

Albion Harbor Regional Alliance submits this Array Proposal this day on February 1, 2010

To: Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814
MLPACComments@resources.ca.gov
Fax 916.653.8102 Attn: MLPA Initiative

From: Albion Harbor Regional Alliance
POB 122 Albion CA 95410

In accordance;
With the letter of Intent filed by the **Albion Harbor Regional Alliance**
California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative North Coast Study Region

External Proposed Marine Protected Area Arrays from Community Groups:
Intent to Submit Form Revised 11.04.2009

External proposed MPA array submitted: Monday, 02.01.2010

Contributors: All Board Members, additionally several public meetings were held at Albion Harbor's Recreational & Commercial Dock Facility inside at The Albion Flats Cafe on the Albion River, and each was attended by Subsistence, Sport, and Commercial fisheries (seaweed, urchin, crab, rockfish, abalone, clams, mussels, salmon, rock scallops) and seafood processors as far away as Noyo Harbor in Fort Bragg, along with local Environmental conservation groups, and teachers (both active and retired) from distant areas inland (Ukiah) and south to Point Arena.

Array Name: Albion Harbor Regional Alliance NC Array

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Albion Harbor Regional Alliance NC Array: *Narrative*

Public outreach was first accomplished early throughout the summer of 2009, which closed with a concert at the Albion Harbor Commercial Dock and Complex just 3 days before the MLPA workshops in Fort Bragg began in late September.

Tribal representation that day included a local Native American blues band, several speakers, and many in the crowd of 500. Indigenous rights to access, cultural and ceremonial use of marine resources is considered a natural to be part of ecosystem services and function.

Months and days of hours of conversations with subsistence, sport and commercial user groups (both visitors and local) have been transformed into an external array proposal that we feel both meets the Science Guidelines and the Intent of the Act. Participatory analysis of social and economic impacts were blunt, and in shared trust via group and personal communications by individuals and an array of coastal businesses.

The Albion Harbor Regional Alliance NC Array reflects careful (LEK) assessment and analysis of the North Coast Study Region's marine ecosystem services, health and function, integrated with current fisheries management (Magnuson-Stevens. Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Public Law 94-265 as amended), current species recovery status, small fleet size, access and remote geographical advantage.

Private and public access by launch or on foot (subsistence, and shore fisheries) in the unique NC bioregion's bio-geographical circumstances includes rugged terrain that links land and sea with the outflow of forested rivers and streams bounded by large private landholdings, and remoteness to population centers.

AHRA was intimately involved in all stages with the digital MarineMap tool working through development stages of arrays with MOCA, the Tri-County Workgroup, Mendocino High School's SEA, OPC, Tom Shaver, and other array designers and participants. AHRA's approach included attendance, participation and networking, at all MLPAl workshops, trainings, and BRTF, SAT meetings.

We feel our array is one that covers leagues of input by all user groups, and community members and was crafted of our own time and at great monetary expense to the community. AHRA's hours of networking the way small, remote,

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rural, resource dependent communities do, without readily available digital access portals involved lot's of footwork.

Albion Harbor Regional Alliance NC Array; *General Rationale* for individual MPA design included how the proposed array would help meet the goals of the MLPA.

Designed as a complimentary component of the statewide network, we have determined through careful consideration of the AHRA NC Array, that all 6 specific goals have been met that protect, improve, conserve and rebuild community structure, within marine populations and habitat.

The improvement of recreational, educational, and study opportunities provided by marine ecosystems that are subject to minimal human disturbance are included and buoyed by consideration of remote geography of MPA siting locations, ocean conditions, weather, access. The enhancement of educational values where previously long term studies at existing monitoring stations have been ongoing, (i.e. Point Cabrillo), makes for a great adaptive management opportunity for science and the community. Clearly defined objectives, effective management measures would benefit from existing baseline knowledge.

The preferred siting of individual MPA's comprising the AHRA NC Array in the Study Region as designed were to capture unique habitats with replication, with clearly defined boundaries, making them easily accessible for research, monitoring and legal enforcement.

The General Rational included Social and Economic impact considerations to the North Coast Maritime rural depressed local economy, with longtime cultural everyday ties to the ocean as a local food shed, rivers as watersheds, and trees that shelter the streams. Subsistence and recreational fishing suffices in hard times while commercial fishing "in and of itself does not substantially impact Northern California fish stocks".

Submitted this day February 1, 2010 by The Albion Harbor Regional Alliance

Michael A Carpenter, Terry Nieves, Dan Yoakum, Bruce Campbell, Carson Bell
Tomas DiFiore

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tomas DiFiore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "D".