



# United States Department of the Interior

## U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services  
Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office  
2493 Portola Road, Suite B  
Ventura, California 93003



## Statement of Work

### **Award Number:**

### **Project Title:**

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BeachCOMBERS: Coastal Ocean Mammal and Bird Education and Research Surveys

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### **Project description:**

The BeachCOMBERS program was established in 1997 to monitor natural and human-related mortality of marine birds, mammals, and turtles. This program involves the use of highly trained citizen scientists to conduct surveys using standardized effort, frequency, and search areas, allowing for the comparison of relative changes in the deposition rate of marine birds and providing a monthly index of ecosystem health in the survey area. As of May 2019, the program has more than 100 active volunteers who survey beaches from Santa Cruz to Los Angeles counties (Figure 1). This program has been greatly successful in providing data for a number of scientific papers, contributing to the conservation of sanctuary resources, identifying and quantifying oiled wildlife, and a great many more accomplishments. This funding comes from the NRDAR Torch Trustee Council and would facilitate the continued support of the BeachCOMBERS program.

Goals and Objectives: The goal of this project is to continue the BeachCOMBERS program. Moss Landing Marine Laboratories (MLML) will help transition project management to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS; Service) and assist in leading trainings for the new BeachCOMBERS application (app). The Service and MLML will work cooperatively in further developing the conservation project of this agreement. Further, each shall:

#### U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:

- Program-wide Data Management:
    - Work with MLML on BeachCOMBERS database transition
    - Manage the BeachCOMBERS database
    - Input data from written datasheets and manage the BeachCOMBERS application
  - Volunteer Coordination for South Coast Chapter:
    - Co-lead training for citizen scientists, including recruitment of volunteers, in South Coast Chapter
    - Manage citizen scientists to ensure consistent coverage for all South Coast Chapter beaches
    - Help provide survey coverage for local beaches when a volunteer isn't able to conduct the survey during the scheduled time and a trained replacement cannot be found
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**Moss Landing Marine Laboratories:**

- Data Management Transition:
  - Assist USFWS with database transition
  - Assist with BeachCOMBERS app roll-out and training for North Coast Volunteers
  - Enter data for North Coast Volunteer for two years (80 hours/year)
  - Review QA/QC protocol for datasheets with USFWS
  - Work with USFWS to allow the continued uploading of data to the CeNCOOS Portal
- Volunteer Coordination for North Coast Chapter
  - Lead training for citizen scientists in all chapters
  - Recruit volunteers as necessary in North Coast Chapter
  - Manage survey teams in North Coast Chapter
- Provide technical assistance to support the transition to management of the BeachCOMBERS Program from MLML to the USFWS

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**California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Office of Spill Prevention and Response**

- Volunteer Coordination for Central Coast Chapter
  - Recruit volunteers as necessary in Central Coast Chapter
  - Manage survey teams in Central Coast Chapter

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**Deliverables:**

Deliverables for MLML are as follows:

- Volunteer Coordination for the North Coast Chapter for 3 years
- Lead four volunteer trainings in the South Coast Chapter over next 3 years
- Lead one training in the Central Coast Chapter over the next 3 years
- Lead two trainings in the North Coast Chapter; including app training over the next 3 years

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**Project maps/photos:**

*See attached.*

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**Budget:**

Object Class Categories		Torch TC Funding
<b>Personnel</b>		<b>\$9,988</b>
	<i>Year 1 – MLML Graduate Student 186 hours at \$20/hour</i>	\$3720
	<i>Year 2 – MLML Graduate Student 178 hours at \$22/hour</i>	\$3916
	<i>Year 3 – MLML Graduate Student 98 hours at \$24/hour</i>	\$2,352
<b>Fringe benefits</b>		<b>\$879</b>
<b>Travel</b>		<b>\$3,935</b>
	Fuel	\$1,405
	<i>4 trips to/from VFWO and 1 trip to/from Morro Bay at \$0.58/mile</i>	

