From: Rodger Healy
Sent: Monday, July 14, 2008 1:04 PM
To: MLPAComments
Subject: Nominations to the south coast stakeholder group

My name is Rodger Healy I'm a 38 year old commercial fisherman out of Dana pt., I have been a licensed commercial fisherman in the state of California for the last 20 years. I began my fishing career as a deckhand for a Dana Pt lobsterman at age 19. I spent the following seven summers gillnetting salmon in Bristol Bay, Alaska. After that first winter lobstering, I started my own business. I fished primarily lobsters, but also trapped near shore fish, rock and spider crab, and moray eels. Being an avid diver I also collect marine aquaria creatures and tidal invertebrates for profit and research. I obtained through the lottery process the Sea Urchin operator dive permit and when the market is profitable I also harvest urchins. I have crewed on local gillnet and swordfish harpoon boats, as well as spent two summers trapping spot prawns at San Clemente and Catalina Island. I qualified and received the transferable lobster operator and near shore trap permit, but have since sold my near shore permit. The fisheries that I am still permitted in are; lobster operator, sea urchin operator, marine aquaria collector, trap, southern rock crab, and tidal invertebrate.

I have been an active member in both the California Lobster and Trap fisherman's assoc. and our local Dana Cove Commercial fisherman's assoc. for as far back as I can remember. I was instrumental, working with the assistance of John Guth and others, in reopening the Dana Pt. State Marine Park to commercial lobster fishing. Three years ago I was elected president of the DCCFA and am still working proactively to improve and protect our commercial fisheries. I have attended commercial fishing meetings through out California, especially in the Southern California region. I'm familiar with most all southern California fisheries and have a rapport with many of the participants in them. I understand the complexities of individual styles and their needs as well as regional differences for commercial lobster fisherman.

I would be honored to be the representative for the commercial lobster fishery in the SC stake holder group. As a representative I would work as the liaison, sharing on the proceedings and the process first hand to both the DCCFA, as well as the CLTFA, through our quarterly planned association meetings. The members I represent directly as the president of the DCCFA, have always had the ability to call upon me directly at any time to exchange or convey information. The president of the CLTFA, John Guth and I are close personal friends and exchange information about the lobster fishery almost daily. Through our relationship, John is able to share any information transpiring with the members of CLTFA. John and I also share information through phone calls and E-mails with Chris Miller in Santa Barbara, to keep the commercial fleet in the north part off Southern California up to speed. I thank you for your time and look forward to the path ahead.

Rodger Healy