

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 18, 2025 8:48 PM
To: Newell, Caroline@FGC <[REDACTED]>
Cc: Ashcraft, Susan@FGC <[REDACTED]>; Lovell, Randy@Wildlife
<[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: Formal Cancellation Request

Hi Caroline,

It's very nice to meet you! Confirmation to cancel all previous requests approved. Please prioritize the Santa Barbara Community Kelp Farm. I really need the Santa Barbara Community kelp farm to move forward in the permitting process. This is a great project with a lot of community support and I think you're going to learn a tremendous amount working with me, and I look forward to sharing and working with you.

Regards, Bernard

Santa Barbara Mariculture Co.

Bernard Friedman

[REDACTED]
Santa Barbara, CA [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: "Newell, Caroline@FGC" <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 12/18/25 2:29 PM
To: Bernard Friedman <[REDACTED]>
Cc: "Ashcraft, Susan@FGC" <[REDACTED]>, "Lovell, Randy@Wildlife" <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Formal Cancellation Request
Hi Bernard,

First, I'd like to introduce myself – I am Caroline Newell, the new environmental scientist with the Fish and Game Commission. I am taking up the responsibilities of our previous environmental scientist, Kimi Rogers, so I will be the new FGC lead on aquaculture topics. I look forward to working with you!

I have been made aware that you have expressed to Department and Commission staff that you are putting your lease amendment request on hold in order to focus on the Santa

Barbara Community Kelp farm application instead. If this is the case and you are no longer actively pursuing to expand your lease area or add species to your existing lease, please confirm in email that you are withdrawing your lease amendment request for 653-02 . You can re-submit the amendment request at any time when you decide you'd like to actively pursue any changes.

By formally withdrawing the request, you'll allow us to have more bandwidth to focus on other priorities, such as the application for the Santa Barbara Community Kelp farm. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Cheers,

Caroline Newell (she/her)

Environmental Scientist
California Fish and Game Commission
715 P St, 16th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814



Commissioners
Erika Zavaleta, President
Santa Cruz

Samantha Murray, Vice President
La Jolla

Jacque Hostler-Carmesin, Member
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*Wildlife Heritage and Conservation
Since 1870*

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January 30, 2026

Bernard Friedman, MSc.
Chief Executive Officer
Santa Barbara Mariculture Company
939 N. Patterson Avenue
Santa Barbara, CA 93111

Sent via email to bernard@sbmariculture.com

Dear Mr. Friedman:

Consistent with your December 18, 2025 email exchange with Environmental Scientist Caroline Newell, the California Fish and Game Commission's lead for aquaculture and kelp leasing activities, this letter confirms your withdrawal of two amendment requests for State Water Bottom Lease M-635-02.

Your requests included authorizing the cultivation of two additional species – giant kelp (*Macrocystis pyrifera*) and California mussel (*Mytilus californianus*) – as well as expanding the lease area by twenty acres. We appreciate your proactive communication and willingness to formalize withdrawal of your request.

You may re-submit your amendment requests at any time if you determine you would like to actively pursue changes in the future.

With kind regards,



Melissa Miller-Henson
Executive Director

cc: California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Craig Shuman, Regional Manager, Marine Region
Randy Lovell, Aquaculture Coordinator
Kirsten Ramey, Program Manager, Marine Region
Sara Briley, Environmental Scientist, Marine Region