May 5, 2011
WD bc/ps/11036/T

Mark Cedkgreen, Chair
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, OR 97220-1384

RE: Ecosystem Based Management

Dear Mr. Cederberg and PFMC members:

As a local elected official from a coastal county, I am writing in support of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) work to develop an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan.

It has been long recognized that in order to have long-term sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean environment, ecosystem considerations must be incorporated into fishery management. For example, the 1999 report to Congress, "Ecosystem-based Fishery Management," suggests this management approach is likely to contribute to increased abundance of those species that have been overfished, contribute to the stability of employment and economic activity in the fishing industry, and to the protection of marine biodiversity upon which the fisheries and our coastal economies depend. In order to move forward with ecosystem-based fishery management, I support the development of an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan with the goal of maintaining and protecting ecosystem health and fishery sustainability.

It is important that the PFMC formally integrate ecosystem considerations into the existing Fishery Management Plans (FWs). It is equally important that the PFMC develop an umbrella Ecosystem PMP that can link ecological considerations across the four FMPs (salmon, ground fish, coastal pelagic species and highly migratory species) and manage ecologically important species that fall outside of the current fishery management structure. Specifically, I support an Ecosystem FMP that would address forage species that are important prey for fish in the existing management plans, but are not currently managed by the PFMC. Forage fish are vital for marine ecosystems and leaving enough of them swimming in the ocean is one strategy that will pay off in the long run. Abundant populations of forage species are essential for sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean. Recognizing this in the Ecosystem FMP by including forage species, implementing conservation and management measures as appropriate, and managing for a healthy forage base would be an important step forward.

Our oceans and coastal communities are facing many challenges. Too often we hear about ecological consequences after the fact because they are not considered in decision-making or directly monitored. I don't doubt that it will be difficult, but moving forward with an
ecosystem-based fishery management approach is vitally important. Big strides can be made now by developing the Ecosystem FMP framework and including a focus on forage species.

Thank you for considering my perspective.

Very truly yours,

Pete Sorenson
Lane County Commissioner
May 24, 2011

Mr. Mark Cedergreen, Chair
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

RE: Ecosystem Based Management

Dear Mr. Cedergreen and PFMC members:

As the Marin County Supervisor representing Marin County’s coastal areas I am writing in strong support of the efforts of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) to develop an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan.

Marin County has long been an advocate for ecosystem based management for fishery management, in fact our County has worked hard to restore ecosystems supporting salmonids, through the FishNet 4C program and by improving all County policies and practices related to fisheries. These range from road maintenance and fish passage projects to the San Geronimo Valley Salmon Enhancement Plan which lays out a plan to support fish friendly land use practices in this important Coho Salmon watershed. Marin County has also actively engaged in California’s Marine Life Protection Act implementation, in order to provide and protect sustainable fisheries.

It has been long recognized that in order to have long-term sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean environment, ecosystem considerations must be incorporated into fishery management. For example, the 1999 report to Congress, “Ecosystem-based Fishery Management,” suggests this management approach is likely to contribute to increased abundance of those species that have been overfished, contribute to the stability of employment and economic activity in the fishing industry, and to the protection of marine biodiversity which fisheries and our coastal economies depend. In order to move forward with ecosystem-based fishery management, I support the development of an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan with the goal of maintaining and protecting ecosystem health and fishery sustainability.

It is important that the PFMC formally integrate ecosystem considerations into the existing Fishery Management Plans (FMPs). It is equally important that the PFMC develop an umbrella Ecosystem FMP that can link ecological considerations across the four FMPs (salmon, groundfish, coastal pelagic species and highly migratory species) and manage ecologically important species that fall outside of
the current fishery management structure. Specifically, I support an Ecosystem FMP that would address forage species that are important prey for fish in the existing management plans, but are not currently managed by the PFMC. Forage fish are vital for marine ecosystems and leaving enough of them swimming in the ocean is one strategy that will pay off in the long run. Abundant populations of forage species are essential for sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean. Recognizing this in the Ecosystem FMP by including forage species, implementing conservation and management measures as appropriate, and managing for a healthy forage base would be an important step forward.

