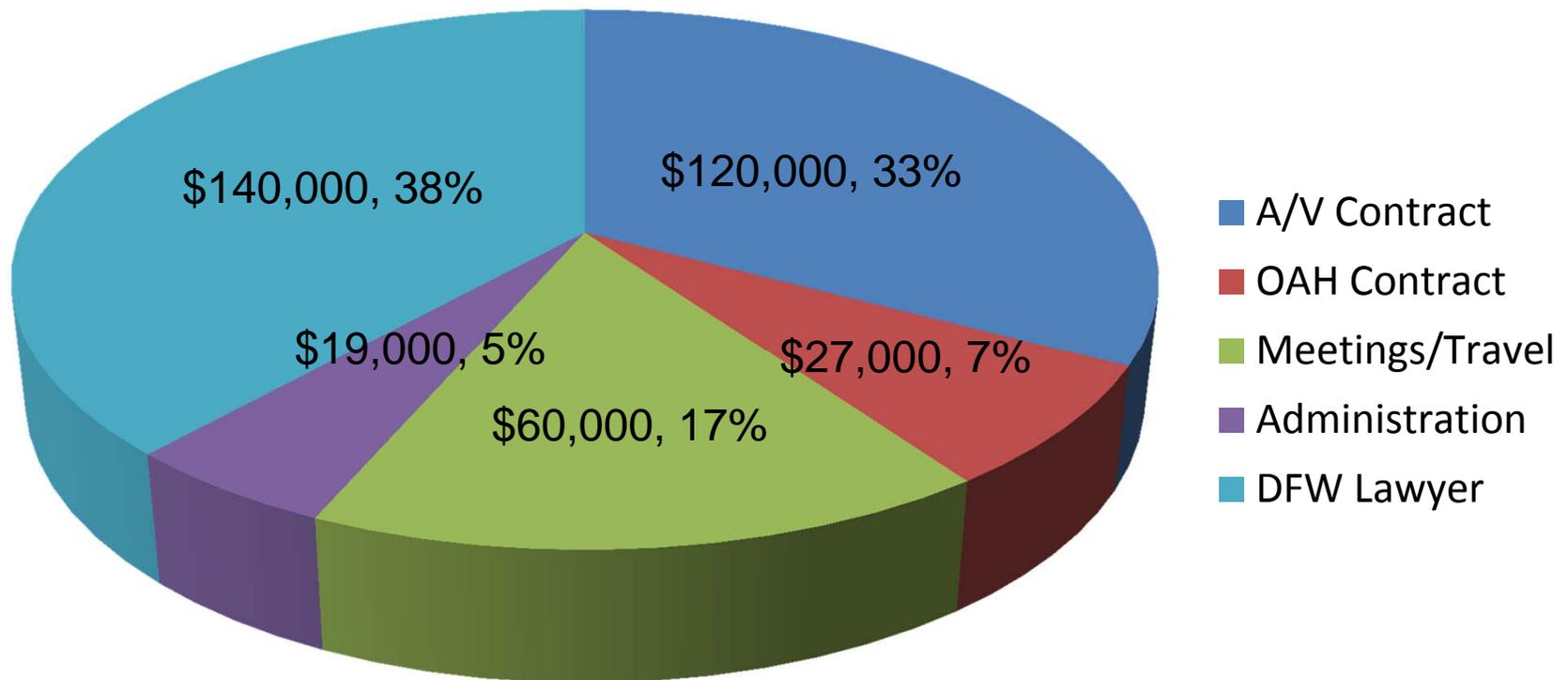
# FGC 2015-16 Allotment

## \$1,588,000



# FGC 2015-16 Allotment Operating

**\$366,000**



**From:** Jean Su [mailto:[jsu@biologicaldiversity.org](mailto:jsu@biologicaldiversity.org)]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2015 5:11 PM  
**To:** Mastrup, Sonke@FGC; Woodson, Caren@FGC; FGC  
**Cc:** 'Brendan Cummings'  
**Subject:** CBD letter re: effective date of bobcat trapping ban

Dear Sonke and Caren,

I hope you are both doing well, and congratulations for leading a very productive meeting in Fortuna. Thank you also for the Commission staff's great efforts on the regulation since last year, and for working with us throughout this process.

Please find attached a letter expressing CBD's concerns about the effective date of the bobcat trapping ban regulation for your consideration.

Kind regards,  
Jean

**Jean Su**  
*Staff Attorney*  
**CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**  
1212 BROADWAY STREET, SUITE 800  
OAKLAND, CA 94612  
*Phone:* (510) 844-7139  
*Fax:* (510) 844-7150  
<http://www.biologicaldiversity.org>



*Sent via electronic mail*

August 17, 2015

Director Sonke Mastrup  
California Fish and Game Commission (“the Commission”)  
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1320  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Fax: (916) 653-5040  
fgc@fgc.ca.gov

**Re: Bobcat Trapping Ban (14 CCR §§ 478, 479) — Effective Date of Regulation**

Dear Director Mastrup and Commissioners:

On behalf of the Center for Biological Diversity (“the Center”) and its over 100,000 members and supporters in California, we highly commend and express our gratitude to the Commission for the adoption of the statewide ban on bobcat trapping, amending sections 478 and 479 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (“CCR”). At the same time, we have concerns that, absent specific direction from the Commission, the newly adopted ban may not be effective prior to November 24, 2015, the commencement date of the bobcat trapping season under the now superseded regulations. To avoid administrative and enforcement confusion and uncertainty, as well as conflict with the clear mandates of AB 1213, we ask the Commission to ensure that the effective date of the bobcat trapping ban regulation is set prior to what would otherwise be the commencement of the bobcat trapping season under the old regulations.

As noted by the Department of Fish and Wildlife (“the Department”) in the Pre-Adoption Statement of Reasons and as drafted in the regulatory language for the ban<sup>1</sup>, the bobcat trapping ban regulation is intended to be effective “prior to the start of the 2015 trapping season.”<sup>2</sup> We are concerned, however, that the effective date of the new regulation may surpass this deadline. It is our understanding that the Commission’s practice is to generally follow the quarterly effective date schedule outlined in section 11343.4(a) of the Administrative Procedure Act (“APA”). Under this section, the Office of Administrative Law (“OAL”) must file the bobcat trapping ban regulation with the Secretary of State by August 31, 2015 in order to ensure an effective date of October 1, 2015; otherwise, the effective date would be delayed to the subsequent quarterly effective date of January 1, 2016—well past the commencement date of the 2015-2016 bobcat trapping season under the old regulations. Given that the Final Statement of Reasons has not yet been published and the OAL has not yet started its review, it seems very difficult if not impossible to meet the filing deadline at the close of August to ensure a quarterly effective date prior to the start of the bobcat trapping season under the old regulations.

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<sup>1</sup> As drafted in the regulatory amendments to 14 CCR § 479, “After November 1, 2015, the department shall not affix a department mark or shipping tag on any bobcat pelt.” The Department assumed that the ban would be effective prior to the commencement of the 2015-16 trapping season.

<sup>2</sup> See Department of Fish and Wildlife, “Pre-Adoption Statement of Reasons” (July 21, 2015), at 2.

