



**Alliance of
Communities
for
Sustainable
Fisheries**

ACSF

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for
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Fisheries



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ACSF: Protecting the Heritage & Economic Value of Fishing for California Coastal Communities

“Connecting Fishermen with their Communities”

The ACSF was formed to allow for an organized community voice for fishing and fisheries in response to current and future state and federal legislation that affects fishing, fisheries, and attendant coastal and marine environments. We will also expand our areas of interest to include a wide body of constituents' needs, specifically: all people who fish, all public or private agencies with an interest in fishing, all non-profit marine protection agencies, and any persons with an interest in fishing, preservation of traditional fishing culture and coastal and marine conservation.



The MISSION of the ACSF is as follows:

The Alliance of Communities for Sustainable Fisheries advocates for the heritage and economic value of fishing to California Coastal Communities. To preserve and enhance that value, the Alliance offers a broadly representative educational and promotional voice for waterfront communities to work constructively with interested agencies, individuals, and other marine protection organizations in order to ascertain and guarantee that:

- (1) the best and most current oceanographic, socio-economic, and fisheries science is accurately compiled;
- (2) this science is readily available to the public for use in crafting and promoting public policy;
- (3) the linkage between healthy sustainable fisheries, marine conservation, and coastal communities is firmly established in the public mind.



SUPPORTING ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS:

Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Association

Port San Luis Commercial Fishermen's Association

Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Association

Monterey Commercial Fishermen's Association

Fishermen's Association of Moss Landing

Santa Cruz Commercial Fishermen's Marketing Association

Half Moon Bay Fishermen's Marketing Association

Fishermen's Alliance

Western Fishboat Owners Association

Ventura County Commercial Fishermen's Association

Federation of Independent Seafood Harvesters

Golden Gate Fishermen's Association

Port San Luis Harbor District

City of Morro Bay Harbor

City of Monterey Harbor

Moss Landing Harbor District

Santa Cruz Port District

Pillar Pt. Harbor, San Mateo County Harbor District



2013 Board of Directors

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Recreational Fishing Alliance - Jim Martin, CA Director

Carmel River Steelhead Association - Frank Emerson, Director

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Thank you for visiting our website today - December 5, 2013

NEW! [Alliance of Communities for Sustainable Fisheries files Scoping Comments in opposition to the National Marine Sanctuary Program's intent to expand the boundaries of the Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries](#)



The California Fisheries Coalition includes 27 recreational and commercial fishing associations and businesses. We have participated in all aspects of the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Initiative process since Fall 2004. We have invested hundreds of hours to attend meetings, analyze options, map key fishing grounds, and develop a recommended network of central coast Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).

Our objective is to see a full and balanced implementation of the MLPA. This Act seeks to protect diversity of marine life and "help sustain, conserve and protect" marine populations. It requires monitoring and adaptive management of MPAs. It is not intended to duplicate pre-existing comprehensive protections that have been in place on the ocean for many years.

To ignore the significant conservation benefits of existing regulations will unfairly punish citizens engaged in legal activities. Respected marine scientists have found that new MPAs, proposed for adoption, provide little additional conservation value. However, certain alternatives have devastating costs to thousands of hard working fishermen, small fish processing businesses, recreational fishing businesses, restaurant workers, and local coastal communities.





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Support Your Local Fishermen!

The Faces of California Fishing shares the real life stories and people behind California's fishing communities. You can support their work, and the local economy, by choosing high quality, sustainably harvested, delicious California-caught seafood. This site can help you learn about seafood, fishing, and where to buy local seafood.

Do you know where your seafood comes from?

- Over 85% of the seafood we consume in the US is imported,
- Farming practices in other countries often use pesticides, antibiotics and hormones that are illegal in the US.
- Only 2% of seafood imports are inspected by the FDA.

