July 16, 2008

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

Dear Ms. Miller-Henson:

In behalf of the California Sea Urchin Commission, I am pleased to submit these nominations of southern California fishery leaders to serve on the Regional Stakeholders Group (RSG) for the south coast phase of the MLPAI. We are nominating two individuals to serve as regular members of the RSG (one with knowledge and expertise primarily focused on the southern portion of the region and one with a northern focus) and one person to serve as an alternate to the two regular members. Each serves the Sea Urchin Commission in positions to which they were elected by their peers.

Dave Rudie and Bob Bertelli are nominated as regular members. While both are associated with the sea urchin fishery, their businesses make them participants in many other fisheries as well. They have years of leadership experience in the commercial fishing community and have the tools to effectively communicate with other fishery stakeholders and collaborate with other RSG members. Both are well versed in the larger conservation context in which they work and recognize the need to ensure sustainable resources.

We are nominating Bruce Steele, a longtime fisheries activist and leader in Southern California, to serve as an alternate for both Dave and Bob. This arrangement will further the desire for cross coordination between fisheries and geographic areas within the study region and minimize cost and time for an alternate to fill in for an absent RSG member.

I have included additional information for each of these individuals addressing the qualification criteria more specifically. I urge a careful review and favorable consideration of these nominations.

Sincerely,

Vern Goehring

Vern Goehring
Executive Director

Enclosures

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REGULAR MEMBER - DAVE RUDIE , San Diego, CA 92110

Provide first-hand knowledge:
Dave Rudie has SCUBA dived throughout southern California since 1972. During that time he spent thousands of hours underwater, first as a sport diver in the 1970s, then as a commercial sea urchin diver in the 1980s and '90s, and more recently as an underwater photographer. Dave has dived from Santa Rosa Island to the Mexican border, with the majority of his dive experience in the southern area, including, San Diego, Orange County and Catalina Island.

Balanced perspective – SC region with local knowledge:
During this time Dave gained an in-depth knowledge of ocean habitats, including extensive knowledge of rocky reefs and kelp bed communities, a popular subject for his underwater photographs. He is well qualified to balance a regional perspective with his local knowledge.

Convey interests and work collaboratively:
Dave opened a seafood company, Catalina Offshore Products, 30 years ago and now employs 85 workers. He buys sea urchin and lobster from more than 40 fishermen. He also served on the DFG Director's Sea Urchin Advisory Committee (DSUAC) from 1986 until its termination a few years ago. He then represented processors on the California Sea Urchin Commission, where he now serves as an alternate member. Dave has frequently worked with other fishery representatives and marine scientists in furthering a scientific understanding of marine resources. He is able to convey the interests of all these constituencies and cable of working collaboratively to integrate all interests in achieving the goals and objectives of the MLPA.

Communication network:
In addition to the stakeholder constituencies noted above, Dave is in regular communication with the sport-diving community and underwater photographers through his membership in the San Diego Underwater Photographers Society. His communications network includes sea urchin fishermen and processors, lobster and near-shore fishermen, recreational diving members of the SDUPS, and other interested parties throughout the greater San Diego area.

Commitment:
Dave is committed to participate in the MLPA Initiative process in southern CA with the goal to achieve a science-based and equitable outcome for all involved.

REGULAR MEMBER - BOB BERTELLI , Seal Beach, CA 90740

Provide First Hand Knowledge:
Bob has 50 years of diving experience in California's ocean waters. He has been a sports diver, a Scuba instructor and a dive shop operator. Since 1975, he has been a commercial shellfish diver, fishing for abalone, sea urchin, coral and sea cucumber. In years past he has also fished trammel nets and for herring. Currently he focuses his commercial fishing on sea cucumbers and sea urchins.

Balanced perspective – SC region with local knowledge:
Bob has extensive knowledge of the Channel Islands and Coastal areas which he currently fishes from the San Pedro/Long Beach harbor. Previously he fished out of Santa Barbara and northern California. He has actively worked representing his fisheries and coordinating with other fishery groups in exploring and developing alternative fishery policies since 1977.

He currently serves as the Chair of the California Sea Urchin Commission, created with oversight from the CA Department of Food & Agriculture. In addition, he serves as the Sea Urchin Commission's Port Representative for Los Angeles and Orange Counties. In this capacity he is able to collaborate with other fishery representatives in addressing local concerns, learning about the needs of others, sharing information and solving problems.

Convey interests and work collaboratively:
As a leader in the sea cucumber and sea urchin fisheries, Bob frequently finds himself in the position of representing and working closely with fishermen from other fisheries, including lobster, live fish, squid and recreational marine users on local and regional issues. For example he has taken a lead on tracking and understanding the Department of Defense proposal to modify fishing access to San Clemente Island. In addition, Bob took the lead in working with the Department of Fish & Game over the past year to amicably resolve a delicate issue with landing reports.

Bob has a BA degree in History from Cal State Fresno and was active on the college debate team – both of which will serve him well in working dynamically with others on the RSG.

Communication network:
If appointed to the RSG, Bob will be able to coordinate and share information using the Sea Urchin Commission's printed and electronic newsletters, local and statewide sea urchin meetings, and frequent contacts on the docks with fishermen from all of the regional fisheries.

