

Agenda Item J.4

Deep-Set Buoy Gear Exempted Fishing Permit Criteria to Advance Gear Authorization

To: Director Chuck Bonham, California Department of Fish & Wildlife
Subject: Sustainable restaurants need swordfish deep-set buoy gear

Director Bonham, Chair Pollard, and Council Members

I am the proprietor of several sustainable seafood restaurants in San Francisco. We purchase hundreds of thousands of dollars of fish annually and are committed to directing our purchasing power toward supporting sustainable California fisheries as much as possible. As such, we were deeply disappointed to hear the recent decision by the PFMC regarding swordfish gear type management.

Our restaurants are eager to begin purchasing California swordfish but we will not do so until we are able to source from a clean and thoughtful fishery. The authorization of deep-set buoy gear, which would reduce bycatch to a significant degree, would be an excellent step toward bolstering a long-term sustainable seafood economy here in California.

Until California fully authorizes deep-set buoy gear at the Pacific Fishery Management Council level, our restaurants will be forced to purchase any swordfish we offer from more sustainable sources outside of California. Please help us redirect our purchasing toward helping our local economy by improving swordfish management here at home.

Yours sincerely,

Casson Trenor
Tataki Restaurant Group
San Francisco, California, 94103, United States

P.S. Attached you will find a package of additional letters that have been sent to CDFW Director Chuck Bonham electronically by individuals who are also passionate about this issue. We hope you will take their sentiments into account and push to move forward with authorization of deep set buoy gear as soon as possible. -Casson

Dear Director Bonham,

SandyHook SeaLife Foundation(SSF) strongly supports the use of deep-set buoy gear; it saves by-catch and helps to maintain a healthy marine balance.

I'm writing to voice my support for CDFW getting authorization of deep-set buoy gear for swordfish back on track. Buoy gear dramatically reduces the unwanted catch of marine life. It's clean, profitable and provides California with a local, sustainable seafood option.

I understand that in June, efforts were made by CDFW to slow down this process.

I strongly encourage the Department to change this approach by working to get a firm calendar in place to fully authorize deep-set buoy gear at the Pacific Fishery Management Council including the development of a range of alternatives for the November council meeting. Thank you for your time.

For the Ocean,

Dr. Thomas Armbruster

Medford, New Jersey, 08055, United States

Director Bonham,

I'm puzzled why the DFW would not want to transition to the deep set buoy gear and away from the indiscriminate drift gill nets?

I personally am not anti-commercial fisherman but I am against using bad gear. (And, as a sportfisherman, I wholeheartedly supported the changes in size limits and bag limits for our saltwater basses.)

Thank you for listening to me.

Sincerely,

Michael Gilmour

Huntington Beach, California, 92648, United States

Director Bonham,

We are avid recreational anglers and divers and see many of the tragedies inflicted on our marine habitats and wildlife first hand, up close and personal. Long lines are irresponsible and **MUST** be REPLACED by more efficient and more environmentally responsible fishing gear. We must end longlines and replace them with deep-set buoy gear for the swordfish fishery. Buoy gear dramatically reduces the unwanted bycatch of marine life. It's clean, profitable and provides California with a local, sustainable seafood option.

I was extremely disappointed and frustrated in June when CDFW made efforts to slow down this transition from longlines to buoy gear.

We are strongly urging the CDFW to establish a firm calendar to fully authorize and establish deep-set buoy gear at the Pacific Fishery Management Council.

Thank You,

Larry and Marie Brown

Playa Del Rey, Ca, 90293

Director Bonham,

I'm writing to voice my support for CDFW getting authorization of deep-set buoy gear for swordfish back on track. Buoy gear dramatically reduces the unwanted catch of marine life. It's clean, profitable and provides California with a local, sustainable seafood option.

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Yours sincerely,

Mary Sue Milliken
Chef and Owner, Border Grill Restaurants
Los Angeles, California, 90066, United States

Director Bonham,

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Yours sincerely,

Randy Repass
Founder and Chairman, West Marine

Director Bonham,

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Yours sincerely,

Oscar Tostado
Santa Monica Seafood
Santa Fe Springs, California, 90670, United States

Dear Director Bonham,

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I strongly encourage the Department to change this approach by working to get a firm calendar in place to fully authorize deep-set buoy gear at the Pacific Fishery Management Council including the development of a range of alternatives for the November council meeting.

Much is at stake, and it is imperative to get the buoy gear back on track. Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

With Best Regards,

Diane Glim

Pacific Grove, California, 93950, United States

Director Bonham,

I'm writing to voice my support for CDFW getting authorization of deep-set buoy gear for swordfish back on track. Buoy gear dramatically reduces the unwanted catch of marine life. It's clean, profitable and provides California with a local, sustainable seafood option.

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Yours sincerely,

Patricia Unterman
Owner and Chef, Hayes Street Grill

San Francisco, California, 94115, United States

Director Bonham,

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**The more responsible we are now, is the more abundant we will be in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Armen

Orange, California, 92868, United States

Director Bonham,

The decisions you make now and their impact on the future will decide the health and survival of the marine life in the immediate and surrounding areas. I'm writing to voice my support for CDFW getting authorization of deep-set buoy gear for swordfish back on track. Buoy gear dramatically reduces the unwanted catch of marine life. It's clean, profitable and provides California with a local, sustainable seafood option.