California Fish & Game Commission  
Re: Effective Date of Bobcat Trapping Ban Regulation  
August 17, 2015

In the event that OAL does not file the regulation by August 31, 2015, the Commission has full discretion, under section 11343.4(b) of the APA, to set the effective date of the bobcat trapping ban regulation outside of the quarterly effective dates provided for under section 11343.4(a) of the APA. Specifically, section 11343.4(b) of the APA states:

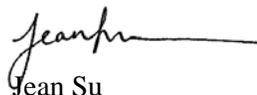
“(b) The effective dates in subdivision (a) shall not apply in all of the following: . . .  
(4)(A) A regulation adopted by the Fish and Game Commission pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 200) of Chapter 2 of Division 1 of the Fish and Game Code. . . .” APA §11343.4(b).

The bobcat trapping ban regulation squarely falls into section 200 of the California Fish & Game Code, which broadly governs the Commission’s rulemaking processes regarding the management of California’s wildlife. Therefore, the quarterly effective date schedule under section 11343.4(a) of the APA need not apply to the bobcat trapping ban regulation, and the Commission has the authority (and under AB 1213, the obligation) to set an effective date prior to what would be the start of the 2015-2016 bobcat trapping season under the old regulations.

We understand and appreciate the hardworking efforts of Commission and Department staff to finalize the regulation and respond to public comments in accordance with the law. Nevertheless, it is imperative that these documents and the administrative process be completed early enough such that OAL has sufficient time to undertake administrative review and file the regulation with the Secretary of State so that the regulations are effective prior to what would otherwise be the 2015-2016 bobcat trapping season commencement date. We urge the Commission to direct the regulation process accordingly and ensure that the bobcat trapping ban regulation is effective prior to November 24, 2015.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,



Jean Su  
Staff Attorney  
Center for Biological Diversity  
1212 Broadway Street, Suite 800  
Oakland, California 94612  
Phone: (510) 844-7139  
[jsu@biologicaldiversity.org](mailto:jsu@biologicaldiversity.org)

**From:** [k m](#)  
**To:** [Wildlife DIRECTOR; FGC](#)  
**Cc:** [Channel 5 KPIX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: CA Bobcat trapping ban delay....why?  
**Date:** Wednesday, September 02, 2015 7:55:25 PM

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Hon. Officials:

Please enforce this bobcat trapping ban immediately. A delay tactic is not ethical and legal and will invite scrutiny from the media and legal authorities. I urge you to impose and enforce this trapping ban NOW. Please respond accordingly.

Kind Regards,  
M. Kirsch/Oakland, CA



*Sent via electronic mail*

September 14, 2015

Director Sonke Mastrup  
California Fish and Game Commission (“the Commission”)  
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1320  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Fax: (916) 653-5040  
fgc@fgc.ca.gov

**Re: Bobcat Trapping Ban (14 CCR §§ 478, 479) — Implementation of Bobcat Trapping Ban**

Dear Director Mastrup and Commissioners:

On behalf of the Center for Biological Diversity (“the Center”) and its over 100,000 members and supporters in California, we reiterate our commendation of and gratitude to the Commission for the adoption of the statewide ban on bobcat trapping, amending Sections 478 and 479 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (“CCR”). Since the Commission’s vote in favor of the ban over a month ago, we have increasing concerns that the ban regulation may not be effective prior to November 24, 2015, the commencement date of the bobcat trapping season under the now superseded regulations.

On August 17, 2015, we sent a letter to the Commission expressing these concerns (*see Exhibit A*). Since that time we have seen media articles quoting the Department of Fish and Wildlife (“the Department”) as stating that the agency did not expect the rule to be effective before the end of this year. Further, at the recent Wildlife Resources Committee meeting on September 9, 2015, Commission staff reported that the ban may not be implemented until midway through or completely after the 2015-2016 trapping season. Such a delay would be unlawful and result in significant administrative and enforcement confusion, as well as could subject the Commission, Department and the trappers themselves to liability.

Specifically, allowing any continued bobcat trapping would violate:

1. the newly adopted regulatory language in the CCR;
2. state law under the Bobcat Protection Act of 2013 (“AB 1213”) and Sections 4006 and 4115 of the Fish & Game Code (“FGC”); and
3. federal requirements under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (“CITES”) and the Lacey Act.

First, permitting bobcat trapping for any part of the 2015-2016 trapping season directly conflicts with the language of the newly adopted regulations. The regulatory amendment to 14 CCR § 479 states: “After November 1, 2015, the department shall not affix a department mark or shipping tag on any bobcat pelt.” Therefore, any bobcat trapping occurring during the 2015-2016 season would be inconsistent with this provision, as the bobcat could not lawfully be tagged, and consequent possession or attempted sale of the bobcat’s pelt would be unlawful. Moreover, the Department, in the Pre-Adoption Statement of Reasons, stated that the bobcat trapping ban regulation was to be effective “prior to the start of the 2015

California Fish & Game Commission  
Re: Implementation of Bobcat Trapping Ban  
September 14, 2015

trapping season.”<sup>1</sup> These statements make clear that the Department and Commission assumed the ban would be effective prior to November 24, 2015. The regulations adopted by the Commission were premised on such an effective date, and any derivation from this hard deadline would be unlawful.

Second, allowing trapping in the 2015-2016 trapping season would violate the unequivocal statutory mandates of AB 1213 and FGC §§ 4006 and 4115(e), including the cost recovery provisions. Given trapping license fees for all commercial trappers have already been set for the 2015-2016 season at \$117.16 and no additional tag or validation fees have been established, it is undisputed that the Commission would fail to be in compliance with the statutory mandate to set such fees in any season in which bobcat trapping is allowed at “the levels necessary to fully recover” the costs of both the Department and Commission in administering, implementing and enforcing the existing trapping program. F&G Code §§ 4006(c); 4155(e).

Third, as explained in previous Center letters to the Commission, CITES requires that all bobcat pelts be marked according to specific requirements—including supplying information on the place, time, date and method of take—to ensure they were legally caught and lawfully exported. *See* 50 C.F.R. § 23.69(e). According to Department emails, the Department’s bobcat tags as well as the existing state trapping regulations are noncompliant with federal tagging requirements, rendering every bobcat exported from California to be in violation of federal law and United States treaty obligations. Under federal law, district courts have jurisdiction to enjoin state officials from such violations of law. *See* 16 U.S.C. § 1540(g). Separately, any transport in interstate or foreign commerce of bobcat pelts derived from the 2015-2016 trapping season would violate the Lacey Act, which prohibits trade and transport of wildlife that have been taken, possessed, transported or sold in violation of any state or federal law or regulation, including the laws enumerated in this letter. *See* 16 U.S.C. § 3372. Consequently anyone trapping bobcats in California during the unlawfully permitted 2015-2016 trapping season would be subject to civil and criminal penalties, including forfeiture of vehicles, under the Lacey Act.

We understand and appreciate the hardworking efforts of Commission and Department staff to finalize the regulation and respond to public comments in accordance with the law. Nevertheless, it is imperative that the administrative process be completed promptly such that the State’s Office of Administrative Law and Department of Finance have sufficient time to undertake administrative review and file the regulation with the Secretary of State so that the regulations are effective prior to what would otherwise be the 2015-2016 bobcat trapping season commencement date.

We urge the Commission to direct the regulation process accordingly and ensure that the bobcat trapping ban regulation is effective prior to November 24, 2015. However, in the event the Commission fails to take all necessary measures to ensure timely implementation of the new regulations, the Center and our allies will likely be compelled to seek recourse against the Department and Commission in federal and/or state court. We sincerely hope to be able to avoid this path.

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<sup>1</sup> *See* Department of Fish and Wildlife, “Pre-Adoption Statement of Reasons” (July 21, 2015), at 2.

