



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
 NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
 West Coast Region
 1655 Heindon Road
 Arcata, California 95521-4573

NOV 09 2017

Refer to NMFS No: 10012WCR2017AR00173

Phil Stolarski
 California Department of Transportation
 Chief, Division of Environmental Analysis
 1120 N Street
 Sacramento, California 95814

Mr. Stolarski:

This letter is in regards to NOAA’s National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) continued support and intent to participate as a member on each of the six separate Caltrans-lead Fish Passage Advisory Committees (FishPAC) formed across California (Table 1). I commend Caltrans’ proactive collaboration with NMFS to promote conservation of NOAA trust resources, focusing on facilitating salmon and steelhead passage across state highways.

Table 1. Caltrans Fish Passage Advisory Committees (FishPAC), and primary associated Caltrans District(s), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) Region(s), and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Office(s).

FishPAC	District(s)	CDFW Region(s)	NMFS Office(s)
North Coast	1	1	Arcata, Santa Rosa
Klamath-Cascades	2	1, 2	Arcata, Sacramento
Bay Area	4	3	Santa Rosa
Southern	7, 11, 12	5	Long Beach
Central Coast	5	3, 4, 5	Santa Rosa
Central Valley	3, 6, 10	2, 3, 4	Sacramento

Source: www.cafishpac.org

NMFS is the lead Federal agency responsible for the stewardship of the nation's marine resources, and implements the Federal Endangered Species Act, Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and Marine Mammal Protection Act to fulfill its mission of promoting healthy ecosystems. The FishPAC mission to improve fish passage at highway-stream crossings is closely aligned with NMFS’ mission to conserve salmon and steelhead. Every NMFS salmon and steelhead recovery plan in California identifies reducing barriers to migration as necessary to achieve recovery. NMFS representatives have already been attending FishPAC meetings and engaged in providing technical assistance on fish passage projects for the past several years. We intend to continue partnering with Caltrans in this capacity.



We look forward to continued coordination on transportation initiatives. Please contact our Senior Policy Advisor for Transportation, Clarence Hostler at (707) 825-5165 or via email at Clarence.hostler@noaa.gov if you have questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alecia Van Atta', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Alecia Van Atta
Assistant Regional Administrator
California Coastal Office

cc: Matthew Brady, Caltrans District 1 Director, Eureka, CA
Dave Moore, Caltrans District 2 Director, Redding, CA
Ray Zhang, Caltrans District 3 Director, Marysville, CA
Bijan Sartipi, Caltrans District 4 Director, Oakland, CA
Timothy Gubbins, Caltrans District 5 Director, San Luis Obispo
Sharri Bender, Caltrans District 6 Director, Fresno, CA
Carrie Bowen, Caltrans District 7 Director, Los Angeles, CA
Dennis Agar, Caltrans District 10 Director, Stockton, CA
Laurie Berman, Caltrans District 11 Director, San Diego, CA
Ryan Chamberlain, Caltrans District 12 Director, Santa Ana, CA