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Yours sincerely,

Saran Kirschbaum

Los Angeles, California, 90035, United States

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Yours sincerely,

Lisa Hogan

San Clemente, California, 92673, United States

Director Bonham,

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Yours sincerely,

Bob Diefenderfer

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Yours sincerely,

Brandie Roberts

Albany, California, 94706, United States

Director Bonham,

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Yours sincerely,

Mal Gaff

Lompoc, California, 93436, United States

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Yours sincerely,

Caryn Graves

Director Bonham,

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Yours sincerely,

Christopher Lynch

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Yours sincerely,

Matt Meier

San Diego, California, 92117, United States

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Yours sincerely,

Gemma Geluz
Fairfield, CA

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Yours sincerely,

John Cigliano

Rancho Palos Verdes, California, 90275, United States

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Yours sincerely,

Cyrle Perry

Orinda, California, 94563, United States

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Yours sincerely,

M Hempel

Yucaipa, California, 92399, United States

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Yours sincerely,

Melinda Martin

Newport Beach, California, 92661, United States

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Yours sincerely,

jason blower

Santa Ana, California, 92705, United States

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Yours sincerely,

Robert Chavers

Laguna Hills, California, 92653, United States

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Yours sincerely,

Michael McCaddon

Ontario, California, 91762, United States

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Yours sincerely,

Klara Fejer

Malibu, California, 90265, United States

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Yours sincerely,

james drew

California, 91342, United States

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Yours sincerely,

thomas Bellec

Los Angeles, California, 90036, United States

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Yours sincerely,

John Wightman

Santa Barbara, California, 93111, United States

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Yours sincerely,

Hilde L Bryant

Newport Beach, California, 92658, United States

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Thanks,
Peggy Moody

Director Bonham,

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Cheers,
Stacie Charlebois

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Yours sincerely,

ORION CASTANEDA

Avalon, California, 90704, United States

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I strongly encourage the Department to change this approach by working to get a firm calendar in place to fully authorize deep-set buoy gear at the Pacific Fishery Management Council including the development of a range of alternatives for the November council meeting. end the over fishing now.

Sincerely,
John Pasqua
Escondido, CA

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Yours sincerely,

Steven Standard

Los Angeles, California, 90023, United States

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Yours sincerely,

sharon lacy

Sebastopol, California, 95472, United States

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Yours sincerely,

Sal Battaglia

Vaughan, Ontario, L4L 9C1, Canada

Director Bonham,

I'm writing to voice my support for CDFW getting authorization of deep-set buoy gear for swordfish back on track. Buoy gear dramatically reduces the unwanted catch of marine life. It's clean, profitable and provides California with a local, sustainable seafood option.

I understand that in June, efforts were made by CDFW to slow down this process. As a chef this concerns me deeply as we cannot postpone any efforts that lead to more sustainable fishing practices!

I strongly encourage the Department to change this approach by working to get a firm calendar in place to fully authorize deep-set buoy gear at the Pacific Fishery Management Council including the development of a range of alternatives for the November council meeting.

Thanks,
Robin Leventhal

Director Bonham,

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Best,
Candy Bowman

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Yours sincerely,

Cary Frazee

Eureka, California, 95503, United States

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Yours sincerely,

Jeffrey Clary

La Quinta, California, 92253, United States

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Yours sincerely,

victor demonte

Gardena, California, 90248, United States

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Yours sincerely,

Ricardo Heredia

San Diego, California, 92104, United States

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Yours sincerely,

Roseana Peyron

San Diego, California, 92116, United States

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Yours sincerely,

Drew Reyes

San Diego, California, 92104, United States

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Best,
Sally Kurz
Newport Beach, CA

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Yours sincerely,

Charles Albright

Newport Beach, California, 92660, United States

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Yours sincerely,

Karen Jurgensen

Seattle, Washington, 98122, United States

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Yours sincerely,

Argyle Nelson

Moorpark, California, 93021, United States

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Yours sincerely,

Steve Robey

Ste. Genevieve, Missouri, 63670, United States

Director Bonham,

I'm writing to voice my support for CDFW getting authorization of deep-set buoy gear for swordfish back on track. Buoy gear dramatically reduces the unwanted catch of marine life. It's clean, profitable and provides California with a local, sustainable seafood option.

I understand that in June, efforts were made by CDFW to slow down this process.

I strongly encourage the Department to change this approach by working to get a firm calendar in place to fully authorize deep-set buoy gear at the Pacific Fishery Management Council including the development of a range of alternatives for the November council meeting. Any steps you can take to reduce the amount of by-catch routinely caught and killed by gill-net usage would help our oceanic ecosystems recover from decades of over-fishing and by-catch killing would be much appreciated by all humans around the world.

Yours sincerely,

Scott Vickers

Denver, Colorado, 80218, United States

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Yours sincerely,
Janice Krause
San Clemente, California, 92672, United States

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Yours sincerely,

Celeste DiFelici

Huntington, Vermont, 05462, United States

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Yours sincerely,

Alex Seeman

Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910, United States

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Yours sincerely,

david carter

Dayton, Ohio, 45410, United States