California Fish & Game Commission  
Re: Implementation of Bobcat Trapping Ban  
September 14, 2015

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jean Su", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jean Su  
Staff Attorney  
Center for Biological Diversity  
1212 Broadway Street, Suite 800  
Oakland, California 94612  
Phone: (510) 844-7139  
[jsu@biologicaldiversity.org](mailto:jsu@biologicaldiversity.org)

California Fish & Game Commission  
Re: Implementation of Bobcat Trapping Ban  
September 14, 2015

**Exhibit A**

[*See attached.*]



*Sent via electronic mail*

August 17, 2015

Director Sonke Mastrup  
California Fish and Game Commission (“the Commission”)  
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1320  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Fax: (916) 653-5040  
fgc@fgc.ca.gov

**Re: Bobcat Trapping Ban (14 CCR §§ 478, 479) — Effective Date of Regulation**

Dear Director Mastrup and Commissioners:

On behalf of the Center for Biological Diversity (“the Center”) and its over 100,000 members and supporters in California, we highly commend and express our gratitude to the Commission for the adoption of the statewide ban on bobcat trapping, amending sections 478 and 479 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (“CCR”). At the same time, we have concerns that, absent specific direction from the Commission, the newly adopted ban may not be effective prior to November 24, 2015, the commencement date of the bobcat trapping season under the now superseded regulations. To avoid administrative and enforcement confusion and uncertainty, as well as conflict with the clear mandates of AB 1213, we ask the Commission to ensure that the effective date of the bobcat trapping ban regulation is set prior to what would otherwise be the commencement of the bobcat trapping season under the old regulations.

As noted by the Department of Fish and Wildlife (“the Department”) in the Pre-Adoption Statement of Reasons and as drafted in the regulatory language for the ban<sup>1</sup>, the bobcat trapping ban regulation is intended to be effective “prior to the start of the 2015 trapping season.”<sup>2</sup> We are concerned, however, that the effective date of the new regulation may surpass this deadline. It is our understanding that the Commission’s practice is to generally follow the quarterly effective date schedule outlined in section 11343.4(a) of the Administrative Procedure Act (“APA”). Under this section, the Office of Administrative Law (“OAL”) must file the bobcat trapping ban regulation with the Secretary of State by August 31, 2015 in order to ensure an effective date of October 1, 2015; otherwise, the effective date would be delayed to the subsequent quarterly effective date of January 1, 2016—well past the commencement date of the 2015-2016 bobcat trapping season under the old regulations. Given that the Final Statement of Reasons has not yet been published and the OAL has not yet started its review, it seems very difficult if not impossible to meet the filing deadline at the close of August to ensure a quarterly effective date prior to the start of the bobcat trapping season under the old regulations.

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<sup>1</sup> As drafted in the regulatory amendments to 14 CCR § 479, “After November 1, 2015, the department shall not affix a department mark or shipping tag on any bobcat pelt.” The Department assumed that the ban would be effective prior to the commencement of the 2015-16 trapping season.

<sup>2</sup> See Department of Fish and Wildlife, “Pre-Adoption Statement of Reasons” (July 21, 2015), at 2.

California Fish & Game Commission  
Re: Effective Date of Bobcat Trapping Ban Regulation  
August 17, 2015

In the event that OAL does not file the regulation by August 31, 2015, the Commission has full discretion, under section 11343.4(b) of the APA, to set the effective date of the bobcat trapping ban regulation outside of the quarterly effective dates provided for under section 11343.4(a) of the APA. Specifically, section 11343.4(b) of the APA states:

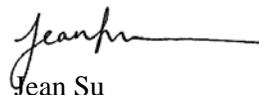
“(b) The effective dates in subdivision (a) shall not apply in all of the following: . . .  
(4)(A) A regulation adopted by the Fish and Game Commission pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 200) of Chapter 2 of Division 1 of the Fish and Game Code. . . .” APA §11343.4(b).

The bobcat trapping ban regulation squarely falls into section 200 of the California Fish & Game Code, which broadly governs the Commission’s rulemaking processes regarding the management of California’s wildlife. Therefore, the quarterly effective date schedule under section 11343.4(a) of the APA need not apply to the bobcat trapping ban regulation, and the Commission has the authority (and under AB 1213, the obligation) to set an effective date prior to what would be the start of the 2015-2016 bobcat trapping season under the old regulations.

We understand and appreciate the hardworking efforts of Commission and Department staff to finalize the regulation and respond to public comments in accordance with the law. Nevertheless, it is imperative that these documents and the administrative process be completed early enough such that OAL has sufficient time to undertake administrative review and file the regulation with the Secretary of State so that the regulations are effective prior to what would otherwise be the 2015-2016 bobcat trapping season commencement date. We urge the Commission to direct the regulation process accordingly and ensure that the bobcat trapping ban regulation is effective prior to November 24, 2015.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,



Jean Su  
Staff Attorney  
Center for Biological Diversity  
1212 Broadway Street, Suite 800  
Oakland, California 94612  
Phone: (510) 844-7139  
[jsu@biologicaldiversity.org](mailto:jsu@biologicaldiversity.org)

**From:** Eric Sklar  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 23, 2015 2:02 PM  
**To:** Kanta Masters  
**Cc:** Mastrup, Sonke@FGC; Miller-Henson, Melissa@FGC  
**Subject:** RE: For Eric Sklar

Thanks Kanata,

I appreciate your comments and am forwarding to the staff to include in the record,

Best,

Eric

**From:** Kanta Masters  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 23, 2015 1:46 PM  
**To:** Eric Sklar  
**Subject:** For Eric Sklar

9/22/2015

Commissioner Sklar,

I deeply appreciate your receiving my call this afternoon.

Here is a brief recap:

You will be considering the bobcat hunting ban package at the Oct. 7th meeting. Thank you so much for voting for the ban in August. I am now requesting that **you request the expediting of this matter with the Office of Administrative Law Review.** As you may be aware, the bobcat trapping season begins in November and runs through January. If it takes the Office of Administrative Law Review the usual 30 WORKING days to complete the review we will have lost 6 weeks. Then it will go to the Secretary of State . I just spoke with that office and they also said **the Commission could make a request for this to be expedited into law instead of waiting another 30 to 45 days.** If the whole process took the maximum length it is quite possible that the whole trapping season will have transpired and all the bobcats, supposedly protected with this new regulation, will not be protected at all!

Thank you for listening, Commissioner Sklar. I deeply appreciate it and so hope my arguments and requests have merit with you.

Most Sincerely, kanta masters



# CALIFORNIA'S MARINE PROTECTED AREA STATEWIDE LEADERSHIP TEAM

## Work Plan FY 15/16 - 17/18: Executive Summary

The California legislature passed the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) in 1999, responding to the need to redesign California's marine protected areas (MPAs) and improve their effectiveness at supporting healthy and sustainable marine ecosystems. The fully redesigned network was completed in 2012. Through the science-based and stakeholder-driven process to implement the MLPA, state resource managers realized a key component to success was a focus on building strong, active partnerships.

The California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW) and Fish & Game Commission are charged with management of the statewide MPA Network, while the Ocean Protection Council serves as the state's policy lead. The Department of Parks & Recreation and Commission are also designated as a managing agency for some types of MPAs. Regulatory agencies (e.g. California Coastal Commission, State Lands Commission, and State Water Resources Control Board) have jurisdictions that overlap with MPA management activities, as does the West Coast Regional Office of National Marine Sanctuaries. California Ocean Science Trust works in close partnership with these agencies to support a science-based approach to ocean and coastal management, and to design and implement MPA monitoring programs. Effective stewardship of the MPA network requires a coordinated approach among these agencies and organizations, as well as other partners.