Commitment:
Bob is committed to ensuring a fair and balanced science based out come from the MLPAI. He recognizes the role MPAs could play in addressing vital concerns facing the marine environment.

ALTERNATE MEMBER - BRUCE STEELE Buellton, CA 93427

Provide first-hand knowledge:
Bruce Steele has dived commercially for sea urchins in southern CA since 1974. He has acquired intimate knowledge of underwater habitats and marine species, especially in the northern part of the south coast study region, including northern Channel Islands and coast from Pt. Conception to Malibu. Bruce has also trolled for salmon and fished for albacore during his tenure as a commercial fisherman in southern CA.

Balanced perspective – SC region with local knowledge:
Bruce's 34 years underwater provide 'up close and personal' local knowledge of marine flora and fauna, especially re: the northern Channel Islands and coast. He represented both commercial and recreational fishermen as a member of the CINMS Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC) during the Channel Islands marine reserve process, and currently serves as alternate on both the CINMS SAC and the Sea Urchin Commission, giving him a broad, balanced perspective of the south coast region as a whole.

Convey interests and work collaboratively:
Bruce has had extensive experience in marine resource management, collaboration and consensus building as a member of the DFG "Director's Sea Urchin Advisory Committee" for many years, a member of the Sea Grant Living Marine Resource Committee, member and alternate on the CINMS SAC, and the Channel Islands Marine Reserve Working Group. He is a good negotiator with proven ability to work collaboratively to integrate all interests to achieve the goals of the MLPA.

Communication network:
Bruce has regular communications with stakeholders as a representative on the CINMS SAC, and with the sea urchin and other fishing communities throughout the south coast study region. He is willing to network and reach out to members of the fishing community not actively participating in the MLPA Initiative process.

Commitment:
Recently Bruce has become alarmed with the effects of climate change on the ocean and is working to elevate the fishing communities attention and action to address these effects. He believes the involvement of industry is essential to the effectiveness of any conservation approach. He also thinks the observations of his fellow fishermen are very important in gauging the health and productivity cycles of California's local waters, and therefore he has committed to participate in the MLPAI and assist Dave and Bob in fulfilling all responsibilities on the RSG.

CFC
CALIFORNIA
FISHERIES
COALITION

July 9, 2008

Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
c/o California Resources Agency
Attn: Melissa Miller-Henson

On behalf of the 26 member associations and businesses comprising the California Fisheries Coalition, we are pleased to nominate the following fishing community representatives for the south coast Regional Stakeholder Group (SCRSG) to participate in the MLPA Initiative in southern California. For commercial fisheries, we have strived to recommend regular and alternate members representing all major gear types (i.e. trawl, dive, traps, round-haul, hook and line), whose aggregate local knowledge blankets both the northern and southern regions in the south coast study area. We also support the nominations of several fishermen with broad knowledge and constituencies representing recreational fisheries.
To simplify the appointment process and improve communications within and outside the SCRSG, we've asked individuals volunteering to serve as regular members to identify their own alternates, if possible, so as to facilitate smooth internal and external communications and to expand local knowledge of the extensive area now under consideration for MPAs. We hope you will give serious consideration to these recommended pairings in your appointments. Thank you very much for your consideration of this request.

First please find a summary list of nominees for regular and alternate positions. Contact information for each individual and a brief statement of qualifications follow this list.

REGULAR MEMBER	LOCAL KNOWLEDGE	ALTERNATE MEMBER	LOCAL KNOWLEDGE
Mike McCorkle S.CA. Trawlers Association	Pt. Sal to Mexico Many fisheries	Gary Burke SCTA, Comm'l Fishermen of SB, Inc.	OR to Mexico Many fisheries
Dave Rudie Catalina Offshore Products + CSUC	S.CA. Bight – San Diego area	Bruce Steele CINMS AC alt., CSUC alt.	S.CA. Bight – CI, SB coast
Rodger Healy Dana Cove Fishermen's Assoc.	S.CA. Bight – S.coast, Islands	Phil Beguhl Traps, many fisheries	S.CA. Bight – SB coast, CI
Ciro Ferrigno San Pedro wetfish - CWPA	S.CA. Bight – S.coast / Catalina	Neil Guglielmo Pt. Hueneme wetfish - CPSAS	Monterey to Mexico CI, N.coast
Gerry Richter Pt.Conception Groundfisherman's Assoc.	Monterey to Mexico Fixed gear groundfish	Chris Hoeflinger Ventura Co. Comm'l Fishermen	S.CA. Bight – Nearshore, spot prawn
Joe Villareal SAC Board CPFV + squid light	S.CA. Bight Vent-Ox- CI	Merit McCrea CPFV – CINMS AC - GIS	S.CA. Bight SB - CI
Joel Greenberg RFA So.Cal.	S.CA. Bight	To be determined	
Don Brockman Charter + squid light	S.CA. Bight CI, S. coast	Richie Ashley Live bait +	S.CA. Bight Mugu / Catalina
Bob Bertelli CA Sea Urchin Comm. president	S.CA. Bight LA-San Pedro		

1621 B Thirteenth Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 • Telephone (916) 444 - 8194

REGULAR MEMBER **MIKE McCORKLE** ., Summerland, CA 93067

Provide first-hand knowledge:
Mike McCorkle has fished full-time in southern CA since 1956 on the F/V Pieface and Theresa Ann: his experience includes all gear types except diving and purse seine, and his knowledge extends to virtually every finfish species harvested in the south coast study area, as well as crab, lobster, squid and various shrimp species. In his 52 years on the ocean Mike has amassed encyclopedic knowledge of habitats, as well as marine flora and fauna, in the area from Pt. Sal to the Mexican border.

