

**Nomination of Larry Knowles to the MLPA**  
**North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group**

Larry Knowles  
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Since 1995, I have managed—and now own—Rising Tide Sea Vegetables, a wholesale distributor of edible seaweeds and value added food items. This business has afforded me extensive experience with, and understanding of, the seaweeds along the Mendocino Coast, including their complex ecosystems, growth patterns and harvest issues. During the past 15 years, I have researched and developed techniques for low impact harvesting and have kept extensive logs on every harvest site in order to monitor and improve our practices.

In addition, I am a founding member of the Seaweed Stewardship Alliance (SSA, 1999). We are an organization comprised of small seaweed business owners and individuals developing Collaborative Management techniques for harvesting wild seaweeds on the Pacific Coast. The SSA works to ensure ecosystem health and sustainable harvesting for each species as well as availability for commercial, personal and Native American use as food. Two years ago, with assistance from the other local harvest businesses, I mapped our collective harvest areas for a NOAA project. These maps have been submitted to Ecotrust for use in this MLPA process.

Over the years, I have had contact with others in various fisheries as well as collaborative experience with a number of individuals working on local environmental issues. I have met with members of the Humboldt Bay Harbor District and regional fisheries associations and was a Regional Stakeholder during the first attempt at implementation of the MLPA in 2000-2002. I worked collaboratively with other stakeholders in this process as we attempted to implement the Act as it was presented to us at the time. I'm also currently involved with MOCA, a Mendocino County group working on an External Array Proposal.

I possess the ability to work well with my own seaweed harvesting constituency as well as with the many groups and individuals that will be involved with this process. I will work hard to ensure that stakeholders' concerns are represented in a clear and balanced format.

On a regular and timely basis, I will communicate with members of SSA and other groups and individuals via emails, phone contact and direct interaction at meetings. I have thoroughly reviewed the Charge of the MLPA North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group and commit to the requirements.

Thank you for considering me for Regional Stakeholder.

Regards, Larry Knowles