In April 2014, the MPA Statewide Leadership Team (Leadership Team) was convened as a standing body to ensure active and engaged communication among MPA network management partners. The Leadership Team has developed a work plan to guide their partnership efforts as capacity allows over the next three years and is comprised of strategic priorities, actions, and outcomes within four focal areas, as summarized below:

### Outreach and Education

The Leadership Team recognizes the fundamental importance of improved outreach and education efforts for promoting awareness of the MPA network among California visitors and residents and cultivating long-term public engagement. Members of the Leadership Team have identified three Strategic Priorities that capture a wide variety of initiatives that will be used to achieve success:

1. Build support and durability of the MPA network goals and performance through improved public awareness
2. Create a broad understanding of regulations and increase compliance
3. Develop consistent messaging with state, federal, and other partners

Diverse communications strategies, enhanced collaboration within and among agencies and partners, and leveraging existing outreach efforts by local community organizations are crucial components of this focal area.

## Enforcement and Compliance

The ultimate success of the MPA network will depend in large part on the degree to which regulations are followed. This requires public understanding of and compliance with MPA regulations paired with consistent enforcement. While targeted outreach efforts to consumptive users play an important role in cultivating compliance, this focal area identifies actions nested under one strategic priority:

1. Increase the capacity and effectiveness of enforcement.

The use of new technology, cooperative relationships among CDFW wardens and other enforcement agencies, and ensuring appropriate consequences for MPA violations are some of key initiatives in this focal area.

## Research and Monitoring

Research and monitoring are essential for understanding the ecological and socioeconomic conditions and trends within MPAs and for evaluating performance of the statewide MPA network. These activities will also enhance our understanding of the network's contribution to bolstering ecosystem health and resilience in the face of changing ocean conditions. The following strategic priorities address these goals:

1. Establish a benchmark of ecosystem and socioeconomic conditions in all MLPA coastal regions that informs the initial regional network management reviews
2. Design and implement a partnerships-based monitoring program that assesses MPA network performance and informs multiple mandates
3. Develop an approach to statewide MPA network assessment that builds upon the monitoring framework to inform decisions at a statewide scale

Agency, academic, tribal and citizen scientists, as well as other experts, will play important roles in implementing the strategic priorities of this focal area.

## Policy and Permitting

The policy and permitting aspects of MPA management are both overarching and fundamental to success. Continued coordination among regulatory agencies is required to maintain a cohesive vision for the MPA network into the future. Related actions are nested under the following strategic priorities:

1. Improve governance of MPA network through adaptive management
2. Integrate MLPA and MPA network goals, objectives and partnership-based management approach into relevant management documents
3. Enhance protection for MPA resources is provided in relevant resource agency authorizations
4. Identify marine resource enhancement/mitigation opportunities and impact avoidance strategies within or associated with MPAs

This work requires investment of entities whose mandates are specifically tied to MPAs as well as those more indirectly linked.

For more information about the MPA Statewide Leadership Team, please contact:

Cyndi Dawson, MPA Policy Advisor, California Ocean Protection Council  
Cyndi.Dawson@resources.ca.gov, (916) 653-0542





## **Marine Protected Area (MPA) Statewide Leadership Team Work Plan FY 15/16 – 17/18**

### *The MPA Statewide Leadership Team*

California’s MPA Statewide Leadership Team (Leadership Team) was convened with the goal of increasing communication and collaboration among agencies and partners to ensure the state is effectively managing the statewide MPA network. The Leadership Team includes state and federal agencies and other partners that play a direct or key support role in management of the network. MPA management encompasses a wide range of partners and activities that require active collaboration and communication to implement successfully. The state has recognized that no one agency or group has the knowledge, capacity or resources to effectively manage the MPA network in isolation. The Leadership Team focuses on leveraging resources and breaking down traditional silos to collaboratively address MPA network management which cuts across jurisdictions and mandates.

Members of the MPA Statewide Leadership Team, led by the Ocean Protection Council (**OPC**), include: the Department of Fish and Wildlife (**DFW**), DFW Law Enforcement Division (**LED**), Fish and Game Commission (**FGC**), California Coastal Commission (**CCC**), California State Lands Commission (**CCSLC**), Department of Parks and Recreation (**DPR**), State Water Resources Control Board (**SWRCB**), California Ocean Science Trust (**OST**), MPA Collaborative Network (**CN**), and West Coast Regional Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (**ONMS**).

### *Approach to the Work Plan*

The Leadership Team has identified the following focal areas as key to successful management of MPAs: Outreach and Education, Research and Monitoring, Enforcement and Compliance and Policy and Permitting. Active, sustained engagement in each of these focal areas is integral to achieve the goals of the Leadership Team. In practice, this means directing the work of the Leadership Team by identifying shared strategic priorities, key actions and outcomes. A key tool for this is the creation of a work plan that was identified as a key task in “[The California Collaborative Approach: Marine Protected Areas Partnership Plan](#)”<sup>1</sup>. The work plan covers a three year period beginning in 2015 and is a key tool in directing MPA management and holding members accountable for identified outcomes.

### *Work Plan Notations and Acronyms*

\* Indicates responsible agency will contract or award a grant to lead efforts to complete key action

“Agency” refers to federal, state, tribal, and local authorities.

Parks and Recreation Commission (**PRC**) Parks Online Resources for Teachers and Students (**PORTS**)

California Natural Resources Agency (**CNRA**)

Marine Life Protection Act (**MLPA**) Marine Managed Areas Improvement Act (**MMAIA**)

[California Seafloor and Coastal Mapping Program \(CSCMP\)](#)<sup>2</sup> California Environmental Quality Act (**CEQA**)

U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System’s [Central and Northern California Ocean Observing System \(CeNCOOS\)](#)<sup>3</sup>

U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System’s [Southern California Ocean Observing System \(SCOOS\)](#)<sup>4</sup>

[Southern California Coastal Water Research Project \(SCCWRP\)](#)<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.opc.ca.gov/2010/03/mapping-californias-seafloor-2/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.opc.ca.gov/2010/03/mapping-californias-seafloor-2/>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.cencoos.org/>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.sccoos.org/>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.sccwrp.org/Homepage.aspx>

