

November 30, 2009

Ms. Melissa Miller-Henson, Program Manager  
Marine Life Protection Act Initiative  
c/o California Resources Agency  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Email: [melissa@resources.ca.gov](mailto:melissa@resources.ca.gov)

Fax: 916 653-8102

Dear Ms. Millar-Henson,

I would like to serve as a member of the North Coast Regional Stakeholder Group.

Since 1980 I have logged hundreds of hours sport diving from Carmel to Westport, California and hundreds more hours as a commercial sea urchin diver (1982-1987) from San Onofre, CA to Gold Beach, Oregon. The majority of those hours were spent underwater off the Mendocino Coastline.

My other accomplishments include pioneering the sea urchin fishery in Northern California from 1983 to present. It was the first successful sea urchin processing company in Northern California and has employed 70 – 130 persons year-around for the last 25 years. I currently own Ocean Fresh, LLC in Noyo Harbor, Fort Bragg; we have 110 employees and buy and process sea urchins from 20 commercial divers. Ocean Fresh also provides unloading services for local and transient salmon, crab and albacore fishermen. Ocean Fresh is currently unloading 3 trawlers and 6 crab boats for various other fish buyers. I also served on the Department of Fish and Game Sea Urchin Advisory Committee (DSUAC) from its inception in 1986 until its termination in 2000 and thereafter on the California Sea Urchin Commission until about 2006.

Because of this background I can communicate and network with commercial fishermen from all of the fisheries being conducted within the study area, but am most familiar with the grounds between Alder Creek to Cape Mendocino.

If appointed to this stakeholder group, I will try to represent the interests of the fishermen and divers in the local area in a way that can best allow the fisheries to continue while accomplishing the goals of the MLPA. I am committed to seeing this process through.

Thank you for your consideration.

Robert S. Juntz, Jr.