Find a Fisherman

(by Species they Catch)

[Albacore Tuna](#)

[Anchovies](#)

[Cabezon](#)

[Crab](#)

[Hagfish](#)

[Halibut](#)

[Herring](#)



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Meet Mike Ricketts

Mike Ricketts grew up on the coast, and was always around the ocean. He was about five years old when he began sport fishing. After high school, he spent a few years in the Marine Corps (1954-57) and then turned to working with heavy equipment.

Twenty years later, Ricketts was a contractor, but his sport fishing hobby had progressed to part-time commercial fishing. He was spending his summers fishing salmon on his small fiberglass F/V Kamano, and trying to fit his contracting work into the winter months. Although the long days and dry weather of summer were better suited to contracting, Mike was having a lot more fun fishing. Finally in the mid-1980s he bought the F/V Sea Hawk and began fishing full time.

People United

For American Commercial Fisheries



info@quacf.com

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- △ Festival 2012
- △ How to help
- △ History of QACF
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- △ Photos
- △ Halibut Study
- △ Monterey Seafood

Welcome to our site

Who are we?

We are a voluntary group consisting of fishermen, scientists, local community leaders and citizens who share the same concern; the future of our commercial fishing industry and the communities closely and historically tied to fishing.

Historically, the commercial fishing industry has been the engine of the communities on the central coast of California. The sardines, squid, salmon, rock cod, sand dabs, sole, crab... and other fish had sustained thousands of jobs on our coast for most of the 20th century. Now we are facing very gray times in our industries and maybe even a less colorful future (hopefully not).

We would like to provide the opportunity for anyone who would like to help our fishermen and we would also like to provide information about fishing, fishermen, boats and our communities. Our main goal is to educate the general public about the issues and challenges each of our fisheries faces. We would like to provide an open forum for those who are concerned about these issues and a real connection between the fishing community and the general public. We believe that if we get united we will be able to bring hope to our future generations of fishermen on our coast and in America.

Please support your local and other American fishermen and join us.

[Site Map](#)

Carmel River Steelhead Association

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The mission of the Carmel River Steelhead Association is to restore, conserve, and protect the Steelhead Habitat of the Carmel River Watershed.

Welcome to the CRSA Website...

The mission of the Carmel River Steelhead Association (CRSA) is the restoration and conservation of the steelhead fishery on the Carmel River and its watershed. The primary goal is to return the Carmel River watershed to as natural a state as possible so that it will maintain an annual run of adult steelhead in excess of 2,000 fish. One extremely important annual project is the rescue of fingerlings in the lower river and tributaries as water dries up in the summer. For the last 29 years, CRSA members have volunteered an average of 500 hours per year and rescued approximately 10,000 young steelhead per year. These tiny fish are put in the lagoon or areas of the river where there is a chance for survival. This year volunteers have rescued over 7,500 young steelhead from just the tributaries.

Since its founding in 1974 the CRSA has accomplished much to benefit the native steelhead of the Carmel River.

Other than fish rescues, some of CRSA's accomplishments are:

- Constructed a fish ladder and trap allowing the transport of adult steelhead over Los Padres Dam increasing spawning habitat by 50% due to above dam access.
- Participated in a successful administrative hearing to require Cal-Am to pump less water from the Carmel Valley Alluvial Ground-water Basin thereby increasing river flow for fish and other species.
- Constructed a fish rearing facility to operate a captive brood-stock program during the drought years 1987 to 1991. This program enabled the CRSA to release 300,000 juvenile steelhead into the Carmel River during a 4-year period after the drought ended.
- In partnership with California State Parks and Cal-Am Water, CRSA repaired the "Odello West Pump" to provide supplemental water for the lagoon.
- Successfully negotiated with Cal-Am Water and MPWMD minimum flow requirements before excess winter water withdrawals can be made.



Become a CRSA Member

Membership in the Association is open to all interested persons upon paying annual dues of \$25. Dues are used to provide members with updates and current events. The CRSA is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit. 100% of your donation goes to preserving the Carmel River and protecting Native Steelhead.

