



State Water Resources Control Board Sea Grant Fellow Opportunity

Host location

State Water Resources Control Board - Division of Water Quality
Cal/EPA Building
1001 I Street, 15th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Fellowship supervisor and point of contact for prospective fellows and finalists

Dr. Maria de la Paz Carpio-Obeso
Senior Environmental Scientist, Ocean Unit
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Position Description

The State Water Resources Control Board was created by the legislature in 1967. Our mission is to preserve, enhance and restore the quality of California's water resources, and ensure their proper allocation and efficient use for the benefit of present and future generations. <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/>. The Ocean Unit is under the Surface Water Branch of the Division of Water Quality http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/about_us/org_charts/display.php

Under the general direction of the manager of the Ocean Unit, the Sea Grant Fellow (Fellow) will perform complex analysis involved in the development and implementation of State policies and plans for the protection of ocean and coastal waters. In performing these duties, the Fellow shall interact with interested agency staff, stakeholders and the general public in a courteous and helpful manner. The Fellow is responsible for the quantity, quality, and timeliness of work assigned.

The Ocean Unit is very dynamic with various activities and projects under the Division of Water Quality. These will include developing amendments to the California Ocean Plan related to nutrients and blue-green algae, implementation of special protections for Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS), implementing the Once-through Cooling Policy (OTC), implementing the desalination and trash Ocean Plan amendments, protecting and monitoring beach water quality; performing studies on vessel waste discharges, and participation in NOAA Mussel Watch Program.

The California Ocean Plan is the water quality control plan for near-coastal ocean waters, and includes water quality standards and programs of implementation to protect water quality http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ocean/docs/cop2012.pdf

The Ocean Unit also works on other statewide plans and policies. These include setting sediment quality objectives for enclosed bays, estuaries and inland waters http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/bptcp/sediment.shtml and implementation of California's Once-Through Cooling Policy. The Once-Trough Cooling

Policy addresses the impacts on marine and estuarine life of cooling water intakes at electrical power generating facilities, implementing section 316 (b) of the Clean Water Act.

In working on Ocean Plan amendments and other water quality plans and policies the Fellow's duties may involve all phases of the public planning process, including participation in scientific studies, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) scoping, discussion with interested parties to identify possible alternatives for action, preparation of environmental documentation, public hearings, response to public comments, recommendations to the Board, and preparation of the administrative record for any changes that the Board adopts.

The Fellow also will perform other duties, as assigned, to support the Ocean Unit and Division of Water Quality.