

Status report on the Fisheries Uses and Values Project

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As of June 23rd, using CDFG landings and license information, we have completed stratifying a sample of several key commercial fisheries in the CCSR (for details, please see the project website at www.ecotrust.org/mlpa), and have identified a provisional set of 120+ fishermen to interview.

In order to arrive at a representative description of regional fisheries, we are targeting the top 50% of producers (in terms of 2003 and '04 cumulative landings) in fisheries that are not otherwise described by logbooks and comparable information. The sample is further stratified by southern and northern sub-region and fishery (see list on the project website), and will be augmented with additional top producers in earlier time periods (given that fishermen who were successful in the two most recent years may not be the same as in other years), and any additional long-time fishermen suggested by the RSG. As I mentioned at the June 9th meeting of the RSG, we would very much appreciate any input from the RSG and fishing associations in the area, and any suggestions for knowledgeable fishermen to interview for this project. We will compare any forthcoming suggestions to the sample derived from CDFG statistics and augment our interviewing effort accordingly.

We have trained field staff in Santa Barbara, who will be conducting the first set of interviews in the southern part of the CCSR. The software interface for collecting the fisheries information, OceanMap, is programmed and ready for use. We have begun contacting the fishermen identified through our sampling protocol, and are setting up individual and small group meetings.

Materials describing the project, interview process and related information can be found on the project website, www.ecotrust.org/mlpa. We have also in hand now a set of materials describing the project in Vietnamese language and a translator with whose help we have begun contacting that segment of our sample.

Initial confounders include:

- concerns about the scope and need for this project, given stakeholder interests in other socioeconomic issues and information needs; some of these issues the project team can and will address (e.g., questions of methods, how data will be handled and by whom, what analysis will be performed on the data prior to delivering it as baseline information to the RSG), but others ought to be addressed by the RSG (e.g., questions about how this information will be used for MPA design, what other information needs there are and how to fill them);
- loss of some potential respondents to the salmon season, which starts July 4 and takes several prospective respondents out of the study region. We will attempt to catch up with them as best we can.

*MLPA Central Coast Regional Stakeholder Group
July 7-8, 2005 Meeting
DRAFT Attachment #2*

Don't hesitate to contact me with any questions. I will provide updates on this project to the RSG prior to your meetings, and I or another member of the project team will be at each meeting to answer questions.