



LA CONSERVATION CORPS

SEA Lab

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 15868, Los Angeles, CA 90015

September 15, 2008

Melisa Miller-Henderson
Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
C/o California Resource Agency
1416 Ninth St, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814
Email: MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov

RE: Nomination to Marine Life Protected Area Regional Stakeholder Group for the South Coast Region

Dear Ms. Miller-Henderson:

I am writing to submit my name as a nominee for the Marine Life Protected Area (MLPA) Regional Stakeholder Group (RSG). I am the director of the SEA Lab, a marine education facility and public aquarium in Redondo Beach and I am an advocate for responsible marine resource management.

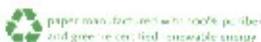
I have many years experience SCUBA diving and snorkeling throughout California's dynamic marine environments. I have logged in excess of 1200 work related dives, 170 of which have been in the waters of Southern California. I work with energy producing industries that continue to rely on once through cooling. I work to minimize their environmental impacts and educate people on the processes involved with entrainment and impingement. I am working with West Basin Municipal Water District on their environmental documents and public workshops to address the concerns of the public on the environmental impacts of desalination.

My background and formal educations provides me with excellent information and experience with MLPA's and as they pertains to the 'Precautionary Principal', 'Intermediate Disturbance' and 'Island' theories. I have experience collecting data for Marine Protected Area managers, for the Solitary Island Marine Park in NSW, Australia. I am also familiar with the existing framework of Southern California protected areas.

I have undertaken research on the abalone populations of Southern California and their habitat requirements and continue to work with captive green abalone to restore Southern California populations.

I play an active role working within the Redondo Beach community; by managing daily pier water quality survey work, teaching marine science to elementary school children, leading environmental conservation efforts and managing native habitat restoration projects.

On a regular basis I work in partnership with: industry and corporate organizations; scientific organizations including the Regional Water Quality Control Board, NOAA, NPS Channel Islands and DFG; environmental and non-profit groups including Bolsa Chica Conservancy and Heal the Bay; youth organizations and underrepresented communities; municipal water districts; and the public.





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Within my core communications network is the staff and participants of the SEA Lab and the Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC); the SEA Lab members, volunteers, visitors and advisory board, the LACC board of directors, Surfrider Foundation, Algalita Marine Research Foundation and the White SEA Bass Ocean Enhancement network. We are a public aquarium with many existing outreach programs, we connect with business, conservation groups, corporate partners, youth, the Corps network and underserved communities. We have weekly email updates that reach diverse groups throughout the United States. I have the ability to post information in the public arena of our aquarium and other public aquaria in Southern California; we produce our own quarterly newsletters and supply local newspaper reporters at the Daily Breeze and Beach Reporter with information.

It is an exciting prospect to be a part of conserving California's resources for future generations. I am passionate and committed to the marine environment and the objectives of the RSG. In my opinion MLPAs are a critically important tool in conserving our marine resources, I believe by employing MLPAs accompanied by education we can ensure the responsible management of our marine resources for future generations.

After carefully considering the charge of the MLPA South Coast RSG, I have concluded that my formal education; practical underwater experience; active abalone restoration efforts and my position as a community leader in the South Bay have prepared me to be a productive member of the South Coast RSG.

If I can be of further assistance, please call

Thank-you for your consideration
Sincerely,

Brent Scheiwe
SEA Lab Director
A Program of the Los Angeles Conservation Corps

September 15, 2008

Melisa Miller-Henderson
Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
C/o California Resource Agency
1416 Ninth St, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Nomination of Brent Scheiwe, Program Director SEA Lab for South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group

Dear Ms Miller-Henderson:

I encourage your support for the appointment of Brent Scheiwe to the Regional Stakeholder Group (RSG) for the South Coast MLPA. While I can't speak for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), my role as a Fishery Biologist at the NOAA Restoration Center, specifically with fish habitat restoration, has helped me develop a strong familiarity with issues associated with Marine Protected Areas and the MLPA process. I believe that Brent would have a lot to offer to this process. He has spent his life focused on issues pertaining to the marine environment. His leadership on abalone restoration and community education would make him a great appointee to the RSG for the South Coast Marine Protected Area Initiative. He has a bachelor's degree from Southern Cross University in New South Wales, Australia with an emphasis in fisheries and aquaculture management. He has many years of experience in implementing and supervising a variety of education, restoration, and community improvement programs. For over four years, he has been directly supervising successful education relating to marine conservation; trained multiple interns and public participants; and cared for thousands rescued marine animals. He has logged over 1200 work-related SCUBA dives and participated in numerous work and marine research-related projects. He is an experienced mentor to the young adults in our internship program as well as a responsible coordinator of all community volunteer activities. He has been the lead project manager on several facility improvements, program implementations and federal grant contracts. He is the co-chair of the Beach Bluffs restoration committee and worked tirelessly on the Redondo Beach Water Quality Task Force.

Sincerely,

Dr. David Witting
Fish Biologist
NOAA Restoration Center/Montrose Settlements Restoration Program
501 West Ocean BLVD, Suite 4470
Long Beach, Ca 90802