8 nights in Ventura at \$181/night; 2 nights in Morro Bay at \$124/night		Hotel	\$1,700
4 trips to Ventura and 1 trip to Morro Bay at \$166/trip		Meals	\$830
<b>Supplies</b>			<b>\$1,545</b>
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>			<b>\$16,347</b>
<b>Facilities and Administrative Costs (52.5%)</b>			<b>\$8,582.18</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$24,929.18</b>

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**Service Project Officer:**

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**Recipient Project Officer:**

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*Statement of Work prepared by:*

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Colleen Grant	
<i>Name</i>	<i>Date</i>
Fish and Wildlife Biologist	
<i>Title</i>	

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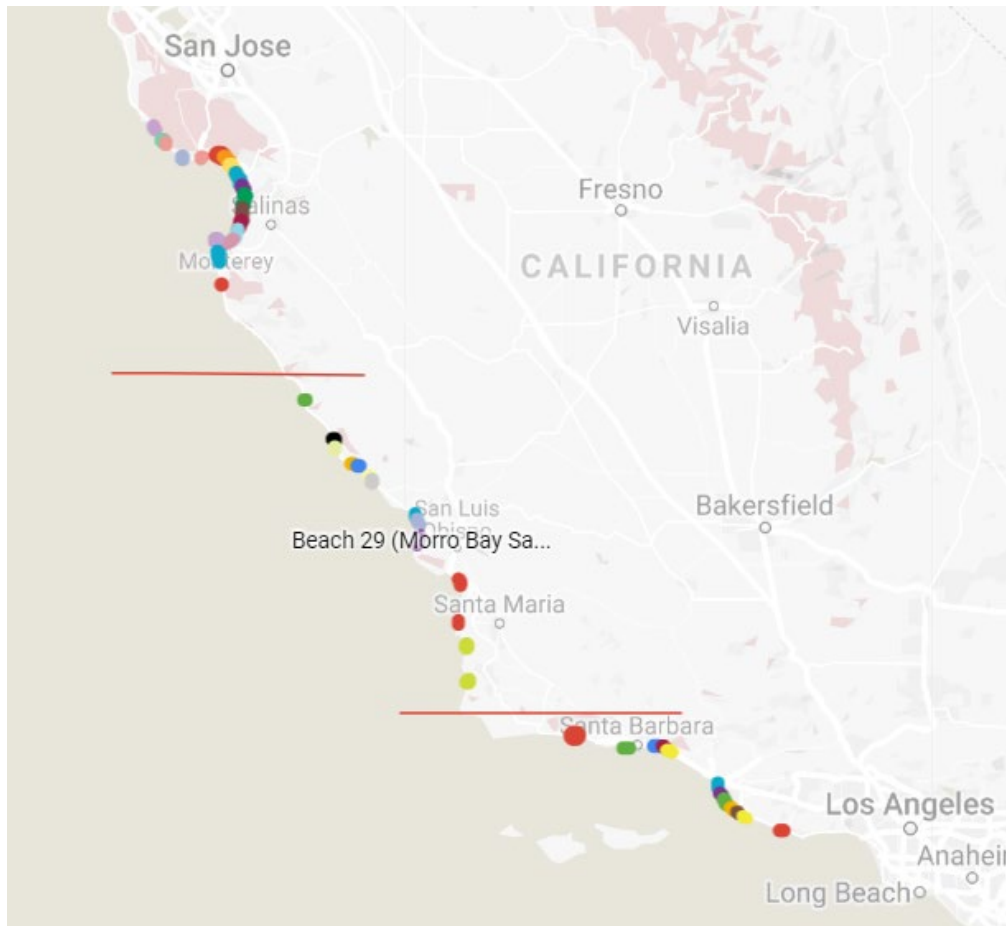


Figure 1. Beach segments for North, Central, and South Coast Chapters of BeachCOMBERS