



CALIFORNIA OCEAN PROTECTION COUNCIL

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Matt Rodriguez, Secretary for Environmental Protection
John Chiang, State Controller, State Lands Commission Chair
Susan Golding, Public Member
Geraldine Knatz, Public Member
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Toni Atkins, State Assemblymember

August 9, 2012

Dear Connie Anderson,

The purpose of this letter is to generally inform you about California's potential permit requirements for scientific experiments, pilot projects, and other short-term research projects (hereinafter collectively referred to as "research") to be conducted in marine waters. Although these activities may be temporary, you may nevertheless need authorization from the landowner and the state's boards, departments, and commissions as well as federal agencies involved in natural resource management prior to conducting your research.

Not all ocean-based research requires prior approvals. However, research in coastal and marine environments frequently involves the placement, operation, and maintenance of monitoring equipment such as data loggers, sensors, and recorders as well as the infrastructure, power sources, and anchoring devices needed to support that equipment. Depending on the composition and size of these materials, their location, and length of time in place, the California State Lands Commission, California Coastal Commission, California Department of Fish and Game, California Department of Parks and Recreation, and the State and Regional Water Resources Control Boards may need to review the proposed research activity for consistency with their statutory authorities. The collection or removal of physical materials (such as sand, rock, or seawater), habitats, and/or plants or animals from coastal and marine areas for research purposes may also require authorization by some of these same boards, departments and commissions. Additionally, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, may have special permit requirements for research.

Please find attached a chart with a list of state boards, departments, and commissions, federal agencies and relevant contacts that should be consulted prior to carrying out your research. Most entities have minor permit requirements or other streamlined approval processes (e.g., Letters of No Objection) for short-term activities that are designed and located in a manner that will not result in adverse impacts to the marine environment (e.g., disturbance of sensitive species or habitats, release of marine debris, or uptake of water and discharge of waste).

Please consider contacting these government entities early in your planning process so that you have ample time to obtain any required approvals before undertaking your ocean-based research activities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Laird". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John Laird
California Ocean Protection Council, Chair
Secretary of Natural Resources

Attachment: California Boards, Departments and Commissions and Federal Agencies Contacts

California Boards, Departments and Commissions	
<i>Agency</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Department of Parks and Recreation	Kevin Fleming Natural Resources Division kfleming@parks.ca.gov (916) 651-6940
Department of Fish and Game	Gina del Rosa License and Revenue Branch (916) 928-5849 http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/nongame/research_permit/
Fish and Game Commission	Adrianna Shea (916) 653-4899 http://www.fgc.ca.gov/
State Water Resources Control Board	Division of Water Quality Connie Anderson (916) 341 – 5280 CSAnderson@waterboards.ca.gov Mariela Paz Carpio-Obeso Ocean Standards Unit Mcarpio-obeso@waterboards.ca.gov (916) 341-5858 http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/beaches/ Phil Isorena SWRCB/Waste Water NPDES permits PIsorena@waterboards.ca.gov (916) 341-5544 Greg Gearheart SWRCB/ Storm Water NPDES permits ggearheart@waterboards.ca.gov (916) 341-5892 http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/npdes/
North Coast Regional Water Board (Region 1)	Luis Rivera lriviera@waterboards.ca.gov Office: (707) 570- 3769 http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/
San Francisco Bay Regional Water Board (Region 2)	Thomas Mumley tmumley@waterboards.ca.gov Office: (510) 622-2395 http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/
Central Coast Regional	Michael Thomas

Water Board (Region 3)	mthomas@waterboards.ca.gov Office: (805) 542-4623 http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/
Los Angeles Regional Water Board (Region 4)	Deborah Smith dsmith@waterboards.ca.gov (213) 576-6609 http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/
Santa Ana Regional Water Board (Region 8)	Kurt Berchtold kberchtold@waterboards.ca.gov Office: (951) 782-3286 http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/santaana/
San Diego Regional Water Board (Region 9)	James Smith jsmith@waterboards.ca.gov Office: 858-467-2732 http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/
California State Lands Commission	Grace Kato Land Management Division Grace.Kato@slc.ca.gov (916) 574-1227
California Coastal Commission	Cassidy Teufel Energy, Ocean Resources, and Federal Consistency Division cassidy.teufel@coastal.ca.gov (415) 904-5502
San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission	Robert Batha bobb@bcdca.gov 415-352-3612 http://www.bcdca.gov/
Federal Agencies	
NOAA Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary	Erica J. Burton (831) 647-4246 erica.burton@noaa.gov http://montereybay.noaa.gov
NOAA Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary	Brad Damitz 415-259-5766 Brad.Damitz@noaa.gov http://farallones.noaa.gov/eco/permits/permits.html
US Army Corps of Engineers, San Francisco District	Laurie Monarres Regulatory Division Chief, North Branch (415) 503-6774 Laurie.a.monarres@usace.army.mil

	<p>Cameron Johnson Regulatory Division Chief , South Branch (415) 503-6773 Cameron.l.johnson@usace.army.mil</p> <p>http://www.spn.usace.army.mil/regulatory/</p>
<p>US Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District</p>	<p>Aaron Allen Regulatory Division Chief, North Coast Branch (San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles Counties) (805) 585-2148 Aaron.o.allen@usace.army.mil</p> <p>Therese Bradford Regulatory Division Chief, South Coast Branch (Orange, San Diego Counties) (760) 602-4850 Therese.o.bradford@usace.army.mil</p> <p>http://www.spl.usace.army.mil/regulatory/</p>
<p>US Fish and Wildlife Service</p>	<p>Roger Root Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office 805-644-1766 ext. 336 Roger_Root@fws.gov</p>