Our oceans and coastal communities are facing many challenges. As local governments rise to the difficult and costly task of protecting fisheries through improved land use practices and policies, it is critical that our partners in fishery management also demonstrate leadership in ecosystem based management. Development of the Ecosystem FMP framework and including a focus on forage species will provide both direction and encouragement to other responsible agencies such as counties and cities, in addition to tangible benefits for fisheries.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Steve Kinsey, Marin County Supervisor
Mr. Mark Cedercreen, Chair
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, OR 97220-1384

RE: ECOSYSTEM BASED MANAGEMENT

Dear Mr. Cedercreen and PFMC Members:

As a local elected official from a coastal county, I am writing in support of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) work to develop an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan.

It has been long recognized that in order to have long-term sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean environment, ecosystem considerations must be incorporated into fishery management. For example, the 1999 report to Congress, "Ecosystem-based Fishery Management," suggests this management approach is likely to contribute to increased abundance of those species that have been overfished, contribute to the stability of employment and economic activity in the fishing industry, and to the protection of marine biodiversity on which fisheries and our coastal economies depend. In order to move forward with ecosystem-based fishery management, I support the development of an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan with the goal of maintaining and protecting ecosystem health and fishery sustainability.

It is important that the PFMC formally integrate ecosystem considerations into the existing Fishery Management Plans (FMPs). It is equally important that the PFMC develop an umbrella Ecosystem FMP that can link ecological considerations across the four FMPs (salmon, groundfish, coastal pelagic species, and highly migratory species) and manage ecologically important species that fall outside of the current fishery management structure. Specifically, I support an Ecosystem FMP that would address forage species that are important prey for fish in the existing management plans but are not currently managed by the PFMC. Forage fish are vital for marine ecosystems, and leaving enough of them swimming in the ocean is one strategy that will pay off in the
June 3, 2011
Page 2

long run. Abundant populations of forage species are essential for sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean. Recognizing this in the Ecosystem FMP by including forage species, implementing conservation and management measures as appropriate, and managing for a healthy forage base would be an important step forward.

Our oceans and coastal communities are facing many challenges. Too often we hear about ecological consequences after the fact because they are not considered in decision-making or directly monitored. I don’t doubt that it will be difficult, but moving forward with an ecosystem-based fishery management approach is vitally important. Big strides can be made now by developing the Ecosystem FMP framework and including a focus on forage species.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

NEAL COONERTY, Supervisor
Third District

NC:ted

cc:  Save Our Shores

1354A3
May 26, 2011

Mr. Mark Cedergreen, Chair
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

RE: Ecosystem Based Management

Dear Mr. Cedergreen and PFMC members:

I am writing as Chair of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors in support of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) work to develop an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan.

It has been long recognized that in order to have long-term sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean environment, ecosystem considerations must be incorporated into fishery management. For example, the 1999 report to Congress, "Ecosystem-based Fishery Management," suggests this management approach is likely to contribute to increased abundance of those species that have been overfished, contribute to the stability of employment and economic activity in the fishing industry, and to the protection of marine biodiversity which fisheries and our coastal economies depend. In order to move forward with ecosystem-based fishery management, I support the development of an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan with the goal of maintaining and protecting ecosystem health and fishery sustainability.

It is important that the PFMC formally integrate ecosystem considerations into the existing Fishery Management Plans (FMPs). It is equally important that the PFMC develop an umbrella Ecosystem FMP that can link ecological considerations across the four FMPs (salmon, groundfish, coastal pelagic species and highly migratory species) and manage ecologically important species that fall outside of the current fishery management structure. Specifically, I support an Ecosystem FMP that would address forage species that are important prey for fish in the existing management plans, but are not currently managed by the PFMC. Forage fish are vital for marine ecosystems and leaving enough of them swimming in the ocean is one strategy that will pay off in the long run. Abundant populations of forage species are essential for sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean. Recognizing this in the Ecosystem FMP by including forage species, implementing conservation and management measures as appropriate, and managing for a healthy forage base would be an important step forward.

Our oceans and coastal communities are facing many challenges. Too often we hear about ecological consequences after the fact because they are not considered in decision-making or directly monitored. I don’t doubt that it will be difficult, but moving forward with an ecosystem-based fishery management approach is vitally important. Big strides can be made now by developing the Ecosystem FMP framework and including a focus on forage species.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Mark Lovelace, Chair
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors
May 25, 2011

Mr. Niek Cedargreen, Chair
Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC)
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

RE: Ecosystem Based Management

Dear Mr. Cedargreen and PFMC Members:

As a local elected official from a coastal county, I am writing in support of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) work to develop an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan.

