

From: Bermond, Andrew [mailto:ABermond@SantaBarbaraCA.gov]
Sent: Thursday, July 17, 2008 1:22 PM
To: MLPAComments
Subject: South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group

Ms. Melissa Miller-Henson:

I would like to nominate myself to the South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group for the Marine Life Protection Act Initiative of the California Department of Fish and Game. As the nomination criteria are somewhat complex, please allow me to address them individually:

Nominee name and complete contact information, including email address.

Andrew Bermond
Santa Barbara Airport
601 Norman Firestone Road
Santa Barbara, CA 93117
Tel: (805) 692-6032
Fax: (805) 964-1380

A short statement to confirm how the applicant meets each of the selection criteria...

Able to bring first-hand knowledge and perspective to bear on the marine resources of the MLPA South Coast Study Region,

I have been working extensively on the preservation and restoration of portions of the Goleta Slough that are within the City of Santa Barbara, on Airport property. I am experienced and familiar with the needs of estuarine habitat necessary for preservation. I am also aware that conflicting uses and/or compatibility issues need to be addressed both at this State Marine Park and at other protected wetlands in the South Coast study area.

Able to balance a south coast regional perspective with localized knowledge,

Having spent most of my life living within the study area, and working extensively on land-use issues in southern Santa Barbara County, I believe I am qualified to balance regional and local interest and experience.

Willing to express fundamental interests (as opposed to fixed positions) and to clearly convey the interests of one or more stakeholder groups,

I am interested in the preservation of our natural marine resources. However I am also keenly aware of human uses that are dependant upon these resources. My position at the Santa Barbara Airport requires me to focus on both the need for responsible stewardship of a precious natural resource and the extensive and intensive land use needs of an Airport. Similar use conflicts exist throughout the South Coast Study Region and need to be addressed in a feasibly sustainable manner.

Capable of working collaboratively, seeking to integrate the interests of the full range of constituencies,

As a member of the Goleta Slough Management Committee I work with various watchdog, regulatory, scientific, and land-owning interest groups regularly. Our collaborative efforts to see the preservation and enhancement of the natural integrity of the Slough has led to the Goleta Slough Tidal and Birdstrike Experiment. This project, in its final year of study, will have national effects on how federal agencies (i.e. TSA and FAA) treat coastal wetlands where they currently pose a bird-strike hazard. This multi-year effort was only made possible through the collaborative process of involving stakeholders in the Goleta Slough Management Committee and tying the experiment to mitigation for Airfield Safety Projects and the Airport. I hope to use the skills gained in this process to participate in this stakeholder group.

Able to access and use an effective communication network to reach stakeholders not attending the public meetings, and

I can communicate with members of the Goleta Slough Management Committee, the Association of Environmental Professionals, the Environmental Studies Associates, the South Coast Regional Watershed Task Force, and the California Chapter of the American Planning Association, through their meetings and newsletters. Each group has a variant interest in this process. Many of their memberships are involved in protection or regulation in and around the Marine Protected Areas. What will be most important to these groups is the appearance of openness and clarity. For this reason I believe it is important to have participants who will be able to communicate with them in a clear and honest manner.

Committed to completing all aspects of the charge of the regional stakeholder group

I am committed to completing this charge.

Where appropriate, identify current and past affiliations with stakeholder groups active in marine resource management,

My participation in the Goleta Slough Management Committee is described above. Our focus was primarily on intertidal wetlands, however many of the principles are the same.

A brief summary of past involvement in the MLPA or similar collaborative public processes to provide advice on natural resource policy or planning,

I have worked on environmental impact assessment for projects at the Port of Los Angeles and Pt. Mugu Naval Air Station. In working on these projects, it became clear that conflicts between the needs of the applicant/developer and the needs of the marine/estuarine habitat would be a difficult to balance. Working with interest groups and the developer, we were able to strike agreement which enable the development to proceed to the satisfaction of the involved parties.

Willingness to commit the time for full participation,

I am willing to commit to the anticipated time commitment.

Descriptions of the organizations and individuals with which the nominee will communicate,

I will inform local Santa Barbara environmental groups as well as local government agencies in our

progress. I will also communicate with regional environmental and land-use professional organizations through their communication with their members.

Specific communication and outreach mechanisms to be utilized (give examples), and
I will attend meetings and present in person. I will also write newsletter and journal articles as necessary.

Areas of knowledge or expertise relevant to the project.

I have a degree in environmental studies and history, and am currently pursuing a master's degree in public administration. This education coupled with my work experience as an environmental analyst and land-use planner provides me with the relevant knowledge necessary to inform the development of this project.

Thank you for the opportunity to nominate myself. I look forward to working with you in the future.