## Focal Area: Outreach and Education (page 1-3)

Strategic Priority 1 - Build support and durability of the MPA network goals and performance through improved public awareness					
Key Action	Action Summary	Outcome Required/ Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Lead Responsibility	Completion Date
1.1 Create statewide outreach and education plan	1.1.1 Engage MPA Partners (NGOs, tribes, agencies) in discussion of best practices in MPA messaging	MPA partners, including MPA Collaborative Network members, play an active role in ongoing development of messaging efforts and strategies	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OPC, CN	2016
	1.1.2 Compile and maintain inventory of MPA messaging and materials created by agency and non-agency partners	MPA partners, including MPA Collaborative Network members, have online access to a comprehensive inventory of MPA messaging and available resources (e.g. brochures, sign templates, etc.) developed by state, federal and NGO partners and can easily contribute to the inventory	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OPC*, CN	2016
	1.1.3 Identify priority audiences, audience-specific messages and outreach methods, and who will do the outreach	MPA partners, including MPA Collaborative Network members, contribute and have access to recommendations on how to maximize the effectiveness of their outreach to different audiences	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OPC*, CN	2016
	1.1.4 Identify opportunities to insert messaging into related, non MPA-specific efforts	Existing programs increase avenues for MPA messaging to a broad constituency without requiring additional investment from MPA SLT members	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OPC*	2016
	1.1.5 Implement outreach and education plan	Agencies and external partners work from a coordinated education and outreach strategy, improving the reach and effectiveness of MPA outreach and education	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OPC*	2016
1.2 Create MPA-focused outreach materials and host or participate in events	1.2.1 Produce printed outreach materials	Agency partners work with the MPA Collaborative Network members to continue producing locally specific materials	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OPC	2016
		Printed materials are readily available at key locations used by consumptive users (e.g. harbors, tackle shops, etc.)	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	DFW	2016 - 2018
		Printed materials are readily available at key locations used by non- consumptive users (e.g. aquaria, dive shops, etc.)	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	DFW	2016 - 2018
	1.2.2 Produce video/web/phone app-based materials	Web and video material produced by partners is promoted through Thank You Ocean and other venues	MPA non-agency partners	OPC	2016 - 2018
	1.2.3 Hold or take part in outreach and education events	Promote events through list-serves, Thank You Ocean and other partner websites	MPA non-agency partners	OPC	2016 - 2018

<b>Strategic Priority 2 - Create a broad understanding of regulations and increase compliance</b>					
<b>Key Action</b>	<b>Action Summary</b>	<b>Outcome Required/ Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Lead Responsibility</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
2.1 Develop, install and maintain regulatory and interpretive signage statewide	2.1.1. Signage is properly permitted and installed in priority locations	Verification from grantee and contract manager of proper installation of signs	OPC, DFW, DPR, CCC and other non-agency partners	OPC*	2015
	2.1.2 Develop and implement project to install signs at remaining high and medium priority locations	Verification from grantee and contract manager of proper installation of signs	OPC, DFW, DPR, CCC and other non-agency partners	OPC*	2016
2.2 Continue production of DFW outreach materials focused on regulation compliance	2.2.1 Regionally specific materials including maps and booklets with regulations are produced	Outreach materials reach both traditional and non-traditional audiences	DFW, FGC	DFW	2016 -2018
	2.2.2 Continue to support production of additional products on different media (waterproof paper, mobile devices, etc.) to maximize reach and effectiveness	Outreach materials reach both traditional and non-traditional audiences	DFW, FGC	DFW	2016 -2018
2.3 Coordinate with private companies that produce products which provide information to the public about MPA regulations	2.3.1 Regularly monitor products (e.g. GPS layers, phone applications, etc.) to ensure accurate information is being disseminated	Commonly used GPS systems accurately depict MPAs	DFW, CN, LED	DFW	2015-2018
<b>Strategic Priority 3 - Develop consistent messaging with state, federal and other partners</b>					
<b>Key Action</b>	<b>Action Summary</b>	<b>Outcome Required/ Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Lead Responsibility</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
3.1 Create and distribute DFW Partnership Guide	3.1.1 Expand on existing DFW MPA Outreach Quick Reference Guide for partners	DFW Partnership Guide is posted widely on the web and provides specific detail on review process, available resources and roles of various partners and agencies in review of outreach materials	DFW, OPC and other non-agency partners	DFW	2016
3.2 DPR effectively disseminates MPA messaging and actively engages in MPA management support activities	3.2.1 Update webpage on "state underwater parks"	DPR website explains the department's history in identifying special underwater areas and how the term "underwater park" is no longer applicable since the MMAIA. Also includes link to DFW MPA webpage	DPR, OPC	DPR	2014
	3.2.2 Provide MPA training to staff and docents using a "train the trainer" model	OPC provides trainer and training materials developed in partnership with MPA partners and Collaborative members to coastal districts as requested	DPR, OPC	DPR	2015

	3.2.3 Develop MPA-specific curriculum for Parks Online Resources for Teachers and Students (PORTS) by leveraging existing materials	Existing coastal PORTS programs use MPA curriculum which is currently under development	DPR, DFW, OPC	DPR	2015
	3.2.4 Engage with Division of Boating and Waterways staff to identify opportunities to insert MPA messaging into existing outreach campaigns	MPA messaging is inserted in at least one ongoing Boating and Waterways outreach campaign	DPR, OPC	OPC	2016 - 2018
3.3 Create and distribute a map of California waters that includes all protected areas (state and federal)	3.3.1 Collect map layers of MPAs, Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS), National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERRs), National Marine Sanctuaries (NMSs), etc.	Agencies and the public can view the distribution of all protected areas in California in one place for the first time	DFW, DPR, OPC, OST, SWRCB	OST	2016
	3.3.2 Determine and distribute map showing state waters that receive full protection (e.g., % coverage of SMRs) and some protection (i.e., % coverage of all other protected areas)	The state and public have a more complete understanding of the percentage of CA state waters and coastal areas that are protected	DFW, DPR, OPC, OST, SWRCB	OST	2017
3.4 ONMS effectively disseminates MPA messaging and actively engages in MPA management support activities	3.4.1 Communicate and depict Federal/State jurisdictions to clarify their complementary nature	Explanatory infographic or other messaging concept is broadly distributed to state and federal agencies as well as public audiences to ensure types of allowed use are clearly understood	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OPC	2017
	3.4.2 Provide MPA training to staff and docents	OPC provides trainer and training materials as requested to ensure ONMS staff and docents have accurate and updated information about the state's MPA network	ONMS, OPC	OPC	2015
3.5 Effectively disseminate MPA messaging through OPC	3.5.1 Update content and structure of OPC website to better reflect current MPA programs and partnerships, ensuring consistency with partner web pages by using links where appropriate	OPC website hosts or links to relevant documents related to the design, designation, implementation and management of the MPA Network	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OPC	2016
		OPC website describes OPC's current role in MPA management and highlights current and previous MPA projects	OPC	OPC	2016
		OPC website links to and describes partner agencies and organizations	OPC	OPC	2016
	3.5.2 Update content on CNRA website	CNRA website accurately describes current work of OPC and other key management agencies including DFW and DPR	OPC, DFW, DPR	OPC	2015
	3.5.3 Use Thank You Ocean Campaign to update constituents about MPA Collaboratives and significant MPA events	Thank You Ocean and MPA Collaboratives serve as conduits of information regarding MPA efforts	OPC	OPC	2015 - 2018
		Thank You Ocean website links to <a href="http://mpacollaboratives.org">mpacollaboratives.org</a>	OPC	OPC	2015
Relevant MPA news is included in monthly Thank You Ocean newsletter and shared via Thank You Ocean social media platforms		OPC	OPC	2015 - 2018	

