




U.S DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
National Marine Sanctuary Program

West Coast Region
99 Pacific Street, Bldg. 200, Suite K
Monterey, CA 93940

March 9, 2009

Agenda Item G.3.d
Supplemental Public Comment 4
March 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR: Frank Lockhart
Assistant Regional Administrator
National Marine Fisheries Service, Northwest Region

FROM: William J. Douros 
West Coast Regional Director
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

SUBJECT: Support for Community Fishing Associations

Please accept support from the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS), West Coast Regional Office for the development of Community Fishing Associations (CFAs) as part of the Pacific Fishery Management Council's (PFMC) groundfish individual fishing quota (IFQ) process.

Well-managed CFAs along the west coast will help with promoting community-based stewardship, infrastructure, and ecologically and economically sustainable fishing practices. We view the emerging efforts to transition to more sustainable and community focused fisheries management as closely aligned and consistent with the ONMS's mandate to promote and facilitate placed-based approaches to marine ecosystem protection and resource utilization. We are therefore very interested in discussing ways that we could help support PFMC, NOAA Fisheries, state agencies, local fishermen, and others with this innovative approach to resource management and utilization.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide support for well-managed CFAs as part of the individual fishing quota system.

cc:

Donald Hansen, Chair, Pacific Fishery Management Council
Donald McIsaac, Executive Director, Pacific Fishery Management Council

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