Balanced perspective – SC region with local knowledge:
Mike's in-depth understanding of fish and fishermen in the south coast study area well qualifies him to provide a balanced regional perspective as well as detailed local knowledge.

Convey interests and work collaboratively:
Mike is affiliated with numerous fishing organizations, including but not limited to: president, Southern CA Trawlers Association; board member, PCFFA; member, Commercial Fishermen of Santa Barbara Inc.; board member, Institute for Fisheries Resources; Member, PFMC groundfish open access committee; Member, DFG white seabass management plan advisory committee, and other groups.
Mike has substantial experience in collaborative decision-making and is committed to conveying interests of his numerous affiliated constituencies and working to achieve a balanced outcome to achieve MLPA goals.

Communication network:
Mike has committed to network with his many affiliations via email and dockside communications to reach stakeholders not actively engaged in the MLPA Initiative process.

Commitment:
Mike is willing, able and committed to fulfill all responsibilities of the SCRSG.

ALTERNATE For Mike McCorkle

GARY BURKE ., Santa Barbara CA 93105

Provide first-hand knowledge:
Owner-operator of the *FV Tytan*, Gary Burke has fished commercially since 1972; his experience spans virtually all gear types, including diving, troll, hook & line, gillnet and harpoon, as well as trawling. Captain Burke has fished from OR to Mexico for abalone, albacore, shark, ridgeback shrimp, rockfish, salmon, swordfish and white seabass, all species abundant in southern CA waters. Gary has in-depth knowledge of marine life and habitats in the south coast study region, including all eight Channel Islands.

Balanced perspective – SC region with local knowledge:
Gary's experience fishing in all the waters of southern CA, as well as in the SB Channel area, enable him to balance a broad regional perspective with specialized local knowledge.

Convey interests and work collaboratively:
Gary is a member of the Southern CA Trawlers Association, member and former officer of Commercial Fishermen of Santa Barbara Inc., member of DFG's white seabass management plan advisory committee and alternate on DFG's white seabass hatchery program, and member of the Fishermen's Oil Response Team. He is willing and able to convey interests of varied fishing constituencies, as an alternate for Mike McCorkle. Because of Gary's experience working with commercial fishing groups and DFG advisory committees on regional and statewide issues, he has substantial experience in the collaborative decision-making process and is committed to work for integration of MLPA goals with a full range of interests.

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Communication network:
Gary is actively connected to the fishing community through his associations, and is willing and able to network and communicate via email, VHF radio, dockside meetings and on the grounds, reaching out to stakeholders not otherwise engaged in the MLPA process.

Commitment:
Gary has committed to dedicate time to the south coast MLPAI process, willing to serve as Mike McCorkle's alternate on the SCRSG to help achieve the goals of the MLPA.

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REGULAR MEMBER **DAVE RUDIE** San Diego, CA 92110

Provide first-hand knowledge:
Dave Rudie has SCUBA dived throughout southern California since 1972. During that time he spent thousands of hours underwater, first as a sport diver in the 1970s, then as a commercial sea urchin diver in the 1980s and '90s, and more recently as an underwater photographer. Dave has dived from Santa Rosa Island to the Mexican border, with the majority of his dive experience in the southern area, including San Diego, Orange County and Catalina Island. During this time Dave has amassed in-depth knowledge of underwater habitats, including extensive knowledge of rocky reefs and kelp bed communities, a popular subject for his underwater photographs.

Balanced perspective – SC region with local knowledge:
Dave has extensive, first-hand knowledge of marine habitats throughout the south coast study region, with emphasis on the southern area and is well qualified to balance a regional perspective with his local knowledge.

Convey interests and work collaboratively:
Dave opened a seafood company, Catalina Offshore Products, 30 years ago and now employs 85 workers. He buys sea urchin and lobster from more than 40 fishermen. He also served on the DFG Director's Sea Urchin Advisory Committee (DSUAC) from 1986 until its termination a few years ago. He then represented processors on the California Sea Urchin Commission, where he serves now as alternate member.
Dave is well able to convey the interests of all these constituencies, and fully capable of working collaboratively, working to integrate all interests to achieve the goals and objectives of the MLPA.

Communication network:
In addition to the stakeholder constituencies noted above, Dave is in regular communication with the sport-diving community and underwater photographers through his membership in the San Diego Underwater Photographers Society. His communications network includes sea urchin fishermen and processors, members of the California Sea Urchin Commission, as well as lobster and nearshore fishermen, the recreational diving community, including members of the SDUPS, and other interested parties throughout the greater San Diego area.

Commitment:
Dave is committed to participate in the MLPA Initiative process in southern CA with the goal to achieve a science-based and equitable outcome for all involved.

