

## **CALIFORNIA MARINE LIFE PROTECTION ACT INITIATIVE PROPOSED INTERIM SPENDING AUTHORITY**

### **Background**

The California Resources Agency, Department of Fish and Game (DFG) and Resources Legacy Fund Foundation (RLFF) have agreed to provide funding and/or in-kind services necessary to support the work of the MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force, work of the appropriate state staff and other consultants and activities relating to the California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative, through the end of 2006.

RLFF's Funding Description identified in the MOU among the Resources Agency, DFG and RLFF was submitted to the Task Force on October 15, 2004. The Funding Description reflects the funds the Foundation will contribute to fulfill the objectives of the Initiative, organized into general categories. The identified distribution of funds is a recommendation only. Additional funds and in-kind services will be provided by the Resources Agency, DFG and other organizations such as the National Marine Protected Areas Science Center.

A more detailed and recommended budget reflecting all funding and in-kind services will be prepared and presented at the next meeting of the Task Force. In the interim, expenses of the Initiative are beginning to accrue and must be paid if work is to continue.

### **Recommendation**

Pending submission of the proposed Initiative budget, a two-month spending authorization is recommended by granting the chair of the Task Force the authority to approve the expenditure of up to the following amounts from the funds provided by RLFF. In addition, it is recommended that all spending authorized under this action be consistent with the terms of the MOU among the parties:

Independent contractors for BRTF (projected Task Force staff)	\$30,000/month
DFG staff (reimbursable contract)	\$32,000/month
Research and Development (this amount is anticipated for stakeholder outreach and communication but may be modified after discussion by the public and Task Force)	\$6,000/month
Meetings/Workshops/Travel	\$6,000/month
Administration and Support	\$5,500/month