

Ms. Chair Loman, Mr. Vice Chair Pollard :

My name Bill James. I am speaking to you today representing myself and Port San Luis Commercial Fishermen's Association fishing out of Port San Luis (Avila) which is located on the Central California coast 13 miles south of Morro Bay.

Port San Luis together with Morro Bay are the two top producing Nearshore "Live Fish" ports on the west coast. The live fish markets and live fish restaurants of San Francisco and the surrounding bay area and also the Los Angeles and surrounding area depend on our almost year round deliveries of premium nearshore live fish.

This year and the last few years the Commercial Nearshore Fishermen in California have been landing only about 50 percent of their ACL (optimum yield). Favorable conditions of the last few years have allowed most Nearshore and Shelf Finfish species to increase in abundance.

To catch a higher percentage of the ACL of Nearshore and Shelf finfish species myself and PSLCFA request the Council include for analysis for "Setting Fisheries in 2015-2016" the following items:

- 1). A increase in allocation of Canary Rockfish for Directed Open Access in California.
- 2). A increase in allocation of Yelloweye Rockfish for Directed Open Access in California.
- 3) Adding a management line at Ano Nuevo, 37:07N latitude for a possible discrete area from 34:27 to 37:07 for increased management options for Port San Luis and Morro Bay Commercial Nearshore Fishermen to attain a higher percentage of the ACL of Nearshore Finfish species.
- 4) Increase the bi-monthly trip limit to 1000 lbs.of Shallow Nearshore Rockfish in periods 1, 3-6 for Commercial Nearshore fishermen in the area from 34:27 to 37:07N latitude.
- 5) Increase the bi-monthly trip limit to 1000 lbs.of Deeper Nearshore Rockfish in period 1, 3-6 for Commercial Nearshore fishermen in the area from 34:27 to 37:07N latitude.
- 6).Open Lingcod in Dec, Jan, and Feb to align with California Commercial Nearshore fishery open periods.
- 7). For Commercial Directed Open Access Groundfish consider allowing fishing from 0 to 40 fathoms.

I want to thank the Council on behalf of myself and Port San Luis Commercial Fishermen's Association for allowing us to submit these requests for the September Council meeting in Boise, Idaho. I wish I could attend.

Sincerely, Bill James