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OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL ANNOUNCES SALMON PROTECTION WORKSHOP

Public Session in Eureka Aimed at Improving California's Efforts to Protect Salmon

Sacramento - The Ocean Protection Council (OPC) will hold a public workshop Aug. 26 in Eureka to discuss how California's policies and practices may better protect salmon fisheries. The workshop will take place from 6-8 p.m. at the Agriculture Center, 5630 South Broadway.

The OPC recognizes that California has already benefitted from a significant amount of work by thousands of people on salmon issues and seeks to build on and maximize these investments.

The workshop has two main goals: (1) to identify the top causes of wild salmon population decline and (2) to receive feedback from the public about how the OPC can help ensure wild populations of salmon exist in California for future generations. There is a particular interest in statewide policy objectives for salmon and the core strategies being used to achieve those objectives.

The 2008 commercial and recreational salmon seasons have been sharply curtailed in California due to serious declines in population. These cutbacks have had significant impacts on fishermen, fishing-related businesses, local communities, tourism, and a large part of California's cultural heritage.

The OPC was created by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2004 as part of California's Ocean Protection Act to set policy and promote legislation on critical ocean and coastal issues. The OPC has seven members:

- Secretary for Resources, Mike Chrisman, Chair
- Chair of the State Lands Commission, John Chiang
- Secretary for Cal/EPA, Linda Adams
- Public member, Susan Golding
- Public member, Geraldine Knatz
- State Senator, Darrell Steinberg
- State Assemblyman, Pedro Nava

To learn more about the OPC visit www.resources.ca.gov/copc.