

Announcement: May 7, 2009

California Ocean Science Trust Announces Selection of a Consultant for Oil and Gas Platform Decommissioning Study

The [California Ocean Science Trust \(OST\)](#) is pleased to announce the selection of Consulting Team for the [Study to Provide Information Related to Oil and Gas Platform Decommissioning Alternatives in California](#). The members of the team include: Brock Bernstein (team leader), Andy Bressler, Peter Cantle, Max Henrion, Dewitt John, Sarah Kruse, Daniel Pondella, Janice Schneider, Astrid Scholz, Paul Singarella, Tim Setnicka, and Rick Zbur. This multidisciplinary team represents a range of expertise, including marine ecology, socioeconomics, decision analysis modeling, and marine law and policy. The team will conduct a study that will help the state examine alternatives for decommissioning existing oil and gas platforms in State Tidelands and in the Federal Outer Continental Shelf off the California coast.

The purpose of this study is to assemble and examine scientific and legal information that will frame future state policy discussions on the alternatives for decommissioned platforms. Information developed through the study will be used by the California Natural Resources Agency to evaluate and inform policy discussions. This project is funded jointly by the California Ocean Protection Council, Chevron Corporation, the Ocean Conservancy, the Sportfishing Conservancy, and the United Anglers. The 9-month study will be an iterative process where the Consultant will work with the OST and an [Expert Advisory Committee](#). The Expert Advisory Committee will play a critical role in ensuring that the state receives authoritative and robust advice on this important issue by reviewing the team's products, advising on the study process throughout the course of the project, and generally deepening the expertise that helps to shape the project findings.

At the midpoint of the study, the Consultant will hold a half-day briefing in coordination with the OST and the California Natural Resources Agency to update the public on the status of the study. More information about this briefing will be available at http://www.calost.org/Oil_gas.html in the coming months.

For more information about the Oil and Gas Platform Decommissioning Study, please visit http://www.calost.org/Oil_gas.html. Inquiries about this study should be directed to Diana Pietri at diana.pietri@calost.org.

