



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
OFFICE OF OCEAN AND COASTAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

November 17, 2008

Members of the Board,

I am writing this letter to acknowledge the proposed role of the California State Coastal Conservancy as the state fiscal agent for the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) Section 315 funds awarded by NOAA to the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR). This proposed funding arrangement preserves the role of the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) as the state partner in the programmatic implementation of the Reserve and includes the California State Coastal Conservancy as a state fiscal agent that acts on behalf of DFG to administer the funds for the purposes they were awarded.

The above arrangement is contingent upon the review and approval of a Memorandum of Agreement among NOAA, the Department of Fish and Game, and the California State Coastal Conservancy. This MOA will outline NOAA's role as the federal partner, DFG's role as the state partner, and the Conservancy's role as the state fiscal agent acting on behalf of the state partner.

I support the Conservancy's willingness to assist the Elkhorn Slough NERR and the California Department of Fish and Game by acting as the state fiscal agent for the administration of the CZMA Section 315 funds awarded by NOAA to the Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Laurie McGilvray".

 Laurie McGilvray, Chief
Estuarine Reserves Division, NOAA