ALTERNATE for Dave Rudie

BRUCE STEELE Buellton, CA 93427

Provide first-hand knowledge:
Bruce Steele has dived commercially for sea urchins in southern CA since 1974. In his 34 years underwater 'blowing bubbles', he has acquired intimate knowledge of underwater habitats and marine species, especially in the northern part of the south coast study region, including northern Channel Islands and coast from Pt. Conception to Malibu. He is a good alternate for Dave Rudie as Bruce's in-depth knowledge of the northern part of the study area compliments Dave Rudie's expertise in the south, and they communicate with each other frequently. Bruce has also trolled for salmon and fished for albacore during his tenure as a commercial fisherman in southern CA.

Balanced perspective – SC region with local knowledge:
Bruce's 34 years underwater provide 'up close and personal' local knowledge of marine flora and fauna, especially re: the northern Channel Islands and coast. He represented both commercial and recreational fishermen as a member of the CINMS Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC) during the Channel Islands marine reserve process, and currently serves as alternate on both the CINMS SAC and the CA Sea Urchin Commission, giving him a broad, balanced perspective of the south coast region as a whole.

Convey interests and work collaboratively:
Bruce has had extensive experience in marine resource management. collaboration and consensus building as a member of the Director's Sea Urchin Advisory Committee (DSUAC), a member of the Sea Grant Living Marine Resource Committee, past member and current alternate on the CINMS SAC, with active participation in the Channel Islands Marine Reserve process and Working Group (MRWG). He was voted alternate representing Santa Barbara harbor on the CA Sea Urchin Commission (CSUC) in 2008. He is a good negotiator with proven ability to work collaboratively to integrate all interests to achieve the goals of the MLPA.

Communication network:
Bruce has regular communications with stakeholders as a representative on the CINMS SAC, and with the sea urchin and fishing communities through the CSUC. He is willing to network and reach out to members of the fishing community not actively participating in the MLPA Initiative process.

Commitment:
Bruce believes the involvement of industry is essential to the effectiveness of any conservation approach. He also thinks the observations of his fellow fishermen are very important in gauging the health and productivity cycles of CA's local waters, and therefore he has committed to participate in the MLPAI and assist Dave Rudie in fulfilling all responsibilities on the SCRSG.

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REGULAR MEMBER **RODGER HEALY** Capo Beach, CA 92624

Provide first-hand knowledge:
Rodger Healy is a 38-year old commercial fisherman out of Dana Point. He has fished commercially in southern CA for the last 20 years, beginning as a deckhand for a lobsterman at age 19, and starting his own business the following year. He has fished primarily for lobsters, but has also trapped nearshore fish, rock and spider crab and moray eels. Also an avid diver, Rodger has collected marine aquaria creatures and tidal invertebrates for research and for profit. He obtained a sea urchin permit through the lottery and dives sea urchins seasonally. He has also crewed on local gillnet and swordfish harpoon boats, as well as spent two summers trapping spot prawns at San Clemente and Catalina Island. Rodger has experience in a wide range of fisheries and knowledge of varied habitats in the south coast study area, especially in the southern region.

Balanced perspective – SC region with local knowledge:
With his breadth of experience in several fisheries, Rodger can well balance both localized knowledge and a broad regional perspective.

Convey interests and work collaboratively:
Rodger has been an active member in both the California Lobster and Trap Fisherman's Association (CLTFA) and the local Dana Cove Commercial Fishermen's Association (DCCFA) for many years. Three years ago he was elected president of the DCCFA and is still working proactively to improve and protect regional fisheries. He is willing and able to convey the interests of diverse fishery groups, and understands the complexities of individual fisheries as well as their regional differences. He is also capable of working collaboratively to achieve the goals of the MLPA while considering the full range of stakeholder interests.

Communication network:
Rodger's membership in CLTFA and DCCFA, as well as his knowledge of and rapport with many of fishery participants in the southern CA region provide an active communications network to disseminate news. Rodger is willing to commit time and energy to communicate via email, on the grounds, and through his associations to reach stakeholders not otherwise engaged in MLPA meetings.

Commitment
Rodger is committed to fulfilling all charges of the SCRSG, and would be honored to be the representative for trap fisheries and southern fishing communities on the south coast stakeholder group.

ALTERNATE for Rodger Healy

PHILIP BEGUHL Santa Barbara, CA 93160

Provide first-hand knowledge:
A native Californian, Phil has fished since 1957 and fished commercially since 1969. His knowledge encompasses hook & line groundfish, abalone, lobster, crab and gillnet fisheries for halibut, white seabass, shark and swordfish. Phil graduated with a B.S. in forestry with minor in fisheries from U. of Washington in 1975. He is a preeminent author and historian of west coast sport-fishing lore, with an extensive collection of rare fishing tackle. He worked as a fisheries technician for DFG, and has served on the Santa Barbara County Fish and Game Commission for 25 years. Phil is also a founding member of the Joint Oil-Fisheries Liaison Committee. Phil has detailed local knowledge of marine habitats, flora and fauna in the northern part of the south coast study area, including coast from Santa Barbara to Pt. Arguello and the northern Channel Islands. He is a good fit to serve as alternate for Rodger Healy, representing trap and nearshore fisheries.

Balanced perspective – SC region with local knowledge:
Phil is active in the Santa Barbara County fishing community, and communicates routinely with other fishing interests in southern California, particularly with trap fishermen members of CLTFA. His knowledge and experience in a wide variety of fisheries qualify him to balance his local knowledge with a broad regional perspective.