## Focal Area: Enforcement and Compliance (page 4)

Strategic Priority 1 - Increase capacity and effectiveness of enforcement					
Key Action	Action Summary	Outcome Required/Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Lead Responsibility	Completion Date
1.1 Use technology and other tools to increase effectiveness and efficiency of enforcement resources in the field	1.1.1 Develop statewide Records Management System (RMS) to collect, organize and track citation data.	DFW implements an RMS to improve its ability to collect, store, and query law enforcement data in the field	DFW	LED	2016-2018
		DFW Submits AB 2402 report to the legislature on a feasibility study for electronic data management	DFW	DFW	2016
	1.1.2 Identify enforcement priority areas based on poaching hotspots, seasonal trends, potential for resource impact, level of use, and potential for violations	RMS allows accurate analysis of the enforcement efforts/needs for specific MPAs	DFW	LED	2016-2018
	1.1.3 Explore existing and emerging technologies and enforcement monitoring systems to enhance MPA enforcement	Regularly assess available technologies and deploy those with potential to enhance MPA enforcement	DFW	LED	2015-2018
1.2 Maintain and enhance cooperative enforcement efforts with local, state and federal agencies	1.2.1 Promote interagency cooperation and collaboration for more effective MPA enforcement	Develop and facilitate MPA Collaborative Network programs for statewide MPA enforcement	LED, CN	CN	2015-2018
1.3 Increase judicial system and law enforcement officer awareness of the value of MPAs and knowledge of MPA regulations	1.3.1 Develop educational tools specifically for judges and district attorneys	Develop MPA enforcement video and distribute widely to court and enforcement officers	LED, CN	LED, CN	2016-2018
		Design and facilitate MPA training to be provided to the judicial system within all CA coastal counties	LED, CN	LED, CN	2016-2018
		Encourage designation of at least one wildlife/marine specialist within each DA office	LED, CN	LED, CN	2016-2018
	1.3.2 Hold Enforcement Trainings for court officers	Hold at least one training in each county and conduct training effectiveness evaluations	LED, CN	LED, CN	2015-2016
1.4 Plan and conduct an LED Needs Assessment to determine if they have the resources to effectively enforce MPA regulations	1.4.1 Identify and address LED personnel needs for MPA enforcement	Identifying appropriate staffing levels and equipment requirements for existing and anticipated future needs, including recruiting officers from diverse communities	DFW	LED	2016 - 2018
	1.4.2 Identify and address LED equipment needs for MPA enforcement	Identify funding source(s) to purchase items needed for MPA enforcement	DFW, OPC	LED	2016 - 2018

## Focal Area: Research and Monitoring (page 5 – 8)

<b>Strategic Priority 1 - Establish a benchmark of ecosystem and socioeconomic condition in all MLPA coastal regions that informs the initial five-year regional MPA network management reviews (management reviews)</b>					
<b>Key Action</b>	<b>Action Summary</b>	<b>Outcome Required/ Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Lead Responsibility</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
1.1 Identify and pursue opportunities to bring additional results to bear on establishing a benchmark of conditions in each region (i.e., projects and programs outside the official MPA monitoring programs)	1.1.1 Coordinate state and federal entities to incorporate relevant oceanographic and physical habitat data and results	CSCMP spatial data inform management reviews	OST	OST	2015
		CeNCOOS, SCOOS, and other partners' oceanographic data inform management reviews	OST	OST	2015
	1.1.2 Coordinate with SCCWRP and member agencies to incorporate relevant water quality data and results	SCCWRP's Bight Regional Monitoring Program data inform management reviews	OST, SCCWRP	OST	2015-2018
	1.1.3 Coordinate with agency, tribal, academic and citizen scientists to ensure relevant scientifically robust datasets are incorporated	Relevant datasets from agency, academic, tribal and citizen scientists are incorporated as appropriate into management	OST	OST	2015-2018
1.2 Develop State of the Region assessments to inform management reviews	1.2.1 Synthesize results and explain methodology of each baseline program and other monitoring efforts in the regions to build a snapshot of baseline conditions for each region	Ensure that the monitoring programs and results are cohesive, align with program purposes, and realize value beyond MPAs	DFW, OPC, OST	OST	2015-2018
		MPA monitoring results and reporting in the North Coast incorporate traditional ecological knowledge	DFW, OPC, OST	OST	2017
		Build a more comprehensive understanding of ecosystem condition and trends to support management decisions and inform the approach to long-term monitoring	DFW, OPC, OST, FGC	OST	2015-2018
		Information sharing among agencies and tribal governments results in a common understanding of ecosystem condition and trends	DFW, OPC, OST, FGC	OST	2015-2018
1.3 Engage with California's diverse ocean communities to share results from the baseline programs	1.3.1 Share results of baseline monitoring broadly through a variety of venues, including community meetings and the Western Society of Naturalists (WSN) Annual Meeting	Diverse constituencies, including scientists, fishing communities, tribes, and decision makers see baseline monitoring results as credible, accessible, and useful for management	DFW, OPC, OST, FGC	OST	2015-2016
		Build trust in MPA monitoring results before and after they are released	DFW, OPC, OST	OST	2015-2018
	1.3.2 Maintain communication with California's ocean community and tribes, including through the MPA Collaboratives, and encourage contributions to oceanspaces.org	Tribal governments are engaged in the monitoring program	DFW, OPC, OST	OST	2015-2018

**Strategic Priority 2 - Design and implement a partnership-based monitoring program that assesses MPA network performance and informs multiple mandates**

Key Action	Action Summary	Outcome Required/ Performance Indicator	Responsibility	Lead Responsibility	Completion Date
2.1 Align marine and water quality protected area (i.e., ASBSs, MPAs) monitoring programs to leverage resources, capacity and expertise across mandates and jurisdictions	2.1.1 Compare goals for ASBS and MPA monitoring programs and identify potential areas of overlap	Evaluation of whether the two programs aim to meet similar objectives or if there are discrepancies	OST, SWRCB	OST	2016
		Agencies involved in ASBS & MPA monitoring better understand goals of each other's programs	OST, SWRCB	OST	2016
	2.1.2 At a regional scale, review monitoring plans, reports and/or work plans to identify overlaps in program components	Map illustrates where ASBSs and MPAs are co-located and where data for each monitoring program has been collected	OST, SWRCB	OST	2015-2016
		Internal document identifies overlaps in requirements, methodology, funding sources, and personnel	OST, SWRCB	OST	2015-2016
		Highlight overlapping areas with potential for collaboration between the two programs	OST, SWRCB	OST	2015-2016
	2.1.3 Assess whether current structure of ASBS and MPA monitoring programs hinders or limits progress in achieving program goals	Deficiencies or problematic components in the two programs are identified	OST, SWRCB	SWRCB	2016
		Ways to address identified impediments are identified	OST, SWRCB	SWRCB	2016
	2.1.4 Develop and begin to implement interagency strategy to resolve any inconsistencies between monitoring programs that hinder accomplishment of program goals	Agencies involved in ASBS and MPA monitoring improve collaborative efforts	OST, SWRCB	OST	2016-2017
2.2 Align fisheries and MPA monitoring to leverage resources, capacity and expertise across mandates	2.2.1 Prioritize and align data collection and approaches that can inform both 1) essential fisheries information needed for stock assessments and fisheries management decisions, and 2) ecological information needed to assess the condition and trends of marine ecosystems	Key indicators, metrics, and datasets that can inform both fisheries and MPA management at multiple scales are identified	DFW, OST, OPC	DFW	2015-2016
		Focal MPAs where data collection could inform both MPA and fisheries management are identified	DFW, OST, OPC	DFW	2016-2017
2.3 Develop and adopt a comprehensive data and information management plan for MPA monitoring that leverages existing technology solutions and ensures long-term, public accessibility	2.3.1 Work with data management experts to identify opportunities and develop a written plan to leverage existing technology solutions	Adopted plan is cost-effective and feasible to implement	DFW, OST	OST	2015
		MPA monitoring data and results are easily accessible and curated for long-term, public accessibility	DFW, OST	OST	2015-2018
	2.3.2 Implement plan as part of long-term monitoring	Plan is added as appendix to regional long-term monitoring work plan	DFW, OPC, OST	OST	2015-2018

