

California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
Request for Nomination to the South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group

Nominee name and contact information

Jerry C Wilson

Nominee's short statement regarding each of the selection criteria

1. Able to bring first-hand knowledge and perspective to bear on the marine resources of the MLPA South Coast Study Region

I grew up in Venice Beach where my father was a sportfishing boat Captain, and I worked as a deckhand in the '50's and '60's. I also fished commercially out of San Pedro (tuna jack-pole) mainly in the outer islands and banks. I became an LA County diving instructor in 1970 and have dived throughout the SCSR. My Master's Degree thesis (USC) was a study of the seafloor of the Southern California Borderland. I have lived and worked in west LA, Santa Barbara, Malibu, and now San Diego.

2. Able to balance a south coast regional perspective with localized knowledge

Through these years I have gained direct ocean resource knowledge and experience for many localities within the SCSR. However, I also know the region as a scientist through study and work as an oceanographer and marine/coastal geologist. I know both details and understand the context for the SCSR.

3. Willing to express fundamental interests (as opposed to fixed positions) and to clearly convey the interests of one or more stakeholder groups

By my long life experience throughout the Southern California Bight I believe I can bring an overview of this Study Region, as well as a participant's understanding of various stakeholders' viewpoints. My training has included specifically the importance of finding tradeoffs in the uses of our environment: my doctorate (UCLA) is in Environmental Science and Engineering, which required working with multiple interests to find workable solutions to demands on natural resources.

I am claiming to be an "insider" about SCSR, but I also bring a unique and substantial outsider's appreciation of these waters that are so important in my life. I have also lived (London, Anchorage, Hong Kong, New Jersey, Seattle) and worked (North Sea, Mediterranean Sea, Persian Gulf, both coasts of Africa and South America, Indian Ocean, Arctic Ocean, throughout SE Asia, Japan) on coastal engineering and environmental studies of many other coastal communities, waters and coasts.

So I offer some knowledge of many other regions' related issues and solutions regarding uses of the oceans.

4. Capable of working collaboratively, seeking to integrate the interests of the full range of constituencies

I have worked on numerous major coastal and offshore EIR and EIS studies in the SCSR (and beyond). This practice inherently requires the balancing of all issues and users. Specialists on environmental studies teams must work closely together to balance impacts and devise mitigation solutions. This experience has also been a grand opportunity to develop in some depth understanding about issues that are not my expertise.

5. Able to access and use an effective communication network to reach stakeholders not attending the public meetings

Having grown up as a working fisherman and diver, I believe I can understand and communicate well with these stakeholders. I have also worked professionally on projects with a wide range of ocean users, including ports and harbors, ocean outfalls, the military, and the energy (oil/gas, power plant, LNG) and tourism/recreation industries. I am not encumbered by a narrow agenda for the SCSR, only a deep appreciation for my "home waters".

6. Committed to completing all aspects of the charge of the regional stakeholder group

I care deeply for "my" SCSR and have the dedication to do this important work. I hereby commit myself to carrying out the responsibilities of a SCSR stakeholder. I would even consider the SAT, if appropriate.

Other: Knowledge or experience with geographic information systems (GIS) is helpful.

Much of my professional work requires using ArcGIS and delivering GIS data products. For example, see the SANDAG Nearshore Project (http://www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/rs_apps/issues/nearshore.htm).

Identify current and past affiliations with stakeholder groups active in marine resource management

I am currently on the Board of Directors of the Marine Technology Society, an international professional society working on multiple issues concerning the oceans and marine environment. Please see www.mtsociety.org

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

I have been an organizer and sponsor for GeoHab; please see: www.geohab.org

Attended NOAA Coastal States Organization and Coastal Services Center workshops.

I have attended a number of past California Ocean Protection Council meetings, and Coastal Zone Conferences (see www.csc.noaa.gov/cz/).

Willingness to commit the time for full participation

I care deeply for "my" SCSR and have the dedication to do this important work. I hereby commit myself to carrying out the responsibilities of a SCSR stakeholder. I would even consider the SAT, if appropriate.

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

I am an independent native-son science-focused stakeholder. I have neither a specific agenda nor narrow interest, and only seek to contribute to a comprehensive approach to MPAs in SCSR. I can and will communicate with all organizations and individuals.

Specific communication and outreach mechanisms to be utilized (give examples)

I have a leadership voice through the Marine Technology Society, which has many members in southern California. I am comfortable giving presentations to interest groups, and am a member of local and regional engineering and scientific societies. I can support blogs and PR materials preparation and review. I will participate in public outreach and workshops as needed. I can help design map products and presentations for the public, the stakeholders' group, SAT or BRTF. Good communications with fishermen, divers, industries, and scientists.

Areas of knowledge or expertise relevant to the project

- Seafloor and coastal mapping and data interpretation,
- Comprehensive environmental assessment of ocean resources,
- Oceanography and water quality processes,
- Knowledge of most coastal and ocean-using industries,
- Marine geology and its influences on benthic habitat.

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Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding any of the above.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jerry Wilson
17 July 2008