It has been long recognized that in order to have long-term sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean environment, ecosystem considerations must be incorporated into fishery management. For example, the 1999 report to Congress, "Ecosystem-based Fishery Management", suggests this management approach is likely to contribute to increased abundance of those species that have been overfished, contribute to the stability of employment and economic activity in the fishing industry, and to the protection of marine biodiversity upon which fisheries and our coastal economies depend. In order to move forward with ecosystem-based fishery management, I support the development of an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan with the goal of maintaining and protecting ecosystem health and fishery sustainability.

It is important that the PFMC formally integrate ecosystem considerations into the existing Fishery Management Plans (FMPs). It is equally important that the PFMC develop an umbrella Ecosystem FMP that can link ecological considerations across the four FMPs (salmon, groundfish, coastal pelagic species, and highly migratory species), and manage ecologically important species that fall outside of the current fishery management structure. Specifically, I support an Ecosystem FMP that would address forage species that are important prey for fish in the existing management plans, but are not currently managed by the PFMC.

Forage fish are vital for marine ecosystems and leaving enough of them swimming in the ocean is one strategy that will pay off in the long run. Abundant populations of forage species are essential to sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean. Recognizing this in the Ecosystem FMP by including forage species, implementing conservation and management measures as appropriate, and managing for a healthy forage base would be an important step forward.

Our oceans and coastal communities are facing many challenges. Too often we hear about ecological consequences after the fact because they are not considered in decision-making or directly monitored. I don't doubt that it will be difficult, but moving forward with an ecosystem-based fishery management approach is vitally important. Big strides can be made now by developing the Ecosystem FMP framework and including a focus on forage species.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Julia Patterson

King County Courthouse, 516 Third Avenue Room 1200, Seattle, WA 98104
206-296-1055 Fax 206-296-1050 julia.patterson@kingcounty.gov www.kingcounty.gov/patterson
May 17, 2011

Mr. Mark Cedergren, Chair  
Pacific Fishery Management Council  
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101  
Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

RE: Support for Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan

Dear Mr. Cedergren and PFMC members:

As a local elected official from a coastal county, I support the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) work to develop an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan.

It has been long recognized that ecosystem considerations must be incorporated into fishery management in order to have long-term sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean environment. For example, the 1999 “Ecosystem-based Fishery Management” report to Congress suggests this management approach is likely to contribute to increased abundance of those species that have been overfished, contribute to the stability of employment and economic activity in the fishing industry, and to the protection of marine biodiversity which fisheries and our coastal economies depend. In order to move forward with ecosystem-based fishery management, I support the development of an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan with the goal of maintaining and protecting ecosystem health and fishery sustainability.

It is important that the PFMC formally integrate ecosystem considerations into the existing Fishery Management Plans (FMPs). It is equally important that the PFMC develop an umbrella Ecosystem FMP that can link ecological considerations across the four FMPs (salmon, groundfish, coastal pelagic species, and highly migratory species) and manage ecologically important species that fall outside of the current fishery management structure. Specifically, I support an Ecosystem FMP that would address forage species that are important prey for fish in the existing management plans, but are not currently managed by the PFMC. Forage fish are vital for marine ecosystems and leaving enough of them swimming in the ocean is one strategy that will pay off in the long run. Abundant populations of forage species are essential for sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean. Recognizing this in the Ecosystem FMP by including forage species, implementing conservation and management measures as appropriate, and managing for a healthy forage base would be an important step forward.

Our oceans and coastal communities are facing many challenges. Too often we hear about ecological consequences after the fact because they are not considered in decision-making or directly monitored. While it may be difficult, it is vitally important to move forward with an ecosystem-based fishery management approach. Big strides can be made now by developing the Ecosystem FMP framework and including a focus on forage species.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Larry Phillips, Councilmember  
Metropolitan King County Council, District Four

King County Courthouse, 515 Third Avenue Room 1200, Seattle, WA 98104  206-296-1004  
Fax 206-296-0370  TTY 206-296-1024  larry.phillips@kingcounty.gov  www.kingcounty.gov/phillips
May 18, 2011

Mr. Mark Cedergreen, Chair
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

RE: Ecosystem Based Management

Dear Mr. Cedergreen and PFMC members:

As a County Commissioner from a coastal county, I am writing in support of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) work to develop an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan.