Andrew Bermond, Associate Planner

Santa Barbara Airport

tel. (805) 692-6032

fax. (805) 964-1380

July 18, 2008

Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
c/o California Resources Agency
Attention: Melissa Miller-Henson
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Melissa:

I have served as staff to the Goleta Slough Management Committee since its inception in 1991. We are an advisory group comprised of public agencies, property owners, regulatory agencies and public interest groups in and around the Goleta Slough. We do not take positions for or against proposed projects or plans but try to ensure that the health and wellbeing of the Goleta Slough Ecosystem is maintained and enhanced. In that vein, we are very interested in the stakeholder process you are overseeing and would like to participate.

I am writing to nominate a member of the Goleta Slough Management Committee to the Marine Life Protection Act Initiative South Coast Stakeholder Group. In concert with his employer, Santa Barbara Airport which owns and manages most of the Goleta Slough, I am nominating Andrew Bermond, Associate Planner. Andrew has been a member of the Goleta Slough Management Committee for more than two years. In this time, we have come to appreciate his enthusiasm and dedication to the protection of wetland habitats. As the case planner for a number of restoration projects in the Slough, he has led tours for our Committee as well as several groups of elected officials. In so doing he has demonstrated extensive knowledge and interest in estuarine habitats and their fragility while being practical about what can and cannot be done in and around a wetland.

One of the most interesting projects Andrew is working on is the Goleta Slough Tidal Experiment. This experiment, if successful, will provide the basis of restoring tidal restoration to the Goleta Slough. Historically, the Goleta Slough was a shallow bay until sedimentation from upstream land uses (i.e. cattle grazing) and siltation from major storm events converted it into a tidal wetland. In the 1940s the United States Marine Corps further altered the Slough with the addition of dikes to keep storm water off the airfield. These dikes remain as a barrier to tidal influence in most of the Slough.

Andrew's education in environmental studies and public administration provide a strong foundation for his contribution to stakeholder group discussions. His experience as a planner demonstrates his ability to think systematically and communicate clearly with various stakeholders in land development projects and other planning endeavors.

Per your request, Andrew's contact information is:

Andrew Bermond, Associate Planner
Santa Barbara Airport
601 Norman Firestone Rd
Santa Barbara, CA 93117
(805) 692-6032
(805) 964-1380 fax

Thank you for the opportunity to nominate Andrew. Please call me at / email me at psaley@silcom.com. I look forward to hearing about your progress.

on any questions or

Sincerely,



Pat Saley, AICP
Staff, Goleta Slough Management Committee



City of Santa Barbara

Santa Barbara Airport

www.flysba.com

www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov

Administration
805.967.7111

Marketing
805.692.6004

Engineering
805.692.6018

Maintenance
805.692.6060

Operations/Noise
805.692.6005

Patrol
805.681.4803

Planning
805.692.6023

Property Mgmt.
805.692.6022

Visitor's Center
805.694.7622

Fax
805.964.1380

601 Firestone Rd.
Santa Barbara, CA
93117

July 16, 2008

Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
c/o California Resources Agency
Attention: Melissa Miller-Henson
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: NOMINATION FOR THE MLPA INITIATIVE SOUTH COAST REGIONAL STAKEHOLDER GROUP

Dear Melissa:

Thank you for the opportunity to nominate a member of my staff for inclusion in the Marine Life Protection Act Initiative South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group. Andrew Bermond, an Associate Planner at the Santa Barbara Airport has expressed interest in participation in this group on both a professional and personal level. I am therefore submitting his name for nomination to this stakeholder group.

For the past several years, Andrew Bermond has worked as case planner, project manager and steward for the Goleta Slough State Marine Park as a part of his duties at the Santa Barbara Airport. Mr. Bermond is a competent land use planner capable of interpreting laws, code, and regulations with respect to individual projects and seeking opportunities to protect environmental resources through careful design and implementation of public and private projects. I believe he will be able to meaningfully contribute to the evaluation of protected areas with respect to the Marine Life Protection Act.

Mr. Bermond is project manager of the Goleta Slough Tidal Restoration and Birdstrike Experiment project which examines the safety benefits or impacts associated with tidal habitat restoration near an airfield. This experiment, under a grant from the Coastal Conservancy and with rare approval from the Federal Aviation Administration will have national significance for the nearly 100 airfields built on or near coastal wetlands. Mr. Bermond's interest and commitment to this project demonstrate his enthusiasm for the preservation and restoration of marine protected areas. Recently the Santa Barbara Airport and the Goleta Slough Management Committee agreed to extend the experiment term from two years to three. This agreement was predicated on data collected and presented by Mr. Bermond demonstrating the value of a third year of study would significantly outweigh the cost.



As a member of the Santa Barbara County South Coast Watershed Task Force and the Goleta Slough Management Committee, he has a wealth of local knowledge and experience in wetland preservation and management. These