[JOIN NOW](#)

Board meetings are the third Thursday of every month at the Carmel Area Wastewater District board room at 7pm

Fish Rescues are every Wednesday at 5 pm and Saturday at 7:30 am. Meet at Peja's Cauldron on Carmel Valley Road. Call ahead for instructions.

Receive a CRSA newsletter and receive a free newsletter

San Clemente Dam Removal Fact Sheet. [Read More](#)

50 plus fish saved from muddy hole during this years rescues. [Read More](#)



PEER REVIEW

***CALIFORNIA MARINE LIFE
PROTECTION ACT (MLPA)
SCIENCE ADVICE
AND MPA NETWORK PROPOSALS***

Ray Hilborn, PhD

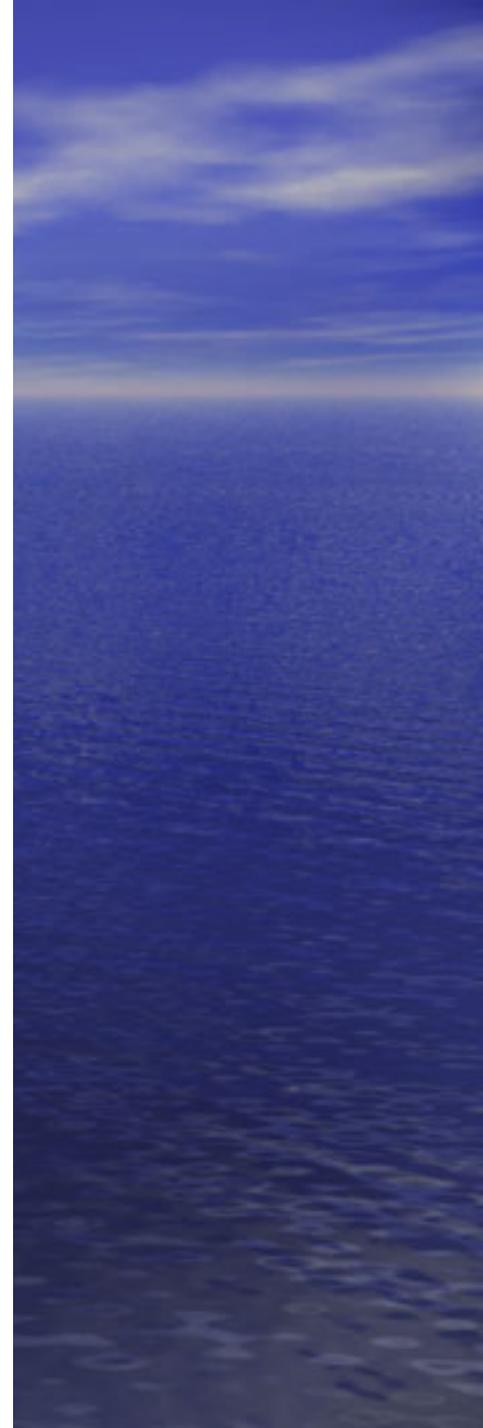
Richard Parrish, PhD

Carl J. Walters, PhD

May 25, 2006

Commissioned by:

*California Fisheries Coalition
1621 B Thirteenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 444-8194*



PEER REVIEW

Ecotrust MLPAI Products

Bonnie J. McCay, Ph.D.

Caroline Pomerooy, Ph.D.

Kevin St. Martin, Ph.D.

Coordinated by Barbara L. E. Walker, Ph.D.