It has been long recognized that in order to have long-term sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean environment, ecosystem considerations must be incorporated into fishery management. For example, the 1999 report to Congress, "Ecosystem-based Fishery Management," suggests this management approach is likely to contribute to increased abundance of those species that have been overfished, contribute to the stability of employment and economic activity in the fishing industry, and to the protection of marine biodiversity which fisheries and our coastal economies depend. In order to move forward with ecosystem-based fishery management, I support the development of an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan with the goal of maintaining and protecting ecosystem health and fishery sustainability.

It is important that the PFMC formally integrate ecosystem considerations into the existing Fishery Management Plans (FMPs). It is equally important that the PFMC develop an umbrella Ecosystem FMP that can link ecological considerations across the four FMPs (salmon, groundfish, coastal pelagic species and highly migratory species) and manage ecologically important species that fall outside of the current fishery management structure. Specifically, I support an Ecosystem FMP that would address forage species that are important prey for fish in the existing management plans, but are not currently managed by the PFMC. Forage fish are vital for marine ecosystems and leaving enough of them swimming in the ocean is one strategy that will pay off in the long run. Abundant populations of forage species are essential for sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean. Recognizing this in the Ecosystem FMP by including forage species, implementing conservation and management measures as appropriate, and managing for a healthy forage base would be an important step forward.

Our oceans and coastal communities are facing many challenges. Too often we hear about ecological consequences after the fact because they are not considered in decision-making or directly monitored. I don’t doubt that it will be difficult, but moving forward with an ecosystem-based fishery management approach is vitally important. Big strides can be made now by developing the Ecosystem FMP framework and including a focus on forage species.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Lane County Commissioner
May 17, 2011

Mr. Mark Cedergreen, Chair & Members
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

RE: Support for Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management

Dear Mr. Cedergreen and PFMC members:

As a local elected official from a coastal county, I am writing in support of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) work to develop an Ecosystem Based Fisheries Management Plan.

Residents of Coastal California are keenly interested in sound long-term management of ocean fisheries. The economic and recreational benefits of sustainable fisheries are very important considerations to the residents and business owners of Ventura County. State adoption of Marine Protected Areas has laid the groundwork to for sound ecosystem based fisheries management, and these areas are already providing evidence of the benefits of broad ecosystem management.

It has been long recognized that in order to have long-term sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean environment, ecosystem considerations must be incorporated into fishery management. It is important that the PFMC formally integrate ecosystem considerations into the existing Fishery Management Plans (FMPs). It is equally important that the PFMC develop an umbrella Ecosystem FMP that can link ecological considerations across the four FMPs (salmon, groundfish, coastal pelagic species and highly migratory species) and manage ecologically important species that fall outside of the current fishery management structure. Specifically, I support an Ecosystem FMP that would address forage species that are important prey for fish in the existing management plans, but are not currently managed by the PFMC. Abundant
populations of forage species are essential for sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean. Recognizing this in the Ecosystem Based FMP by including forage species, implementing conservation and management measures as appropriate, and managing for a healthy forage base would be an important step forward.

Thank you for your work to date on Ecosystem Based management, and I respectfully encourage adoption and implementation of this scientifically sound approach to sustainable fisheries management.

Cordially,

Steve Bennett,
Supervisor, First District
May 23, 2011

Mr. Mark Cedergreen, Chair
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

Re: Ecosystem Based Management

Dear Mr. Cedergreen and PFMC members:

As a local elected official from a coastal county, I am writing in support of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) work to develop an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan.

It has been long recognized that in order to have long-term sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean environment, ecosystem considerations must be incorporated into fishery management. For example, the 1999 report to Congress, "Ecosystem-based Fishery Management," suggests this management approach is likely to contribute to increased abundance of those species that have been overfished, contribute to the stability of employment and economic activity in the fishing industry, and to the protection of marine biodiversity which fisheries and our coastal economies depend. In order to move forward with ecosystem-based fishery management, I support the development of an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan with the goal of maintaining and protecting ecosystem health and fishery sustainability.

