

## **RESOLUTION NO. 078-33**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARCATA IN SUPPORT OF THE WEST COAST GOVERNORS' AGREEMENT ON OCEAN HEALTH**

WHEREAS, the City of Arcata works diligently to ensure clean coastal waters and beaches where marine life can thrive and people can safely swim, paddle, fish, and recreate without the detrimental effects of pollution and marine debris; and

WHEREAS, as active members of the North Coast Stormwater Coalition, Arcata monitors water quality within its local watersheds to prevent pollution from draining into Humboldt Bay; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt Bay supports local mariculture operations which are the largest producers of oysters in California and a significant stop-over along the Pacific Flyway; and

WHEREAS, Arcata's community volunteers dedicate endless hours to eradicating invasive and exotic species within its open space lands, and the Humboldt Bay Harbor, Conservation & Recreation District was the first to institute a ballast flushing program in California; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arcata has demonstrated its long-standing commitment to restoration and management of estuarine, marine, and associated coastal habitats which are ecologically healthy and allow for public enjoyment and sustainable environmental goods and services; and

WHEREAS, in cooperation with many local partners and with support from the California Ocean Protection Council, the City of Arcata is working to promote, develop and effectively implement ecosystem-based management for the Humboldt Bay region to sustain a healthy, thriving, and resilient marine and coastal ecosystem along the north coast of California that supports a wide-range of human activities integrating ecological, social, and economic goals using the principles of adaptive management; and

WHEREAS, the people of Arcata have demonstrated opposition to any new offshore oil and gas leasing or development within historic state tidelands or the Pacific Outer Continental Shelf along the north coast; and support a shared federal, state, and local strategy to safely develop appropriate and sustainable alternative energy resources, including wave and tidal currents, along the coastal waters of northern California; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arcata has a proud tradition of environmental awareness through an active and engaged citizenry, community organizations and student activists, and supports expanding science literacy to promote an understanding of the complexities of coastal and ocean issues; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arcata is the home of Humboldt State University which has demonstrated a strong commitment to marine, fisheries and coastal resource issues. Public outreach and research opportunities at the Telonicher Marine Lab and on the Coral Sea research vessel provide unique local opportunities to support expanding partnerships, while Humboldt State University continues to play a prominent role in the Center for Integrative Coastal Observation, Research, & Education (CICORE) and Central & Northern California Ocean Observing System (CeNCOOS) regional research efforts; and

WHEREAS, Arcata has increasingly become a desirable place for retirees and families to relocate without degrading, diminishing, or destroying the environmental goods and services offered by its coastal location; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arcata's economic base, like many coastal communities, is directly related to the quality and sustainability of the coastal and ocean environment, and the community's potential for economic expansion into the realm of ecotourism is evidenced by the growing popularity of Godwit Days and the Oyster Festival.

WHEREAS, the policies set forth in the West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health are consistent with the City of Arcata's Local Coastal Program, Greenhouse Gas Reduction Plan, Stormwater Pollution Reduction Plan, General Plan: 2020, the Wetlands and Creeks Management Plan and Open Space Protection Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Arcata hereby unanimously supports the landmark West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health to develop ocean and coastal conservation strategies that benefit from coordination between state and local governments.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Arcata fully endorses the seven priority areas of the West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health (listed below) recognizing the importance of working collaboratively with all three states:

- California – Governor Arnold A. Schwarzenegger
- Oregon – Governor Theodore R. Kulognoski
- Washington – Governor Christine Gregoire

1. Ensuring clean coastal waters and beaches;
2. Protecting and restoring healthy ocean and coastal habitats;
3. Promoting the effective implementation of ecosystem-based management of our ocean and coastal resources;
4. Reducing adverse impacts of offshore development;
5. Increasing ocean awareness and literacy among our citizens;
6. Expanding ocean and coastal scientific information, research, and monitoring; and
7. Fostering sustainable economic development throughout our diverse coastal communities.

This resolution shall be effective upon its adoption.

Dated: February 6, 2008

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

/s/ Michael M. Hackett  
City Clerk, City of Arcata

/s/ Mark E. Wheatley  
Mayor, City of Arcata

**CLERK'S CERTIFICATE**

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of **Resolution No. 078-33**, passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Arcata, Humboldt County, State of California, held on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2008, by the following vote:

**AYES: WHEETLEY, STILLMAN, MACHI, GROVES, PITINO**

**NOES: NONE**

**ABSENT: NONE**

**ABSTENTIONS: NONE**

/s/ Michael M. Hackett  
City Clerk, City of Arcata