

The California Coastal Management Agencies
 California Coastal Commission
 California State Coastal Conservancy
 San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission



July 12, 2021

To the Members of the California Congressional Delegation:

On behalf of the California Coastal Commission, California State Coastal Conservancy, and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, California's three federally certified coastal zone management agencies, we strongly urge you to support the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) budget as proposed in the FY 2022 President's Budget. This funding is critical to supporting California's coastal management programs and implementing the State's coastal protection laws, especially as California's coast faces a risk of sea level rise of up to 7.6 feet by the end of the century. Whether your constituents live along the coast, or visit from their homes in California, we all benefit from the environmental and economic strength of California's coast. Additionally, California's coastal program is a vital component to maintaining safe, healthy, and prosperous coastal and Bay communities throughout the state.

For decades, NOAA's Coastal Management Grants have been largely stagnant while demands on state coastal programs to address emerging issues, such as sea level rise and other coastal hazards, have increased markedly. The President has requested a total increase of \$1.5 billion over NOAA's FY 2021 enacted budget to accelerate NOAA's efforts to research, help local communities adapt to, and mitigate the impacts of climate change. This historic budget includes a much-needed increase of \$30 million for Coastal Management Grants that states would use to better prepare for, and enhance resilience to, storms, flooding and inundation, erosion, sea level rise, tsunamis, and other natural hazards that are affecting coastal communities

The increased funding in the President's budget would support our programs that work directly with coastal communities to ensure that people, property, and habitat are safe from coastal hazards like rising seas. The additional resources would also enable California to support enhanced public access, coastal habitat restoration and protection, and living shoreline projects that minimize future damage from flooding and enhance economic benefits for communities.

We are grateful that the President's Budget request reflects the importance of NOAA programs, and particularly the critical work California and the nation's coastal states do with support from Coastal Management Grants. We hope that you will take the needs of our own coastal state into account as you consider the myriad funding priorities for the FY 2022 federal budget. We urge you in the strongest possible terms to represent California's interests in supporting the NOAA budget as proposed in the FY 2022 President's Budget.

Please do not hesitate to contact any of us with any questions or concerns that you may have.

R. ZACHARY WASSERMAN, Chair
 San Francisco Bay Conservation
 and Development Commission

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DOUGLAS BOSCO, Chair
 California State Coastal
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STEVE PADILLA, Chair
 California Coastal Commission