It is important that the PFMC formally integrate ecosystem considerations into the existing Fishery Management Plans (FMPs). It is equally important that the PFMC develop an umbrella Ecosystem FMP that can link ecological considerations across the four FMPs (salmon, groundfish, coastal pelagic species and highly migratory species) and manage ecologically important species that fall outside of the current fishery management structure. Specifically, I support an Ecosystem FMP that would address forage species that are important prey for fish in the existing management plans, but are not currently managed by the PFMC. Forage fish are vital for marine ecosystems and leaving enough of them swimming in the ocean is one strategy that will pay off in the long run. Abundant populations of forage species are essential for sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean. Recognizing this in the Ecosystem FMP by including forage species, implementing conservation and management measures as appropriate, and managing for a healthy forage base would be an important step forward.

Our oceans and coastal communities are facing many challenges. Too often we hear about ecological consequences after the fact because they are not considered in decision-making or directly monitored. There are significant challenges, but moving forward with an ecosystem-based fishery management approach is vitally important. Significant progress can be made now by developing an Ecosystem FMP framework and including a focus on forage species.

Thank you for your serious consideration.

Sincerely,

Kendall Smith
Mendocino County Board of Supervisors
June 1, 2011

Mr. Mark Cedergreen, Chair
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, OR 97220-1384

RE: Ecosystem Based Management

Dear Mr. Cedergreen and PFMC Members:

As a Commissioner of Island County, I am writing in support of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) work to develop an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan.

In order to have long-term sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean environment, ecosystem considerations must be incorporated into fishery management. We simply cannot silo the many complex and interrelated biological functions of a healthy environment. I support the development of an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan with the goal of maintaining and protecting ecosystem health and fishery sustainability.

An integrated PFMC with existing Fishery Management Plans (FMPs) is crucial. It is equally important that the PFMC develop an umbrella Ecosystem FMP that can link ecological considerations across the four FMPs (salmon, groundfish, coastal pelagic species and highly migratory species).

Recognizing forage fish in the Ecosystem FMP while implementing conservation and management measures as appropriate, and managing for a healthy forage base would be an important step toward long term natural resource preservation and national solvency.

Our oceans and coastal communities are facing many challenges. We must plan for tomorrow today to avoid catastrophic ecological and costly failures.

I urge you to adopt an Ecosystem FMP framework and to include a focus on forages species.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Angie Hornola
Island County Commissioner, District 2
May 19, 2011

Mr. Mark Cedergreen, Chair
Pacific Fishery Management council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

RE: Regional Scale Ecosystem Based Management

Dear Mr. Cedergreen:

I write in support of the Pacific Fishery Management Council’s (PFMC) work to develop an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan. I am the District 2 Supervisor in San Luis Obispo County, representing the coastal communities near Morro Bay, California.

I particularly support ecosystem-based fishery management at appropriate regional scales, as fish stocks are not uniformly distributed over the waters managed by PFMC. I have been impressed with recent efforts by the Central Coast Groundfish Project and the San Luis Obispo Science & Ecosystem Alliance, who have developed innovative approaches to this issue.

It is important that the PFMC formally integrate ecosystem considerations into the existing Fishery Management Plans (FMPs). It has been long recognized that in order to have long-term sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean environment, ecosystem considerations must be incorporated into fishery management. For example, the 1999 report to Congress, “Ecosystem-based Fishery Management,” suggests this management approach is likely to contribute to increased abundance of those species that have been overfished, contribute to the stability of employment and economic activity in the fishing industry, and to the protection of marine biodiversity which fisheries and our coastal economies depend.

In order to move forward with ecosystem-based fishery management, I support the development of an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan with the goal of maintaining and protecting ecosystem health and fishery sustainability.

Our oceans and coastal communities are facing many challenges. Too often we hear about ecological consequences after the fact because they are not considered in decision-making or directly monitored. I don’t doubt that it will be difficult, but moving forward with an ecosystem-based fishery management approach is vitally important.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

BRUCE GIBSON
Supervisor, District Two
San Luis Obispo County
June 2, 2011

Mr. Mark Cedergreen, Chair  
Pacific Fishery Management Council  
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 1-1  
Portland, OR 97220-1384

RE: Ecosystem-Based Management

Dear Mr. Cedergreen and PFMC Members:

As a local elected official from a coastal county, I am writing in support of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) work to develop an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan.

