

**California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative**  
**Draft Recommended Executive Order by the**  
**Governor of the State of California**  
*August 28, 2006 Draft*

WHEREAS, California has been a national and global leader in ocean and coastal management, and the state should continue this leadership role; and

WHEREAS, ocean planning and regulation has historically been fragmented at both the federal level and within California, resulting in reduced efficiency and effectiveness of efforts to ensure clean water, productive habitats, sustainable fisheries and functioning recreational beaches; and

WHEREAS, the Marine Life Protection Act recognizes that California's marine protected areas (MPAs) have been established on a piecemeal basis rather than according to a coherent plan and sound scientific guidelines; and,

WHEREAS, the first Master Plan to guide the adoption and implementation of the Marine Life Protection Program has been drafted; and,

WHEREAS, the California Fish and Game Commission has identified its first preferred alternative package of MPA for the central coast; and

WHEREAS, implementation of the Master Plan should be completed by 2011 pursuant to commitments and activities by and among state agencies; and

WHEREAS, the California Ocean Protection Act established a high-level California Ocean Protection Council with a mission to help ensure comprehensive and coordinated management, conservation and enhancement of California's ocean and coastal resources for their intrinsic value and for the benefit of current and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the California Ocean Protection Act charges the Ocean Protection Council with coordinating activities of state agencies to improve the effectiveness of state efforts to protect ocean and coastal resources and to establish policies to coordinate the collection and sharing of scientific data related to coastal and ocean resources; and

WHEREAS, it is important for the state to seek consensus (where possible) with stakeholder groups on ocean and coastal research priorities for California and then to work with these stakeholder groups to obtain the funding, to share resources and to apply the knowledge gained to real world management challenges; and

WHEREAS, the state should form collaborative partnerships with not only those providing K-12 and collegiate formal education, but also institutions, organizations and governmental agencies providing informal education opportunities for the public, from pre-schoolers to senior citizens, including underserved minorities, on ocean and coastal resources management issues; and

WHEREAS, the California Ocean Protection Council will identify and prioritize issues that may benefit from additional coordination.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the State of California, do hereby issue this Executive Order to become effective immediately:

**Implementation of the Marine Life Protection Act**

1. To further implementation of the Marine Life Protection Act, and consistent with the recommendations of the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force, the California Ocean Protection Council shall immediately prepare an agreement between the Ocean Protection Council and each state agency or department with jurisdiction over ocean and coastal resources (or with jurisdiction over matters affecting the state's ability to regulate ocean and coastal resources), committing each such agency or department to assist in developing and supporting any marine protected areas established pursuant to the Marine Life Protection Act and to implement the provisions of the Marine Life Protection Act with a goal of full implementation of the Master Plan for MPAs by 2011.
2. The lead executive officer of each such agency or department under my direct executive authority shall execute the agreement prepared by the Ocean Protection Council, and I respectfully request that all other agencies or departments with jurisdiction over ocean and coastal resources join the agreement.
3. The Ocean Protection Council shall support the Department of Fish and Game and the Fish and Game Commission in implementing the Marine Life Protection Act beyond the central coast region to other areas in the state and will assist in securing funding that the Department of Fish and Game and any other state agencies or departments will need to manage a statewide network of MPAs.
4. The Department of Fish and Game shall expedite the expenditure of funds for implementing the Marine Life Protection Act, including but not limited to funds authorized by the Legislature or by bonds or ballot measures that approve the expenditure of funds for ocean or coastal protection.

**California Ocean Protection Council**

5. The California Ocean Protection Council shall coordinate activities of state agencies to improve the effectiveness of state efforts to protect ocean and coastal resources and shall establish policies to coordinate the collection and sharing of scientific data related to ocean and coastal resources.
6. All agencies with jurisdiction over ocean and coastal resources, or with jurisdiction over matters affecting the ability to regulate ocean and coastal resources, shall work with the Ocean Protection Council to improve the coordination of ocean and coastal resource policy development, implementation and enforcement.

7. The Ocean Protection Council shall develop policies, practices and recommendations to be followed by all state agencies to improve coordination with federal, regional and local government entities in regulating ocean and coastal resources.
8. By December 2006, the Ocean Protection Council shall inventory laws and identify gaps or overlapping jurisdictions affecting priority ocean and coastal issues, and by May 2007, working with all relevant state agencies, shall identify necessary changes to regulations, legislation or other tools to improve ocean governance.
9. By May 2007, the Ocean Protection Council shall identify all ocean and coastal protection enforcement authorities, programs and budgets, and convene a task force to provide recommendations to the Ocean Protection Council on more efficient ways of conducting and coordinating enforcement.
10. The Ocean Protection Council shall report to me every six months on its progress to improve collaboration and cooperation in managing ocean and coastal resources. The report shall specifically identify obstacles in securing collaborative and cooperative regulatory activities and, when identified, recommend strategies to reduce or overcome such obstacles.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that agencies under my direct executive authority shall cooperate in implementing this order. Other entities of state government not under my direct executive authority, including the University of California, the California State University, California Community College System, constitutional officers, and legislative and judicial branches, are requested to assist in its implementation.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that as soon as hereafter possible, this order shall be filed with the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice shall be given to this Order.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have here unto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this [ ] day of [Month] 2006.

Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor of California

ATTEST:

Bruce McPherson  
Secretary of State