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**Assembly
California Legislature**



TONI ATKINS
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SEVENTY-EIGHTH DISTRICT
MAJORITY LEADER

COMMITTEES
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BIOTECHNOLOGY
COASTAL PROTECTION
PORTS
SEA LEVEL RISE AND THE
CALIFORNIA ECONOMY

JOINT COMMITTEES
RULES
JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT

May 21, 2013

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Re: Support for Olympia Oyster Restoration Plan for San Diego Bay

Dear Chairman Bosco and Members of the State Coastal Conservancy:

I am pleased to learn about the development of an Olympia Oyster Restoration Plan for San Diego Bay. I write in support of efforts to restore and enhance the Bay's habitats, while also investigating natural approaches to provide shoreline protection. Living Shorelines projects provide us with tools for adapting to sea level rise, while also increasing subtidal habitat for highly valuable marine species.

I am especially pleased to see that the Southwest Wetlands Interpretive Association (SWIA) will manage the grant funds and oversee the project. I also applaud the San Diego Unified Port District for partnering on this exciting project that will enhance an important area of the bay that has national and statewide importance. Greater coverage of oysters in San Diego Bay will improve water quality while increasing food sources for migratory birds and fish that are important to the bay's recreational opportunities.

Policymakers are increasingly recognizing that the ecosystem services provided by oysters have real economic value. The San Diego Bay community pays for polluted waters through increased regulation, fewer commercial and recreationally important fish, and lower water quality for visitors to San Diego Bay to enjoy. Restoring the native Olympia oyster for cleansing coastal bays and estuaries is a promising proposition to address these issues.

I look forward to learning more about restoring native oysters in San Diego Bay.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Toni Atkins".

TONI ATKINS
Majority Leader
78th Assembly District





May 21, 2013

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Support for Olympia Oyster Restoration Plan for San Diego Bay

Dear Chairman Bosco:

The Port of San Diego (Port) is recommending the State Coastal Conservancy support the Southwest Wetlands Interpretive Association's (SWIA) application to fund the development of an Olympia Oyster Restoration Plan for San Diego Bay. As the environmental stewards of San Diego Bay's natural resources, the Port supports efforts to restore and enhance the Bay's habitats, while also investigating natural approaches to provide shoreline protection. Living shorelines projects such as a native oyster bed restoration could provide us with tools for adapting to sea level rise, while also increasing sub-tidal habitat for highly valuable marine species.

We recognize the economic value provided by oyster reefs to protect the shoreline from erosion and potential flooding. This project would further the Port's goals in the Bay's Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan of protecting existing coastal wetlands. Additionally, restoring the native Olympia oyster habitat will assist with cleansing the Bay's water helping us meet our water quality goals.

The Port supports this project and looks forward to another project partnership with SWIA. Additionally, the Port will assist with seeking funds in the construction of a native oyster bed in San Diego Bay. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at (619) 686-6254.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Eileen Maher".

Eileen Maher, Assistant Director
Environmental and Land Use Management

EMM/br
File: Shoreline Erosion
Cc: Jason Giffen
DM# 581718



State Water Resources Control Board

MAY 17 2013

Ms. Megan Cooper
Project Manager
Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Ms. Cooper:

SAN DIEGO BAY NATIVE OYSTER RESTORATION PROJECT (PROJECT)

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this Project. You requested that we review the Project for consistency with the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board) activities under the Clean Beaches Initiative Program (CBI) (Chap 3, Div. 20.4 of the Public Resources Code).

Division of Financial Assistance (Division) staff reviewed the "Project Synopsis" included with your letter. The Project appears consistent with the goals of the CBI.

Division staff also discussed the Project with staff of the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board). The Project appears consistent with existing water quality control plans and policies of the State Water Board and the Regional Water Board.

If you have questions regarding this letter, please contact me at (916) 341-5167, or pleary@waterboards.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patricia Leary".

Patricia Leary
Manager
Clean Beaches Initiative Grant Program

Exhibit 3: Project Letters



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
COMMANDER NAVY REGION SOUTHWEST
937 NO. HARBOR DR.
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92132-0058

IN REPLY REFER TO:
5090
Ser N40JRR.cs/023
May 31, 2013

Douglas Bosco, Chairman
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Bosco:

SUBJECT: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR OLYMPIA OYSTER RESTORATION
PLAN FOR SAN DIEGO BAY

The U.S. Navy supports the Southwest Wetlands Interpretive Association's (SWIA) application for funds for development of an Olympia Oyster Restoration Plan for San Diego Bay. As a major cooperative steward of San Diego Bay's natural resources, the Navy supports stewardship efforts to restore and enhance the Bay's habitats, while also investigating natural approaches to provide shoreline protection. Living shorelines projects such as a native oyster bed restoration could provide San Diego with tools for adapting to sea level rise, while also increasing sub tidal habitat for highly valuable marine species.

Policy makers are increasingly recognizing that "ecosystem services" provided by oysters have real economic value. The San Diego Bay community pays for polluted waters through increased regulation, fewer commercial and recreationally important fish, and lower water quality for visitors to San Diego Bay. Restoring the native Olympia oyster for cleansing coastal bays and estuaries is a promising proposition for San Diego Bay.

The Navy looks forward to future partnerships with San Diego Bay stakeholders, working to enhance water quality and shoreline integrity while sustaining military mission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. L. Stathos". The signature is written in a cursive style.

C. L. STATHOS
By direction