

**From:** KenKurtis(  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 17, 2008 5:01 AM  
**To:** MLPAComments  
**Subject:** Re: [MLPA Initiative] Nominations to the south coast stakeholder group

Well, I'll at least throw my hat in the ring but I may withdraw from consideration at a later date.

Serious question: Can you be a member of the RSG and be a member of the SIG????

In a message dated 6/23/2008 8:09:19 PM Pacific Daylight Time, melissa@resources.ca.gov writes:  
Nominations should include the following information:

- Nominee name and complete contact information, including email address,  
Ken Kurtis

L.A., CA 90024

- A short statement to confirm how the applicant meets **each** of the selection criteria listed above,

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

Member of the local diving community, active in local marine-related issues, member of SIG-1 and SIG-2.

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

Willingness to commit the time for full participation,

Therein lies the rub. I'll need to get better direction from you on the time commitment required. I travel a lot and already am involved with other projects that consume large quantities of my time. But then again, I feel passionate about the MLPA.

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

Specific communication and outreach mechanisms to be utilized (give examples), and I speak to many groups, I have extensive e-mail lists, I write a weekly e-mail newsletter that goes out to 1500 people and gets published on the WEB, and I post to various scuba-related newsgroups. I also have contacts in the broadcast industry and do make a living as a broadcaster as well (though currently without assignment).

- Areas of knowledge or expertise relevant to the project.

I've been diving these areas since 1981. I understand the overall MLPA process through my involvement with the SIG.

If there's any documentation or things I've left out, let me know. I'm filling this from my hotel room in Yap, where I'm spending the week observing and photographing Giant Pacific Manta Rays, amongst others (the one behind me is getting cleaned):

- Ken

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**Ken Kurtis**  
**NAUI Instr. #5936**  
**Owner, Reef Seekers Dive Co.**  
**Beverly Hills, CA**



## Greater Los Angeles Council of Divers

P.O. Box 6255, Torrance, CA 90504-6255

[www.glacd.org](http://www.glacd.org)

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*Serving the Greater Los Angeles Diving Community since 1960*

Ms. Melissa Miller-Henson:

The Board of Directors of the Greater Los Angeles Council of Divers (GLACD) is aware that nominations are being accepted for the Southern California Regional Stakeholders Group (RSG). There are several candidates for both consumptive and non-consumptive representatives for the diving community that we would like to support.

GLACD BOD support Ken Kurtis and Steve Benevides as non-consumptive representatives and Kevin B. Cooper and Erik Banados as consumptive representatives?

I believe that Ken Kurtis and Kevin Cooper have previously been nominated and that you should have the necessary information to consider them as candidates. In regards to Steve Benavides and Erik Banados, we can provide the information below at this time. If more information is needed to complete the nomination process, please contact me and I will get the necessary information.

Steve Benavides: Here is a bio from an editorial that Steve Benavides wrote for California Diving News. Steve is also a past member of the GLACD Board of Directors.

“Steve Benavides is a Californian with 30+ years of coastal piloting and diving experience in the Channel Islands. He is an extensively published free-lance nature writer and photographer. He is a certified research diver, a director and past president of Catalina Conservancy Divers. Steve holds political appointments to the Dept. of Fish & Game Recreational Abalone Advisory Committee and Commission Focus Group representing southern California Divers. He is a co-founder of the Kelp Forest Coalition.”

Erik Banados is a member of the L.A. Fathomiers, his phone number is

Erik has been a freediver and a spear fisherman for many years. He is currently the Vice President of the Greater Los Angeles Council of Divers and is head of the CompEtetive Committee.

Thank you,

Eric Frasco,  
President, Greater Los Angeles Council of Divers.  
For the Board of Directors of GLACD  
18 July 2008