July 31, 2006

Commissioned by:

California Fisheries Coalition,
an ad hoc committee of the Alliance of Communities for Sustainable Fisheries
(CFC/ACSF)
1621 B Thirteenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 444-8194



**Ecosystem consequences of MPAs for the Monterey Bay
National Marine Sanctuary**

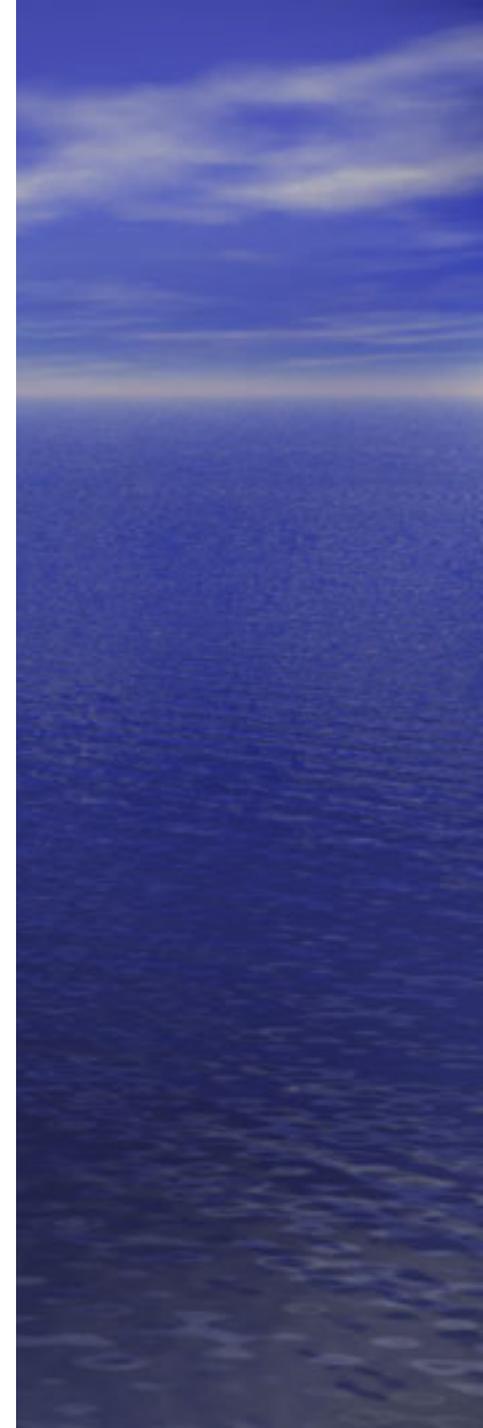
Ray Hilborn

Carl Walters

November 2007

Revised December 2007

Revised from Review March 2008



A REVIEW OF TRADITIONAL AND ECOSYSTEM-BASED FISHERY MANAGEMENT IN THE MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

Richard H. Parrish

ABSTRACT

The MBNMS study area appears to be heavily protected from overfishing and the many layers of regulations from the different management agencies prevent a large number of exploitable species from being fished at any appreciable level. This is particularly true of species in soft bottom areas of the nearshore and shelf habitats, the shelf break habitat, the deep slope habitat and the rise habitat. In federal waters a small number of species are presently being fished at moderate to optimum exploitation levels and the few species that were overfished in the past are now in rebuilding plans and their habitat has been heavily protected by the Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA). The most recent available landings (2006) show that the ports in or near the MBNMS have had large to extreme declines in the value of their landings over the previous 10 years. These most recent declines are primarily due to increased management measures (e.g., reduced catch limits and the RCA), in response to earlier stock declines, and do not reflect continuing declines of these species, especially the dominant exploited species. Numerous stock assessments show that the populations are responding to these management measures with total groundfish biomass rising substantially since about 1999. Thus management measures made prior to the establishment of the many MPAs in the MBNMS study area is preserving and enhancing ecosystem function and biodiversity. The ports of Santa Cruz, Monterey and Morro Bay are presently in severe decline and the loss of fishing infrastructure is a real threat to the fishing industry in these ports. Further declines in the value of the fisheries in the study area should be expected due to the very extensive areas protected by the federal MPAs, state MPAs and state waters trawl closures since 2006 (i.e. 62% of the total study area). It appears that the several agencies that have designated areas in the MBNMS as MPAs have acted in an un-coordinated manner resulting in the present situation with 64% of the MBNMS study area in MPAs, no analyses of the combined affects of MPAs and previous management actions, and no coherent overall strategy or goal.