It has long been recognized that to have long-term sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean environment, ecosystem considerations must be incorporated into fishery management. For example, the 1999 report to Congress, *Ecosystem-based Fishery Management*, suggests this management approach is likely to contribute to increased abundance of those species that have been overfished, to the stability of employment and economic activity in the fishing industry, and to the protection of marine biodiversity which fisheries and our coastal economies depend. I support the development of an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan with the goal of maintaining and protecting ecosystem health and fishery sustainability.

It is important the PFMC formally integrate considerations into the existing Fishery Management Plans (FMPs). It is equally important that the PFMC develop an umbrella Ecosystem FMP that can link ecological considerations across the four FMPs (salmon, groundfish, coastal pelagic species, and highly migratory species) and manage ecologically important species that fall outside of the current fishery management structure. Specifically, I support an Ecosystem FMP that would address forage species that are important prey for fish in the existing management plans, but are not currently managed by the PFMC. Forage fish are vital for marine ecosystems and leaving enough of them swimming in the ocean is one strategy that will pay off in the long run. Abundant populations of forage species are essential for sustainable fisheries and a healthy ocean. Recognizing this in the Ecosystem FMP by including forage species, implementing conservation and management measures, as appropriate, and managing for a healthy forage base would be an important step forward.
Our oceans and coastal communities are facing many challenges. Too often we hear about ecological consequences after the fact because they are not considered in the decision-making or directly monitored. I do not doubt that it will be difficult, but moving forward with an ecosystem-based fishery management approach is vitally important. Big strides can be made now by developing the Ecosystem FMP framework and including a focus on forage species.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Pam Slater-Price
San Diego County Board of Supervisors
District 3
PSP/sk
June 3, 2011

Mr. Mark Cedergreen, Chair
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

RE: Ecosystem Based Management

Dear Mr. Cedergreen and PFMC members:

As a local elected official from a coastal county, I am writing in support of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) work to develop an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan.

Our oceans and coastal communities are facing many challenges. Too often we hear about ecological consequences after the fact because they are not considered in decision-making or directly monitored. I don’t doubt that it will be difficult, but moving forward with an ecosystem-based fishery management approach is vitally important. Big strides can be made now by developing the Ecosystem FMP framework and including a focus on forage species.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,

Howard Howie Rosenfeld
May 23, 2011

Mr. Mark Cederholm, Chair  
Pacific Fishery Management Council  
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101  
Portland, OR 97220-1384  

RE: Ecosystem Based Management

Dear Mr. Cederholm and PFMC Members:

I am a County Commissioner from Wahkiakum County, Washington, a fishing community. I am writing in support of the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) work to develop an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan.

In order to have a long-term sustainable fishery, and a healthy ocean environment, ecosystem considerations must be incorporated into fishery management. A 1999 report to Congress, suggested an “Ecosystem-based Fishery Management,” management approach is likely to contribute to increased abundance of those species that have been overfished, contribute to the stability of employment and economic activity in the fishing industry, and to the protection of marine biodiversity which fisheries and our coastal economies depend upon. In order to move forward with ecosystem-based fishery management, I support the development of an Ecosystem Fishery Management Plan with the goal of maintaining and protecting ecosystem health and fishery sustainability.

I feel it is important that the PFMC formally integrate ecosystem considerations into the existing Fishery Management Plans (FMPs). It is equally important that the PFMC develop an umbrella Ecosystem FMP that can link ecological considerations across the four FMPs (salmon, ground fish, coastal pelagic species and highly migratory species) and manage ecologically important species that fall outside of the current fishery management structure. Specifically, I support an Ecosystem FMP that would address forage species that are important prey for fish in the existing management plans, but are not currently managed by the PFMC. Forage fish are vital for marine ecosystems and leaving enough of them swimming in the ocean is one strategy that will pay off in the long run. Abundant populations of forage species are essential for sustainable fisheries and a health ocean. Recognizing this in the Ecosystem FMP by including forage species, implementing