



CALIFORNIA OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL

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MEMORANDUM

TO: California Ocean and Coastal Community

FROM: Mike Chrisman, Secretary for Resources
Chair, California Ocean Protection Council

DATE: January 27, 2006

SUBJECT: Ocean Protection Council Initiatives on Ecosystem-based Management

The U.S. and Pew Ocean Commissions and Governor Schwarzenegger's Ocean Action Plan highlight the need for a holistic and interdisciplinary approach to ocean protection through ecosystem-based management. Today, California Sea Grant <http://www-csgc.ucsd.edu/> and the University of Southern California Sea Grant <http://www.usc.edu/org/seagrant/> programs will release calls for proposals on their Web sites for research to implement ecosystem-based management.

This special solicitation is funded by the California Ocean Protection Council (OPC). The OPC has committed \$1 million for research that addresses priorities in the *California Ocean and Coastal Information, Research, and Outreach Strategy* http://resources.ca.gov/copc/InfoResOut_Strategy_final.pdf Ecosystem-based management is a key priority in the OPC's Information, Research and Outreach Strategy.

In addition to this partnership with Sea Grant, the OPC is funding projects to help implement ecosystem-based management in California. At its Jan. 13 meeting, the OPC approved \$11.9 million for ecosystem-based management programs. These programs include:

- \$10 million of State Water Resources Control Board funds for grants to improve coastal water quality
- \$1.2 million to map the sea floor off the northern Central California Coast
- \$500,000 to implement an ecosystem-based management program in Morro Bay
- \$125,000 to develop a long-term management plan to protect the subtidal habitats in San Francisco Bay
- \$110,000 to develop a statewide plan to manage aquatic invasive species

The OPC will continue to support initiatives implementing ecosystem-based management to meet its mandate to improve the protection and management of California's ocean and coastal resources. For more information on the OPC, please see <http://resources.ca.gov/copc/>