Convey interests and work collaboratively:
As an active fisherman in the Santa Barbara fishing community and with his associations with CLTFA, Phil is able to clearly convey interests of a wide segment of the local fishing community. His science background and experience on the SB County Fish and Game Commission enable him to work collaboratively to consider all interests while working to achieve a science-based common ground outcome in the MLPA.

Communication network:
As noted above, Phil's communications network includes a broad range of fishermen in the Santa Barbara County area, along with members of CLTFA. He is committed to communicate with stakeholders not actively engaged in the MLPA process.

Commitment:
Phil is committed to serve as alternate to Rodger Healy and assist in fulfilling all charges of the SCRSG.

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REGULAR MEMBER **CIRO FERRIGNO** , San Pedro, CA 90732

Provide first-hand knowledge:
Ciro crewed on his father's purse seine vessel as a youth, and began fishing full-time in 1981 on the F/V Ferrigno Boy, fishing for sardines, anchovy, mackerels, market squid, bonito and tunas in southern California. Ciro has extensive knowledge of habitats in the Southern California Bight including Catalina, San Clemente and the northern Channel Islands.

Balanced perspective – SC region with local knowledge:
Ciro has in-depth knowledge of the habitats surrounding the northern Channel Islands as well as fishing experience in the southern part of the SC study area, although his 'home grounds' focus is the south coast and Catalina Island.

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Convey interests and work collaboratively:
With his extensive knowledge of fishing grounds gained over generations in a long-established fishing family, Ciro is well respected among both recreational and commercial fishermen and others. He is an acknowledged leader in

the San Pedro fishing community. He understands and respects different perspectives and is willing to work collaboratively with others.

Communication network:
As noted above, Ciro is a leader in the San Pedro fishing community as well as the San Pedro fishermen's representative on the CWPA Board of Directors. He has regular communication with recreational and commercial fishing interests in the San Pedro and Terminal Island harbor communities, and is capable and willing to network with other fishermen throughout the MLPAI process.

Commitment:
Ciro has pledged his commitment to fulfill the responsibilities of the Regional Stakeholder Group. As a professional fisherman for 27 years, Ciro has the desirable balance of knowledge of southern CA fishing grounds (especially the southern Channel Islands including Catalina) and the respect of the fishing community, including both recreational and commercial fishermen. His knowledge, ability to communicate with others would be an asset on the SCRSG.

ALTERNATE for Ciro Ferrigno

NEIL GUGLIELMO Camarillo CA 93012

Provide first-hand knowledge:
Neil has fished full-time for 47 years, his experience encompassing purse-seine, gillnet and trap fisheries for the wetfish complex including squid, mackerel and sardines, as well as crab, lobster, bonito and herring. Neil has fished from the Mexican border to north of San Francisco, and fished extensively "between the points", the region between Point Arguello and Point Conception.

Balanced perspective – SC region with local knowledge:
With his balance of knowledge focused in the northern part of the SC study area, Neil is ideally suited to serve as Ciro's alternate on the SCRSG.

Convey interests and work collaboratively:
Neil represented wetfish fishermen on the Channel Islands Marine Reserves Working Group (MRWG), attending monthly meetings for approximately 20 months. In addition, he participated on the RSG in the south central coast MLPA Initiative process. He also represents fishermen on the PFMC Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Panel. He has extensive experience in working collaboratively with agencies, fishermen and other marine interests.

Communication network:

Neil is on the Board of Directors of CWPA, as alternate representing Ventura/Port Hueneme wetfish fishermen. He also represents fishermen on the PFMC's CPS Advisory Subpanel, as noted above, and is well known and respected in the fishing community. He has regular communications with recreational and commercial fishermen in the SC study area, and is willing to reach out to stakeholders not directly involved in the process.

Commitment:
Neil's breadth of knowledge, both of the region and its resources as well as his experience on the Channel Islands MRWG, would be a valuable asset to the MLPA south coast stakeholder process. Neil communicates regularly with Ciro and is committed to assist in meeting RSG responsibilities and charges as Ciro's alternate on the SCRSG.

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REGULAR MEMBER **GERRY RICHTER** Santa Barbara CA 93105

Provide first-hand knowledge:
A commercial fisherman in southern CA for 32 years, Gerry Richter has extensive experience fishing for various groundfish such as blackgill, vermilion, lingcod and various other deeper nearshore rockfish. Gerry also fishes with hook and line for halibut and barracuda, and fished shark in the past. Gerry knowledge of fishing grounds extends from Monterey to Mexico. He is the current and longstanding member of the PFMC's Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP), representing fixed gear commercial groundfish fishermen in S.CA. He also has participated on numerous Stock Assessment Review (STAR) Panels for such groundfish species as vermilion, bocaccio, cowcod, gopher, blackgill and chilipepper rockfishes, as well as California scorpionfish and lingcod, all of which are harvested in southern CA.

Balanced perspective – SC region with local knowledge:
Gerry has in-depth knowledge of the resources and habitats in the south coast study area, and he balances this local knowledge with a regional perspective: his roles on the GAP includes communicating with all open access and limited-entry fixed gear groundfish fishermen from Morro Bay to the Mexican border to gather input in order to advise the PFMC in making management decisions.

