



Fwd: Thank you for protecting the Pacific's forage fish1 message

Thee emails with this message were received by the 5/26/16 public comment deadline.

From: Lisa.Thomas-Stoute@cnb.com <Lisa.Thomas-Stoute@cnb.com>
Date: Thu, May 26, 2016 at 5:27 PM
Subject: Thank you for protecting the Pacific's forage fish
To: pfmc.comments@noaa.gov

Dear Chair Lowman and Council Members,

Thank you for your leadership in protecting unmanaged forage fish in the California Current Ecosystem of the Pacific Ocean.

This landmark decision recognizes the ecological importance of forage fish to seabirds, marine mammals, and the bigger fish that many of us love to catch and eat. The Council's action also marks a paradigm shift from traditional management of ocean fishing to a more comprehensive, ecosystem-based approach. It reflects the principle that responsible management requires asking questions before a fishery begins, rather than after.

I am proud of this accomplishment, achieved with the help of thousands of citizens who voiced their support over the past several years. Collectively we recognize that the long-term health of our Pacific Ocean and its resources depends on alignment and collaboration along the entire West Coast. I hope that the Council's action on forage fish paves the way for West Coast states to develop and fully implement their own forage fish management plans for state waters.

Again, thank you for your leadership on forage fish protections.

Sincerely,

Lisa Thomas-Stoute
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