JIM MARTIN
WEST COAST REGIONAL DIRECTOR
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Wednesday, 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

RE: SoCal RSG Nominations for the MLPAI

Dear Melissa,

The Recreational Fishing Alliance (RFA) is a national 501(c)(4) non-profit grassroots political action organization whose mission is to safeguard the rights of salt water anglers, protect marine, boat, and tackle industry jobs, and insure the long-term sustainability of our nation's marine fisheries.

We would like to make the following nominations to the South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group for the MLPA process:

Joel Greenberg
RFA SoCal

Valley Village, CA 91607

Joel Greenberg is Chairman of the Southern California Chapter of the Recreational Fishing Alliance (RFA) and has served in that capacity for nearly six years. Besides being an original member of the California Department of Fish and Game Groundfish Task Force, he has also served as a member of NOAA's California Saltwater Sportfishing Action Team and the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Fishing Working Group. Joel has participated actively in resource protection processes, involved in numerous meetings of the California Fish and Game Commission and the MLPA Initiative, where he frequently offered testimony on conservation and fisheries management issues from the standpoint of the recreational angler. Joel is well known to the MLPA I-Team and BRTF, having spent nearly four years as a SIG member during the Central Coast and North Central Coast phases of the MLPAI. With his knowledge of MLPA processes as well as resource and habitat protection issues, Joel is committed to dedicate himself to the duties of a Regional Stakeholder Group primary for the South Coast Region.

Terry Maas

Ventura, Ca, 93003

Alternate: Bill Ernst

Terry Maas has been diving California waters consistently for the last 50 years and is the author two popular books on freediving. As a Board member of SeaWatch, Terry is dedicated to preserving the Sea of Cortez. He is a World Record holder and a National Champion. He was the principal videographer for an underwater series for Outdoor Channel--first 22 shows. Holder of 3 advanced degrees, DDS, MS Oral Surgery, MBA. On the state Abalone Advisory Group for possible abalone take at San Miguel Island. He was an original stakeholder on the first, aborted, MLPA process for So. Cal. Author of many photo-journal articles on sea life including one of the resurgence of the Black Sea Bass and another front page for the "National Geographic of Mexico" on Manta Rays. As an artist, his painting of a white seabass is displayed at Hubbs Research Facility, and his mural of Channel Island Sea Life is displayed at the National Park Visitor Center in Ventura. Terry is also a still photographer--many of his images are used in conservation literature, most notably sharks, rays and turtles caught by line or in nets. Terry is currently working on a kid's show about the wonders of the ocean for PBS.

Wendy Tochihara
National Sales Manager
Izorline International, Inc.

Paramount, CA 90723

Website: www.izorline.com

Wendy is the National Sales Manager for a local fishing line company and a private boater who fishes recreationally as well as competitively. On a regular basis she visits tackle stores, gives seminars and talks to many different stakeholder groups in this region. She can be heard on the air and via the Internet every Sunday night on Rod & Reel Radio as one of the co-hosts of the show. Wendy communicates with anglers, captains, deckhands, surfers, kayakers, boaters, non boaters, tackle store owners, employees, manufacturers and conservationists every day. She will bring first-hand knowledge and perspective to the MLPA South Coast Study Region, and express clearly the interests of the listed stakeholders and work collaboratively, seeking to integrate the interests of the full range of constituencies. She is an open minded individual with many different interests and willing to hear all sides of an issue. Wendy belongs to the following organizations: President, Chuck Byron Memorial Youth Art Foundation; Member: Screen Actors Guild; BASS; Saltwater Bass Anglers; WON Bass; American Bass; South Bay Lady Anglers; Anglers Choice; El Segundo Douglas Rod & Gun Club; Manzanar School Reunion Committee; United Anglers of Southern California; and the American Sportfishing Association.

Merit McCrea
Santa Barbara CA 93103

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. 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. 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.

Joe Villareal

Thousand Oaks CA 91362

Joe Villareal has been a commercial and recreational fisherman in the Southern California Bight for 30 years. He owns/operates the CPFV *Mirage*, and also operates it as a light boat 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 Southern California Bight hook and line groundfish survey for the past five years. 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. Joe is able to articulate the perspectives of both CPFV fleet and commercial squid fleet. 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.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jim Martin

Jim Martin
West Coast Regional Director
The Recreational Fishing Alliance