2.4 Develop an MPA Monitoring Plan for the North Coast region to be submitted to the Fish & Game Commission for consideration as an appendix to the MLPA Master Plan	2.4.1 Identify metrics that consider management and community priorities, and are informed by results from the North Coast MPA Baseline Program	Monitoring metrics are based on the best available science and reflect management and community priorities	DFW, OST	OST	2017
	2.4.2 Develop an inventory of short- and long-term evaluation questions	Monitoring program is designed to answer evaluation questions	DFW, OST	OST	2016-2017
	2.4.3 Conduct peer-review process of technical components of plan	Monitoring approaches identified by plan are scientifically rigorous and feasible	DFW, OST	OST	2017
2.5 Diversify monitoring collaborations and include multiple sources of knowledge (e.g. agency, academic, tribal, local) to broaden participation and deepen understanding of MPA network and relevant ocean conditions	2.5.1 Develop and begin to implement an approach for integrating multiple sources of knowledge (e.g., traditional ecological knowledge (TEK), ecological data, socioeconomic data)	Guiding document provides a framework for integrating traditional ecological knowledge with other sources of information into long-term monitoring statewide	OST	OST	2015-2016
		Data use guidelines for North Coast baseline monitoring results are complete and can be applied to long-term MPA monitoring activities	OST	OST	2015-2016
	2.5.2 Develop an inventory of relevant citizen science monitoring programs that exist statewide	Extent and capacity of existing citizen science monitoring programs informs approach to long-term monitoring in each region	OST	OST	2016-2018
<b>Strategic Priority 3 - Develop an approach to statewide MPA network assessment (network assessment) that builds upon the monitoring framework to inform management decisions at a statewide scale</b>					
<b>Key Action</b>	<b>Action Summary</b>	<b>Outcome Required/ Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Lead Responsibility</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
3.1 Increase alignment of research activities with state priorities, to increase usefulness for management decisions across agencies	3.1.1 Consider MPA network goals in state agency-contracted research on ocean issues and align research activities with these goals when feasible	Deliberate consideration of statewide MPA network goals in agency-contracted ocean/fisheries-related research	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OST	2016-2018
3.2 Pursue MPA research and monitoring activities that have the potential to inform and/or align multiple management mandates and priorities	3.2.1 Identify and pursue opportunities for alignment of research activities with information needs for fisheries management	MPA network assessment informs fisheries management	DFW, OST	DFW	2016
	3.2.2 Incorporate monitoring approaches and strategies identified by the West Coast Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia (OAH) Science Panel	MPA and OAH monitoring activities are geographically and temporally aligned	OPC, OST	OPC	2016
		OAH research and modeling activities informs and are informed by MPA monitoring	DFW, OPC SAT	OST	2016-2018
	3.2.3 Engage regional experts to develop and recommend approaches for assessing impacts of climate change on ocean ecosystems and resources and evaluate how a changing climate may affect our ability to meet MPA management and policy goals	Long-term MPA monitoring produces data that contributes to our understanding of climate change impacts	DFW, OPC, OST	OST	2016-2018
	MPA monitoring and network assessment help determine climate change impacts to ecosystem structure and function	OPC, OST	OST	2016-2017	

3.3 Develop and implement an ecological impact assessment tool to identify potential cumulative impacts to MPAs from research, monitoring and education activities to inform issuing Scientific Collecting Permits (SCP)	3.3.1 Develop a framework for an automated ecological impact assessment to help inform management decisions about issuing SCPs	OPC working group with DFW , DPR, FGC convened to clarify roles and responsibilities in SCP for marine areas adjacent to park units	DFW, DPR, OPC, FGC	OPC	2016
		Published manuscript that describes the assessment tool's purpose, function and components	DFW, OPC SAT	DFW	2015-2016
3.4 Develop a statewide monitoring approach document that is distinct from regional monitoring plans and work plans	3.4.1 Clarify respective roles and purposes for regional and statewide monitoring	Strengthened decision support for adaptive management	DFW, OPC, OST	OST	2016
	3.4.2 Develop guidelines for incorporating a broad range of data into statewide monitoring including information on management, outreach, education and other activities	Build efficiency into monitoring programs across state mandates	DFW, OST	OST	2015-2017
		MPA monitoring data (ecological, socioeconomic) are considered together with oceanographic monitoring and enforcement/compliance monitoring to build a more robust understanding of the state of the network	DFW, OST	OST	2015-2017
		Fisheries, coastal zone and water quality management both inform and are informed by MPA monitoring	DFW, OST	OST	2015-2017

## Focal Area: Policy and Permitting (page 9 – 11)

<b>Strategic Priority 1 - Improve governance of MPA network through adaptive management</b>					
<b>Key Action</b>	<b>Action Summary</b>	<b>Outcome Required/ Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Lead Responsibility</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
1.1 FGC and PRC develop and convey process for receiving requests for changes to MPA network	1.1.1 Post guidance on relevant agency websites detailing appropriate process	Members of the public can easily access information that clearly articulates how, if, and when FGC and PRC will receive and evaluate proposals and hear discussion about potential changes to the MPA network, as well as the criteria used to determine if action by either commission is warranted	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	FGC, PRC	2017
1.2 Oversee and maintain effective MPA regulations	1.2.1 Adopt regulations that are clear accurate and enforceable	Regulatory ambiguities, inaccuracies, needs or enforcement challenges are addressed through the rulemaking process	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	FGC, DFW, DPR, PRC	2015 - 2018
1.3 Partner agencies identify emerging issues and develop recommendations to address them	1.3.1 MPA SLT serves as a forum for agency communication about emerging issues identified by staff or constituents that may require a response by more than one agency	Members of the MPA SLT raise emerging issues to staff at partner agencies and elevate them when appropriate, including at the biannual "MPA Milestones" meetings that all MPA SLT agency Directors attend	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	FGC, PRC	2015 - 2018
1.4 Assess pending agency regulations for potential impacts to MPAs	1.4.1 Partner agencies provide informal input to proposed regulations that may affect MPAs early in the process	Proposed new or revised regulations that could affect MPAs are brought to MPA SLT meetings for discussion prior to adoption	Coastal Regulatory Agencies (CCC, CSLC, FGC, DFW, DPR, PRC, SWRCB)	OPC	2015 - 2018
1.5 Clarify MPA network objectives	1.5.1 Conduct review of original intent regarding placement, design, and regulations of the MPA network	Coastal Regulatory Commissions have access to a comprehensive inventory that captures existing documentation regarding design considerations for each MPA in the network	FGC, CN, OPC, DFW	FGC, DFW	2018
	1.5.2 Assess whether stated goals and objectives of MPAs are compatible with the design considerations	FGC identifies any MPAs that may be out of alignment with the adopted design considerations	FGC, DFW	FGC, DFW	2018
1.6 Continue discussions with tribal governments about management	1.6.1 Respond to requests for information sharing and tribal consultations	Hold meetings with Tribal governments for the purpose of identifying areas of common ground and areas of disagreement that will help inform further discussion.	DFW, FGC, OPC	FGC, DFW	2015 - 2018
<b>Strategic Priority 2 Integrate MLPA and MPA network goals, objectives and partnership-based management approach into relevant management documents</b>					
<b>Key Action</b>	<b>Action Summary</b>	<b>Outcome Required/ Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Lead Responsibility</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
2.1 Update MLPA Master Plan (Master Plan)	2.1.1 Update language regarding MPA management review cycle	MLPA Master Plan update includes a clearly defined management review cycle that is explicitly connected to adaptive management of the MPA network	DFW, OPC, FGC	DFW	2015

