



August 8, 2006

Board Member
Water Quality Control Board
Regional Board Meeting Room
9174 Sky Park Court
San Diego, California

RE: Agenda Item 16 (Supplemental Environmental Projects)

Dear Mr/Ms. Board Member:

Most people would agree that San Diego's finest resource is its ocean. A group of more than 500 volunteers and over 300 members make up the San Diego Oceans Foundation. Our mission is to promote ocean stewardship by leading community-supported projects that enhance ocean habitat and encourage sustainable use of ocean resources.

The San Diego Oceans Foundation grew out of an ad hoc group formed in 1984 in response to President Reagan designating San Diego as a "point" city in the Year of the Ocean. In a brief time, the Foundation became recognized as a sort of "chamber of commerce of the sea" with broad representation.

A number of the foundation's volunteer programs have grabbed national media attention. You may have heard of Project Yukon? Some of the other programs include the Canyon Watch, a storm drain monitoring pollution prevention campaign, The Ocean in Motion program, which brings marine education to at-risk youth, and the White Seabass Restocking Project, designed to put back into the ocean what was once taken away by gill nets

As stewards of San Diego's ocean and Bays environment, SDOF has a long history of providing effective programs for improving coastal, inland, and urban watersheds. We believe that our programs provide great benefit to the environment, and at the same time could be *appropriate for funding through the Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP)* process administered by the Regional Board.

The San Diego Oceans Foundation *supports the SEP process* as it provides direct benefit to the local environment through settlement of administrative penalties from local dischargers. Formalizing the SEP process should provide Regional Board staff and dischargers alternatives and choices among the many environmental needs within our watershed.

Please contact me for more information or to provide details on how the SDOF can become involved in the SEP process.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kai Schumann", written over a horizontal line.

Kai Schumann
President

DEVOTED TO THE STEWARDSHIP OF THE OCEAN, SAN DIEGO'S FINEST RESOURCE