Convey interests and work collaboratively:
Gerry is very well qualified to convey the interests of south coast fishermen, and he has extensive experience in working collaboratively. For example, Gerry assisted the PFMC in negotiations during development of the Rockfish Conservation Areas (RCA) to protect specified rockfish species.

Communication network:
Gerry has developed an extensive network of fishing contacts from his work on the GAP, and he also serves as VP of the Point Conception Groundfishermen's Association. He maintains routine email and dockside communications with south coast fishermen and is willing to reach out to fishermen not directly involved in MLPA.

Commitment:
Gerry is well respected in south coast fishing communities as well as with DFG and the PFMC. His experience with resource protection and his interactions and collaboration with diverse stakeholders and resource agencies would be a welcome addition to the SCRSG. He is committed to fulfilling the time-intensive responsibilities involved in serving as a regular member on the RSG.

ALTERNATE for Gerry Richter

CHRIS HOEFLINGER Newbury Park CA 91320

Provide first-hand knowledge:
Chris has fished in southern California continually for 42 years from nearshore to off shore, with both Recreational and Commercial participation in diving, clamming spear fishing, long lining, harpooning, trapping and trolling. Currently he works full time as a commercial fishermen trapping golden spot prawns; he also fishes shrimp, swordfish, shark, white seabass, halibut, rockfish, rock crab and sheephead. Chris has fished from Oregon to Mexico, and nearshore to Hawaii, including all Channel Islands. He has in-depth knowledge of habitats and marine life in the south coast study area, as well as a strong understanding of fishery management, MPA and reserve design principals and processes. He was appointed by CDFG to serve as a regional stakeholder during the original Marine Life Management Act process, and was actively involved in the development of the Nearshore Fishery Management Plan.

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Balanced perspective – SC region with local knowledge:
Chris currently fishes out of the port of Los Angeles. He has a strong understanding of bottom habitats as well as oceanic conditions that influence the productivity of southern California waters. He is especially interested in achieving a science-based outcome in the MLPA and also preserving the cultural heritage and productivity of the commercial fishing industry in southern California. His outreach as well as knowledge base strongly complements that of Gerry Richter to provide expanded coverage of habitats and fisheries in the south coast study area.

Convey interests and work collaboratively:
Chris believes fishery sustainability and ecosystem integrity can only be achieved when stakeholders work collaboratively in an open, transparent, and fair process that is guided by sound objective science and a non-biased governance structure. For more than a decade he has volunteered his knowledge to achieve this objective. The intent of the Marine Life Management Act (MLMA) is to achieve fishery sustainability and ecosystem integrity by following sound scientific management principals. Originally the MLPA was an important component of the MLMA. MPAs were intended to complement fishery management and help achieve ecosystem integrity. Chris wants to see that the MLPA is implemented in a fashion that complements the MLMA, and he has extensive experience working collaboratively with others to achieve those purposes.

Communication network:
Chris networks extensively among south coast harbor communities; his outreach includes participation in the following associations and processes.
1) Member Ventura County Commercial Fishing Organization
2) CDFG Nearshore Fishery Management plan advisory committee during development of the NFMP.
3) CDFG Ground Fish task Force member.
4) Commercial Fishing seat (one term) on the Channel Island National Marine Sanctuary, Sanctuary Advisory Council. (SAC)
He is willing and able to network with and provide information to stakeholders not actively engaged in the MLPA process.

Commitment:
Chris is committed to work with the other stakeholders, the BRTF, the CDFG, the science advisory panel and the Fish and Game Commission to develop a network of MPAs that protects habitats and marine life and complements the objective of maintaining sustainable fisheries and infrastructure that support them.

In summary, Chris is committed to achieve a successful science-based outcome balanced with protection of southern California fishing communities. He is fully committed to serve on the Regional Stakeholder Group for the south coast MLPA process as an alternate for Gerry Richter.

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REGULAR MEMBER **JOE VILLAREAL** Thousand Oaks CA 91362

Provide first-hand knowledge:
Joe Villareal has been a commercial and recreational fishermen in the S.CA. Bight for 30 years. He owns/operates the CPFV Mirage, and also operates it as a light boat, lighting for the commercial squid fishery during season. Joe has served for 10 years on the Board of Directors of the Sportfishing Association of California (SAC). He has played a major role in the S.CA. Bight hook and line groundfish survey for the past five years.
Joe has in-depth knowledge of habitats and marine resources, particularly groundfish and squid, in the south coast study area, including the coast and around the Channel Islands.

Balanced perspective – SC region with local knowledge:
Joe has developed decades of local knowledge of the study area and has a broad, balanced perspective of the region as a whole. His knowledge extends to commercial as well as recreational fisheries.

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Convey interests and work collaboratively:
Joe is able to articulate the perspectives of both CPFV fleet and commercial squid fleet. His experience participating on the H&L groundfish survey has given him a clear ability to work collaboratively with others, which will facilitate developing a balanced MPA network proposal that achieves the goals of the MLPA.

Communication network:
As a board member in SAC and active in both the recreational and commercial fisheries, Joe has developed an extensive communications network and is willing to use email, dockside meetings as well as disseminate information to fishermen on the grounds and other stakeholders not actively engaged in the MLPA process.