INTRODUCTION

This section of the report is centered on the description of the present regulatory mechanisms that protect living marine resources and the present status and trends of these resources in relation to achieving overall ecosystem health, habitat protection, and sustainable resources including fished species. This analysis will show that many of the habitats in the study area have an array of permanent protective regulations in place to protect benthic organisms and the habitats themselves, and effectively prohibit the harvest most of their resident species. A number of species have been heavily exploited in the past are currently in a rebuilding status with most fishing gear excluded from the depleted species core habitat. These exclusions are resulting in greatly reduced landings of other species that share the depleted species' habitat. These spatial closures have not been declared permanent, and are expected to be lifted when the resources sufficiently recover, following the principle of "adaptive management"

Alternative Analysis of the Need for Additional MPAs within the MBNMS

Socio-Economic Chapter

A Report to the Alliance of Communities for Sustainable Fisheries (ACSF)

by

Barbara L. E. Walker, Ph.D.
Institute for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Research
University of California at Santa Barbara

October 15, 2007



**Consideration of Sanctuary Research Needs with Respect to Existing MPAs
Situated in the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary**

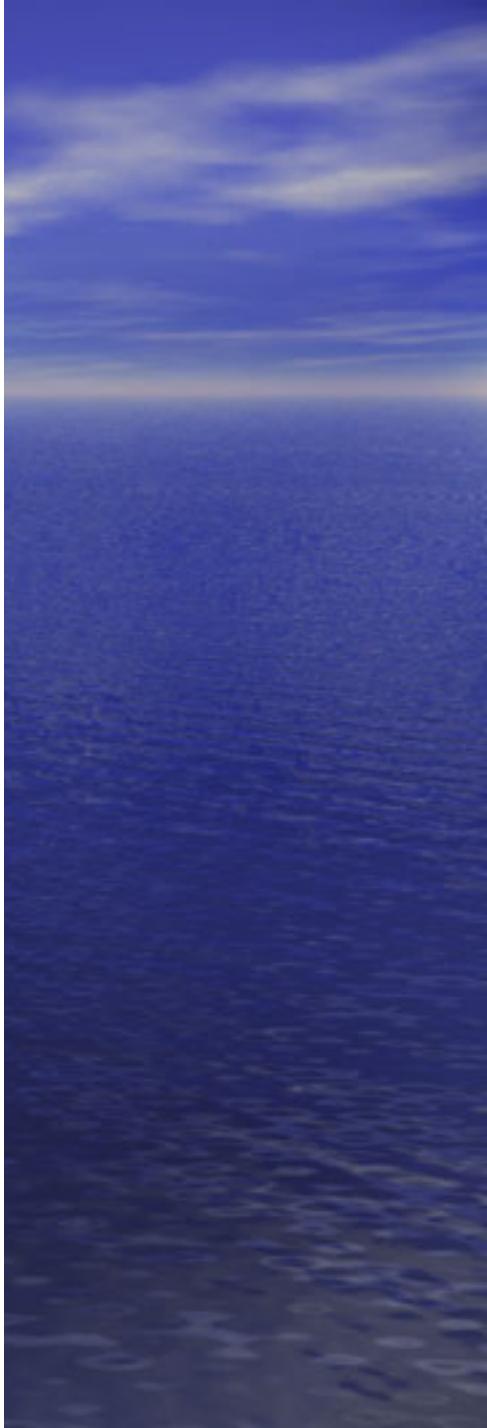
Prepared for

Alliance of Communities for Sustainable Fisheries
256 Figueroa #1
Monterey, California 93940

