
Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Organization Inc.



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RECEIVED

OCT 29 2007

PFMC

October 21, 2007

Mr. Chairman, Donald K. Hansen
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

Dear Chairman Hansen and members of the Pacific Fisheries Management Council:

The Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Organization that is currently involved in an Exempted Fisheries Permit application process is asking your consideration in its approval. Access to fish here in Morro Bay has been extremely limited due to distances necessary to travel, fuel costs, and catch restrictions. Our port is remote from most markets, and we find ourselves losing an industry that once made Morro Bay a proud fishing village. We are struggling to keep this heritage alive. As so much of our area is currently underutilized we hope that you will consider this EFP the beginning of a solution to these dilemmas.

Please include this letter of support for the Exempted Fisheries Permit application in the Council's briefing book.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeremiah O'Brien". The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

Jeremiah O'Brien

President of the Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Organization

PMFC ITEM D2A

Port San Luis Commercial Fishermen's Association

P.O. Box 513
Avila Beach, CA 93424

Mailed and Faxed

October 29, 2007

Mr. Donald K. Hansen, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, Oregon 97220-1384

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Dear Chairman Hansen,

The members of the Port San Luis Commercial Fishermen's Association support the EFP that is being proposed by The Nature Conservancy and the Community Based Fishing Association.

We are asking your support as well.

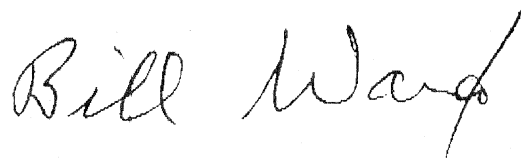
In the short and long run, the EFP will benefit all commercial fishermen since it will:

- Collect data for the Council that can serve as the foundation for future decisions that benefit all commercial fishermen
- Demonstrate how to build and maintain cross-interest-cooperative-efforts
- Require the proposed community based fishing association to identify and resolve new issues regarding decision making, governance, administration, compliance, communications, accountability, and reporting
- Challenge conventional thinking and lay the groundwork for future commercial fishing

This experiment could fail. But the lessons learned will benefit the Council, environmental interests, and commercial fishing interests for future generations.

The members of the Port San Luis Commercial Fishermen's Association urge you to support the EFP and the data it will provide.

Sincerely,



Bill Ward, President
Port San Luis Commercial Fishermen's Association

Copy to Jeremiah O'Brien, President, Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Association