

From: anthony rezzato

Sent: Thursday, July 17, 2008 9:14 AM

To: MLPAComments

Subject: Nomination

Please consider this my nomination for membership on the MLPA Stakeholder panel

My name is Anthony Rezzato.

Though I have held a commercial license in the past and even been employed in Sportfishing briefly, I am primarily a recreational angler that counts 2008 as his forty-sixth season of fishing in the Southern California Bight. On average I fish one hundred and fifty days a year almost exclusively on open-party and charter boat excursions within this area. My eighteen year old son Matthias counts this as his fourteenth season and we fish together often strengthening bonds of affection and engaging in a challenging and rewarding sport; a sport in a location that has rewarded me and, now, my offspring, in ways beyond recreational that go into the aesthetic and spiritual.

Sportfishing along the coast, around the Islands, and out to the off shore banks is and has been a daily concern for me even before I caught my first Bonito at age ten as I would read the fish reports daily in the Los Angeles Times. I sometimes pride myself on knowing where and what is going on and do keep track despite being fully employed working with the homeless mentally ill as a Case Manager/ Psychotherapist and licensed by the State of California as a Marriage and Family therapist. I might add to this that I conduct on average twenty group process therapy sessions per week with not "diverse" individuals but, rather, ones that are certifiably mentally ill.

Over the years I have seen fishing show a steady decline. There have been some improvements and successes such as the Barracuda and the White Seabass. There is the occasional El Niño year pushing southern stocks of primarily migratory fish into our area. But, each year, the resident fish stocks- ground fish and inshore species have suffered. Strong intervention in the form of closures, depth restrictions, and tackle regulations have saved the Rockfish. That fishery's decline from when I was a young man to the early to mid 1990's was a painful thing to behold. I find the current state of the inshore fisheries to be in need of strong measures to prevent further decline and reaching a point where a recovery of healthy bio-diversity is impossible.

I hold no ties to any specific Sportfishing economic group. I spend money to fish, I do not make money from it. In some cases closures will result in losses to some individuals and groups. Short term and temporary hardships for very few is a very small sacrifice to make to guarantee that a healthy and diverse marine environment. That is a point that cannot be overlooked. Had a more conservation minded ethos (catch and release) come into play earlier MPA's might never have been needed.

During the course of an average week I talk to 25 to 40 individuals at tackle stores and on Sportfishing boats. I am no longer affiliated with any angler organizations In the past I was a member of United Anglers and of the Recreational Fishermans Alliance. I do have many long time friends that are still involved and hold positions. I have many long time friends involved in some aspects of recreational fishing in Southern California. These include Dick Schaffer, Rick Oefinger, Phillip Friedman, Paul Strosser, Ray Duane, Larry Fukahara, Craig Nomura, Ernie Prieto. Don Brockman, and many more. Nothing beats communication that is direct and personal and I will spread information actively. I am a very good communicator.

With respect to Geographic Information Systems(GIS) I think I can use it. But, I have to tell you that I have actually been to or by every single piece of coast from Pt. Conception to Imperial Beach, been around every Island , and been to every off shore bank,