By

Tom Jagielo, Consulting

September 16, 2010



Responsive Management



NATIONWIDE SURVEY OF PUBLIC OPINION ON THE MANAGEMENT OF OCEAN RESOURCES

**Conducted for the Alliance of Communities for Sustainable Fisheries
by Responsive Management**

2009

Responsive Management



MONTEREY BAY AREA RESIDENTS' OPINIONS ON THE MANAGEMENT OF THE MONTEREY BAY NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

**Conducted for the Alliance of Communities for Sustainable Fisheries
by Responsive Management**

2009

Responsive Management



CALIFORNIA TOURISM AND FISHING HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

**Conducted for the Alliance of Communities for Sustainable Fisheries
by Responsive Management**

2008

Responsive Management



CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS' OPINIONS ON AND ATTITUDES TOWARD COASTAL FISHERIES AND THEIR MANAGEMENT

**Conducted for the Alliance of Communities for Sustainable Fisheries
by Responsive Management**



Alliance of Communities for Sustainable Fisheries
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(831) 373-5238
www.alliancefisheries.com

October 9, 2013

Ms. Dorothy Lowman, Chair
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, OR 97220-1384

RE: General Comments about Groundfish EFH Proposals

Chair Lowman and Council Members,

The Alliance of Communities for Sustainable Fisheries (ACSF) is a twelve-year old 501-c-3 not-for-profit educational organization, founded for the purposes of connecting fishermen with their communities, and to represent fishing interests in state and federal processes. The ACSF is a regional organization, with commercial fishing leader representatives from Port San Luis, and Monterey, Moss Landing, Santa Cruz, and Pillar Point harbors on our Board of Directors. Port communities and several recreational fishing organizations also are represented on our Board. The mission statement of the ACSF is "Connecting Fishermen with their Communities". The ACSF represents a large cross-section of fishing and community interests for the central coast of California.

The ACSF has previously expressed its support for the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) proposal for modifications to the trawl groundfish EFH boundaries within the Sanctuary. In this proposal, new boundaries were recommended to better capture some areas of high coral abundance, while also allowing for increased fishing opportunities in other areas. The MBNMS collaborated with fishermen, and also several NGO's in developing its EFH recommendations. Economic information was provided regarding the effects of this proposal. We believe, therefore, that the Sanctuary's proposal balances environmental, social, and economic considerations, and stands apart from most of the other west coast groundfish EFH proposals.

The Eel River and Environmental Defense Fund proposals both also stand out as being the result of discussions with affected fishermen. The Eel River proposal also contained a study of the habitat requested to be reopened. It is unclear whether or not other conservation groups support this proposal. The Environmental Defense Fund has proposed a gear modification that is the result of its collaboration with bottom trawl fishermen. Both the NGO and fishermen believe this change will improve the overall environmental performance of the gear.

Regarding five other proposals for groundfish EFH modifications, the ACSF notes that the views and needs of affected fishermen, and their communities, do not appear to have been addressed. In the case of the Olympic Coast NMS, that Sanctuary's management never even



sought the “advice” of its own Sanctuary Advisory Council (SAC) before it submitted its proposal. More importantly, consultation with the Tribes does not appear to have been finalized. For the Gulf of the Farallones NMS, that Sanctuary’s proposal was presented to its SAC for comment, but the SAC did not endorse the proposal, as it was felt by the majority of the SAC that sufficient outreach to affected fishermen had not occurred.

In the case of the several NGO proposals (Oceana/NRDC, MCI, GreenPeace), no real engagement with fishermen occurred, nor was there consultation with community leaders for the effects new closures-- and potential reduced groundfish landings-- might have on those communities. Moreover, given the large scope of these NGO-proposed closures, it might be expected that some metric of improvement for the success of groundfish would be provided; it is not.

The ACSF respectfully points out that an ecosystem approach to the management (EBM) of ocean resources necessarily includes human needs. It is our observation that too often ocean advocates directly equate EBM with increased protection, including from trawling or fixed gear impacts. We also note that the EFH proposal guidelines include such questions as

--What is the displacement or loss of revenue from fishing?

