Conservation Working Group Meeting
February 19, 2002

Attendance: Vicki Nichols and Alan Graves (SOS), Kaitilin Gaffney (TOC), Meredith Lopuch, Mike Osmond (WWF), Maya Conrad (CWC), Deborah Streeter, John Fisher, Matt Ruitshauser (FOSO), David Zaches, Jack Wickham (SC-Monterey), Janice O'Brien (LWV), Deirdre Hall (MBNMS)

Announcements:

- FOSO has new ED: Donald Ingraham.
- John Fisher will attend meeting on Desal proposal and give update at next meeting.
- Sea otter report re: water quality impacts on otters is available from DFG.
- Fisherman's Forum March 18-19th, now open to enviros and scientists as well.

Sanctuary Report:

- EPA Ballas water report out for comment.
- Desal issue: Sanctuary following up on RWQCB proposal to grant "general" permit covering certain desal operations.
- Sanctuary involved in initial discussions of potential desal plant at Moss Landing.
- Source of mystery spill Id'd as vessel sunk in GF area in 1947.
- Sanctuary seeking prop 13 funds for DNA analysis of fecal contamination at sites in Monterey and PG.

Joint Management Plan Review

- 2/25 SAC meeting will include discussion of how to prioritize scoping comments/issues.
- Discussion of values, meaning of terms "protection", "conservation", "preservation", and importance of understanding how we use these terms and what they mean in context of Sanctuary management.
- CWG emphasized that NMSA mission of resource protection should be criteria for determining priority of issues to address in JMPR.

Coastal Commission – Periodic Review for Monterey Co. LCP
- Update on LCP process from CCC staff Kelly Cuffe and Rick Hyman.
- Comment forms distributed, comments also accepted at March CCC meeting in Monterey. Comments due March 15th.
- Concerns were raised about effectiveness of current LCP policies, esp. lack of mitigation implementation for projects, lack of monitoring and lack of enforcement.

MLPA
- Discussion of changes in MLPA process (seeking nominations for stakeholder groups, etc).

Next meeting will be March 12, 2002.