Commitment:
As a career fisherman with active interest in the marine resources of southern California, in part demonstrated by his active participation in collaborative research as a participant in H&L groundfish survey, Joe is well qualified to serve on the south coast regional stakeholder group, and he is dedicated to make the necessary time commitment to fulfill the responsibilities of a regular member, if he is appointed.

ALTERNATE for Joe Villareal

MERIT McCREA Santa Barbara CA 93103

Provide first-hand knowledge:
Merit McCrea has fished and dived the waters of southern CA since at least 1979. He captained CPFV vessels at SEA Landing in Santa Barbara: he restored the 55-foot vessel *Seahawk*, piloted the 149-passenger quad-jet vessel *Condor Express*, and expanded the recreational CPFV fishing frontier to the West Bank of San Miguel Island and to Pt. Arguello. Merit explored local waters for undocumented reef sites, expanding local knowledge of marine habitats in the Channel. He conducted interpretive cruises, sighting marine mammals and other sea life in and around the Channel Islands.
With a dual interest in marine biology, Merit has also assisted with data gathering of marine fish using direct observation along transects both by SCUBA and from the Delta manned submersible in depths ranging from near surface to 220 m. As a research technician, Merit has facilitated the capture and tagging of more than 140 rockfish and lingcod, and he operated the CSULB Lowe lab research vessels. From 2003-2006 he studied marine biology at the Lowe Lab, CSULB, in Long Beach CA. He is currently enrolled in graduate studies at the Love Laboratory, at UCSB's Marine Science Institute,.
Merit also studied geographic information systems (GIS) at UCSB and presented a poster on the spatial distribution of fishing effort at the "Spatial UCSB" inauguration, ESRI UC '08.

Balanced perspective – SC region with local knowledge:
With nearly 40 years of marine experience in the CPFV fleet, conducting and participating in fishing trips, marine sightseeing excursions, underwater research and marine study, Merit is well qualified to balance his local knowledge with an overarching perspective of the south coast study area.

Convey interests and work collaboratively:
Merit has participated actively on the Channel Islands MRWG, and he is a member of the CINMS Sanctuary Advisory Council, assistant chair of their recreational fishing working group. Merit's affiliations include United Anglers, Recreational Fishing Alliance, Sportfishing Association of California where he served on the board from 1988 to 2001. He also has communications within the science community as a graduate student at the Marine Science Institute at UCSB. In short, Merit is well qualified to understand and convey the interests of multiple stakeholder groups and is committed to collaborating to achieve a science-based and well-balanced outcome in the MLPA Initiative process.

Communication network:
As noted above, Merit has developed an extensive communications network, also including recreational fishing media contacts. He is committed to network and communicate with these groups as well as stakeholders not directly involved in the MLPA process.

– more –

Commitment:
Merit is willing to participate actively in the MLPA Initiative process and feels his lifetime fishing experience and knowledge of marine biology and habitats, as well as his experience with GIS, would be best suited as an alternate to Joe Villareal, with whom he communicates routinely. Merit believes the regular voting member should be the one whose livelihood depends directly on their spatial access to the fishing grounds. Merit is committed to serve as Joe's alternate, assisting Joe however possible to fulfill the duties of a stakeholder member on the RSG.

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REGULAR MEMBER **JOEL GREENBERG** Valley Village CA 91607

Provide first-hand knowledge:
Joel Greenberg has served as chair of the southern CA chapter of the Recreational Fishing Alliance (RFA) for nearly six years. Joel is also an original member of the DFG Groundfish Task Force and a member of NOAA's California Saltwater Sportfishing Action Team. In addition, Joel is active in the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Fishing Working Group.

Balanced perspective – SC region with local knowledge:
Joel is well qualified and capable of balancing his working knowledge of local habitats and species with a regional perspective. He has participated actively in resource protection processes, involved in numerous meetings of the CA Fish and Game Commission and MLPA Initiative.

Convey interests and work collaboratively:
Joel is capable of conveying the interests of the recreational angler and balances these skills with the ability to work collaboratively. Joel is well-known to the MLPA Initiative staff and BRTF, having spent nearly four years as a SIG member during the SCC and NCC phases of the MLPAI.

Communication network:
Joel has extensive contacts within the fishing community, both recreational and commercial, and is able to network with recreational groups including RFA, UASC, SAC, United Pier and Shore Anglers of CA (UPSAC) and Partnership for Sustainable Oceans. Joel also is an active member of the California Fisheries Coalition and is able to communicate effectively to stakeholders through numerous channels, including email, dockside conversations and meetings.

Commitment:
With his knowledge of the MLPA Initiative process as well as resource and habitat protection issues, Joel is committed to dedicate himself to fulfill the time commitment and duties required of a regular member on the SCRSG.

ALTERNATE For Joel Greenberg – To be determined

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REGULAR MEMBER **DON BROCKMAN** Newport Beach CA 92661

Provide first-hand knowledge:
Don Brockman has fished full time for 32 years in the charterboat industry and 22 years as a commercial squid lightboat and live bait provider. He has fished extensively from the Mexican border to Point Conception, including the Channel Islands, and has in-depth knowledge of the habitats and marine resources in the south coast study area.

– more –

Balanced perspective – SC region with local knowledge:
Don has solid understanding of the perspectives of both recreational and commercial fishermen and is well able to balance a south coast regional perspective with local knowledge of the habitats utilized in both recreational and commercial fisheries.