--Has there been collaboration with affected fishermen and communities to identify socioeconomic costs and benefits?

A number of the proposals make no apparent attempt to address these questions. Certainly human needs and socioeconomic considerations are not the only factors in evaluating these EFH proposals. We suggest, however, that they are now relatively more important considering (among other factors) the recruitment success that nearly all species of groundfish are now experiencing. There do not appear to be strong quantitative reasons why large amounts of additional groundfish EFH closures are needed, though there may be qualitative reasons to protect certain discreet areas.

Thank you for considering these comments.



Kathy Fosmark

Co-Chair



Frank Emerson

Co-Chair

Supporting Associations & Organizations:

Ventura County Commercial Fishermen’s Association



Port San Luis Commercial Fishermen's Association

Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Association

Monterey Commercial Fishermen's Association

Fishermen's Association of Moss Landing

Fishermen's Marketing Association

Santa Cruz Commercial Fishermen's Marketing Association

Half Moon Bay Fishermen's Marketing Association

Western Fishboat Owners Association

West Coast Seafood Processors Association

Federation of Independent Seafood Harvesters

Golden Gate Fishermen's Association

California Fisheries Coalition

California Wetfish Producers Association

Recreational Fishing Alliance

Carmel River Steelhead Association

Port San Luis Harbor District

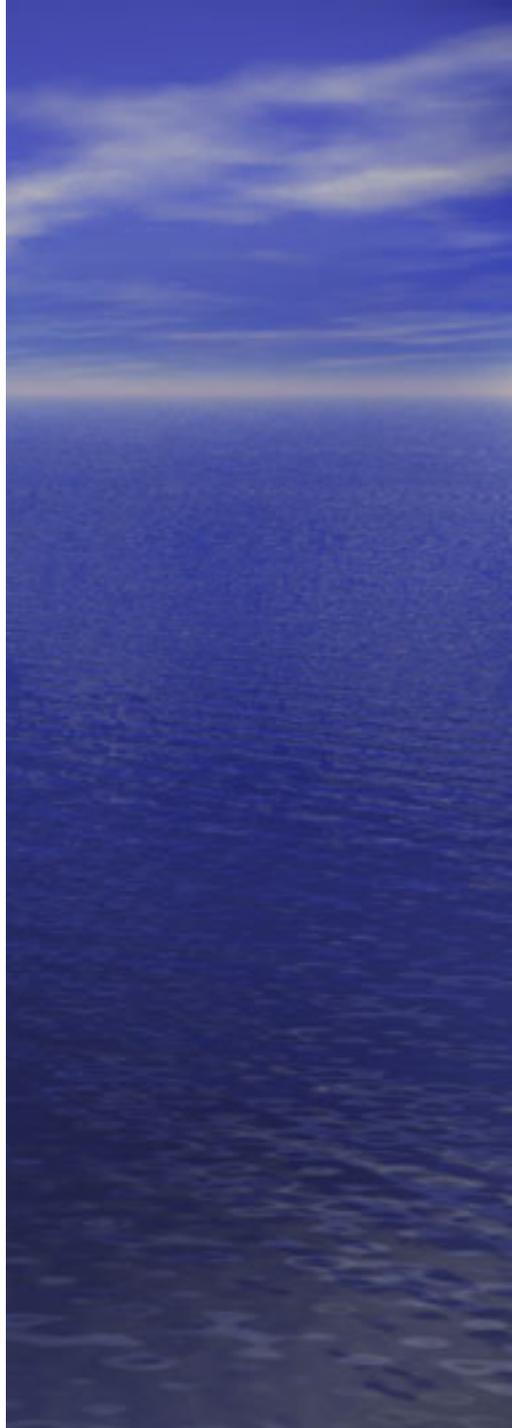
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Questions

