

# California Legislature

March 22, 2017

To the Honorable Members of the California Congressional Delegation:

The undersigned members of the California Legislature are deeply alarmed by and strongly oppose potential budget cuts in FY2018 to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), including the possible elimination of Coastal Zone Management (CZM) State Grants, the National Sea Grant Program, the National Estuarine Research Reserves, Regional Coastal Resiliency Grants, and NOAA's satellite data ocean monitoring system.

These programs and the federal funds that support them are of vital importance to our state. Federal CZM State Grants provide direct support to – and are matched by – California's three coastal management agencies: the Coastal Commission; the Coastal Conservancy; and, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission. Significant state funding also leverages the federal investment in the three California National Estuarine Research Reserves. These federal dollars bolster the increasingly important partnership between coastal states and the federal government and recognize the fact that active coastal management is essential to the national interest.

California's coastal communities, ports and harbors, its \$44 billion ocean economy, and the entire Bay Area are facing unprecedented challenges due to rising sea levels and extreme storm events. All three coastal state agencies carry out essential work to manage our coastal, shoreline, and ocean resources, including addressing coastal hazards that threaten our communities, ensuring the resilience of critical infrastructure and public resources, and helping local communities plan and support strong economies. Eliminating CZM funding and ocean-based satellite data collection at a time when all coastal states are at increasing risk from these growing threats is nothing less than folly.

The Sea Grant Program provides a steady stream of highly qualified Science Fellows into state agencies, building a network connecting these agencies to educational institutions across the nation. California's three National Estuarine Research Reserves provide direct benefits to their surrounding communities through education and public use programs as well as by serving as nurseries for a variety of sea creatures and indispensable field laboratories for learning about California's estuaries and the tidal wetlands that protect our shorelines.

Eliminating these programs will have a devastating impact on California's coastline, economy, and quality of life for millions of residents and coastal visitors, and will result in many more billions of dollars in economic losses. We implore you, as our state's federal representatives, to oppose these ill-conceived reductions and provide funding to the programs that protect our nation's coast, including California's 1,200-mile coastline, and the 450 mile shoreline of the San Francisco Estuary.

Respectfully,

Mark St... AD29

Robert A. Wiederschi SD10

Joni Atkins SD39

And m. M... SD18

Bill Oadd SD3

George Hill SD13

[Signature] AD49

[Signature] AD62

Mara Linn AD10

Steven M. Leger SD7

[Signature] AD7

[Signature] AD80

[Signature] AD70

[Signature] SD17

Arnold-Edith Jackson 5019

Ar Kur AD 27

Clodena AD 24

Hutchell SD 30

BeAlle SD 26

John A SD 27

Kurch AD 25

D. M. ... AD 66

Dr AD 43

Jing ... AD 51

Ken Miller AD 22

Sw ... AD 14

Brian Malesdein AD 77

Critin Ann AD 58

Ar Caldera AD 57

Mari Jim AD 37

Blanca C. Rubio AD 48

Ru ... AD 50

Daniel ... AD 17

Ge ... 56AD

Ken Cooley AD8

AD13

AD24

AD30