

From: JMaassen
Sent: Thursday, July 17, 2008 4:27 PM
To: MLPAComments
Subject: Jeff Maassen nomination to RSG.

I would like to take this opportunity to nominate myself, Jeff Maassen to the Regional Stakeholder Group.

I have been a Commercial fisherman for 22 years and have been a part time both in the sport and commercial industries for another 15 years. I have fished from San Clemente Island to Fort Bragg in Northern California. I have fished commercially for Sea Urchins in the aforementioned regions for the past 22 years.

Past and present experience and positions:

Treasurer for S.U.H.A.C. (Sea Urchin Harvesters Association of California) 4 years. I served at the Santa Barbara county alternate on the California Sea Urchin Commission for the years 2006 to 2008, I am currently the Vice President for C.F.S.B.I. (Commercial Fishermen of Santa Barbara Inc. and I am on the Advisory board of "Heal The Ocean" a non profit regional organization dedicated to ocean water quality in the Santa Barbara South coast. I am a stalwart advocate of conservation ethics and clean oceans. I coined the term "Healthy oceans support healthy Fisheries". I worked with the local Channel Keeper(Drew Bohan) testing local creek waters. I have spoken in public in support of the oceans from Sacramento(State Water Quality Control Board), San Pedro(U.S, Commission on Ocean Policy) and Santa Barbara at the B.E.A.C.O.N., A tri-county governmental organization dedicated to enhance beaches at the expense of near shore habitat. Over the past several years I have had increasing interaction with T.N.C -The Nature Conservancy, E.D.F.-Environmental Defence Fund and the M.S.I. at U.C.S.B. Last year, myself and a group of 15 Santa Barbara Sea Urchin Divers became certified in underwater data collection using the C.R.A.N.E. protocol through the Reef Check organization at U.C.S.B. I produced a brochure entitled "Sea Urchins of Santa Barbara" for public outreach in 2007.

In closing I feel that my position as the vice president of the Commercial Fishermen of Santa Barbara will provide a suitable venue using meetings to coordinate stakeholder participation in the MLPA process.

Thank You for your consideration.

Jeff Maassen

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