Convey interests and work collaboratively:
Don is President of Davey's Locker and Freelance Sportfishng, on the board of the Sportfishing Association of California and an associate member of the California Wetfish Producers Association. He is willing to convey the interests of all these groups. His prior collaborative experience includes active participation in the Channel Islands marine reserve process and as a member of the DFG Squid Fishery Advisory Committee.

Communication network:
Don communicates regularly with the above groups and interested public at his sportfishng landing, as well as on the fishing grounds. He is willing to provide information through these network connections and his business associations to reach stakeholders not actively involved in MLPA meetings.

Commitment:
Don works closely with recreational and commercial fisherme from several harbor communities in southern CA. He understands the process and is committed and dedicated to achieve a balanced outcome in the MLPA Initiative.

ALTERNATE for Don Brockman

RICHARD ASHLEY Long Beach CA 90808

Provide first-hand knowledge:
Richie Ashley is a third generation fisherman who has spent his life fishing in southern CA, following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather. Richie began his career working for his father's sportfishing / live bait operation. Since 1994 he has branched out to establish his own bait company, Long Beach Bait Co.; he also owns/ operates four vessels: *FV Provider, Long Beach Carnage, Pacific Carnage and More Carnage.* Richie now supplies live bait for his father's sportfishing enterprise as well as his own, fishing squid, sardine and mackerel for live bait and also supplying wetfish markets. He has developed in-depth knowledge of the southern CA coastline from Pt. Arguello to Mexico and especially the northern and southern Channel Islands. He considers the coast Point Mugu to Oceanside as 'home turf' and Catalina as his home island.

Balanced perspective – SC region with local knowledge:
Richie has broad experience fishng throughout the south coast study area, so can bring a regional perspective to the table, balanced with specialized knowledge of the Channel Islands and coast from Pt. Mugu to Oceanside.

Convey interests and work collaboratively:
As owner of a bait company supplying his father's sportfishing business, as well as owner of three market squid vessel permits, a squid brail permit and two CPS finfish permits, Richie's interests span both sides of the fence in the fishing community. He is committed to find a balance between all stakeholder interests to achieve a science-based outcome in the MLPA Initiative.

Communication network:
Richie is in routine communication with fishermen both in recreational and commercial fisheries, as well as with organizations such as CWPA. He is dedicated to network with fishermen on the grounds and via normal communications, i.e. radio and dockside meetings, to communicate news of the south coast MLPA process.

Commitment:
Richie feels it is his duty to fulfill the time commitment required of the regional stakeholder group. He has made his livelihood on the ocean in southern CA and he has much "at stake". He is committed to share his knowledge to help achieve a successful, balanced outcome in the MLPA south coast process.

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REGULAR MEMBER **BOB BERTELLI** , Seal Beach CA90740

Provide First Hand Knowledge:
Bob has 50 years of diving experience in California's ocean waters. He has been a sports diver, a Scuba instructor and a dive shop operator.

Since 1975, he has been a commercial shellfish diver, fishing for abalone, sea urchin, coral and sea cucumber. In years past he has also fished trammel nets and for herring. Currently he focuses his commercial fishing on sea cucumbers and sea urchins.

Balanced perspective – SC region with local knowledge:
Bob has extensive knowledge of the Channel Islands and Coastal areas which he currently fishes from the San Pedro/Long Beach harbor. Previously he fished out of Santa Barbara and northern California. He has actively worked representing his fisheries and coordinating with other fishery groups in exploring and developing alternative fishery policies and solutions since 1977.

He currently serves as the Chair of the California Sea Urchin Commission, created with oversight from the CA Department of Food & Agriculture. In addition, he serves as the Sea Urchin Commission's Port Representative for Los Angeles and Orange Counties. In this capacity he is able to collaborate with other fishery representatives in addressing local concerns, learning about the needs of others, sharing information and solving problems.

Convey interests and work collaboratively:

As a leader in the sea cucumber and sea urchin fisheries, Bob frequently finds himself in the position of representing and working closely with fishermen from other fisheries, including lobster, live fish, squid and recreational marine users on local and regional issues. For example he has taken a lead on tracking and understanding the Department of Defense proposal to modify fishing access to San Clemente Island. In addition, Bob took the lead in working with the Department of Fish & Game over the past year to amicably resolve a delicate issue with landing reports.

Bob has a BA degree in History from Cal State Fresno and was active on the college debate team – all of which will serve him well in working dynamically with others on the RSG.

Communication network:
If appointed to the RSG, Bob will be able to coordinate and share information using the Sea Urchin Commission's printed and electronic newsletters, local and statewide sea urchin meetings, and frequent contacts on the docks with fishermen from all of the regional fisheries.

Commitment:
Bob is committed to ensuring a fair and balanced science-based outcome in the MLPAI. He recognizes the role MPAs could play in addressing vital concerns facing the marine environment and is interested in exploring and securing consensus on creative solutions.

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Thanks very much for this opportunity to nominate members for the SCRSG. We believe these individuals represent a diversity of fishery interests and regional local knowledge. We appreciate your consideration of these nominations and the pairings we've suggested.

Sincerely,

Vern Goehring

Vern Goehring, Manager