	2.1.2 Align monitoring section with other relevant documents	Monitoring section of the MLPA Master Plan is aligned with the existing MPA monitoring framework and regional monitoring plans	DFW, OPC, OST, FGC	DFW	2015
2.2 Insert relevant content into MLMA Master Plan update	2.2.1 Describe role and value of partnerships	Relevant sections of the MLMA Master Plan update (such as development of FMPs, assessing impacts on non-consumptive users, and public involvement strategy) include language about partnerships	DFW, FGC, OPC	DFW	2016 - 2018
	2.2.2 Highlight value of MPA monitoring data	MLMA Master Plan update references MPA monitoring data in relevant contexts	DFW, FGC, OPC, OST	DFW	2016 - 2018
2.3 As SWRCB planning and policy documents are updated, insert relevant content	2.3.1 Integrate considerations of the MPA network during development of Once Through Cooling (OTC) policy amendment where relevant	Adopted amendment to SWRCB OTC Policy includes relevant references to MPA network goals, objectives, and partnership-based management	OPC, SWRCB	SWRCB	2016
2.4 Insert relevant content into agency Strategic Plan updates	2.4.1 CSLC Strategic Plan update reflects CSLC commitments regarding MPAs	Relevant portions of the CSLC Strategic Plan reference MPAs and CSLC's specific role with respect to MPA management	OPC, CSLC	CSLC	2015
	2.4.2 CCC Strategic Plan update reflects CCC commitments regarding MPAs	Relevant portions of the CCC Strategic Plan reference MPAs and CCC's specific role with respect to MPA management	OPC, CCC	CCC	2018
<b>Strategic Priority 3 – Enhanced protection for MPA resources is provided in relevant resource agency authorizations</b>					
<b>Key Action</b>	<b>Action Summary</b>	<b>Outcome Required/ Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Lead Responsibility</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
3.1 Create tools to improve and highlight inter-agency coordination	3.1.1 Conduct inventory of existing interagency MPA coordination procedures	White paper outlining and summarizing: legislative or policy foundations for special consideration of MPAs, current agency practices, and recommendations to improve communication and coordination is created and distributed to agency staff	CSLC, CCC, SWRCB, OPC	OPC	2015
		Public document discussing how agencies coordinate is broadly distributed to relevant stakeholders	OPC	OPC	2015
3.2 Improve consistency in approach to analyzing impacts of projects to MPAs	3.2.1 Develop internal interagency coordination guidance document for staff use	Interagency coordination document includes an identified MPA point of contact for each agency	OPC	OPC	2015 – 2016
	3.2.2 Guidance document for using CEQA for MPAs	Develop guidance document for state agencies that serve as lead for CEQA review which includes broadly applicable suggestions on avoiding and minimizing impacts to MPAs	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OPC	2017
	3.2.3 Draft MPA-specific guidance for potential inclusion in next Office of Planning and Research CEQA guideline update	CEQA guidelines require lead agencies to consider factors such as sediment re-suspension, invasive species introduction, substrate disturbance, noise effects on living organisms, and water quality impacts when determining the significance of project impacts to MPAs	MPA Statewide Leadership Team	OPC/CNRA	2018

<b>Strategic Priority 4 - Identify marine resource enhancement/mitigation opportunities and impact avoidance strategies within or associated with MPAs</b>					
<b>Key Action</b>	<b>Action Summary</b>	<b>Outcome Required/ Performance Indicator</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Lead Responsibility</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
4.1 Develop knowledge base from existing data regarding marine resource enhancement, mitigation, and impact avoidance strategies pertinent to MPAs	4.1.1 Review MPA monitoring results to identify areas that may benefit from marine resource enhancement, mitigation, or impact avoidance strategies	Develop regional lists and/or maps that identify opportunities for marine resource enhancement, mitigation, or impact avoidance strategies in the MPA network	DFW, OST, OPC	OST	2016
	4.1.2 Consult with local MPA Collaboratives about opportunities for marine resource enhancement, mitigation, or impact avoidance	Regional lists and maps developed under 4.1.1 depict opportunities identified by local MPA Collaboratives	DFW, OST, OPC, CN	OPC and CN	2016
	4.1.3 Inventory projects related to marine resource enhancement, mitigation and impact avoidance strategies that could benefit the MPA network	Regional lists identify successful/unsuccessful projects as well as projects that require additional funding to reach completion	DFW, DPR, SWRCB, CSLC, OPC, OST, CCC	OPC	2016
4.2 Use regulatory/policy tools to carry out marine resource enhancement, mitigation, or impact avoidance strategies	4.2.1 Identify opportunities for marine resource enhancement, mitigation, or impact avoidance strategies in current regulatory/policy requirements at participating MPA SLT agencies	Create internal document summarizing relevant regulatory/policy requirements relevant to marine resource enhancement, mitigation, or impact avoidance strategies	DFW, CSLC, CCC, SWRCB, OPC	OPC	2017
4.3 Identify and support research projects on MPA mitigation	4.3.1. Utilize existing and promote new research to evaluate MPA mitigation projects	State agencies on the Resources Agency Sea Grant Advisory Panel (RASGAP) assert the importance of funding research proposals that assess potential MPA mitigation strategies	CSLC, CCC SWRCB, DFW, OPC	OPC	2016 - 2018



**Resolution of the California Ocean Protection Council regarding the MPA Statewide  
Leadership Team and Work Plan FY 15/16 -17/18**

Adopted on September 22, 2015

WHEREAS, California has implemented an effectively managed statewide network of marine protected areas (MPAs) as a key management tool for supporting the natural diversity and abundance of marine life and increasing the resilience of ecosystems against impacts, including changing ocean conditions associated with climate change; and

WHEREAS, California's network of MPAs spans over 1100 miles of coastline and crosses multiple jurisdictions of state and federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, California is transitioning from the planning and implementation to the management phase for the network of MPAs designated under the Marine Life Protection Act through a science-based stakeholder driven process; and

WHEREAS, the California Ocean Protection Council (OPC) as the policy lead for MPAs brought together leadership from state agencies and other partners to develop a collaborative approach to managing MPAs called the "The California Collaborative Approach: Marine Protected Areas Partnership Plan" (Partnership Plan); and

WHEREAS, the Partnership Plan was formally endorsed by both the OPC and the Fish and Game Commission (FGC); and

WHEREAS, the Secretary for Natural Resources has designated the MPA Statewide Leadership Team, comprised of OPC, FGC, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Ocean Science Trust and other partners, who have significant statewide authority affecting MPAs to ensure a coordinated and effective approach to MPA network management; and

WHEREAS, the MPA Statewide Leadership Team serves as a standing body to ensure active and effective coordination and communication related to MPA management and will receive notification from all team members when their agency is proposing regulatory or other action that may affect the MPA network; and

WHEREAS, the MPA Statewide Leadership Team has created a work plan that reflects shared priorities among the members in four focal areas that are required for successful MPA network management which include: outreach and education; enforcement and compliance; research and monitoring; and policy and permitting; and

Resolution of the California Ocean Protection Council regarding the MPA Statewide  
Leadership Team and Work Plan FY 15/16 -17/18  
Adopted on September 22, 2015

WHEREAS, the “MPA Statewide Leadership Team Work Plan FY 15/16 – 17/18” emphasizes a continued partnership-based approach to MPA management, that includes leveraging resources, continued strong communication and collaboration with tribal and non-governmental partners and active engagement in all of the four focal areas; 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 15/16 – 17/18” (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.