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Assembly
California Legislature

BONNIE LOWENTHAL
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SEVENTIETH DISTRICT

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SELECT COMMITTEE ON PORTS, CHAIR
JOINT COMMITTEE ON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, VICE CHAIR
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JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
LEGISLATIVE ETHICS

CHAIR, LEGISLATIVE WOMEN'S CAUCUS

MENTAL HEALTH OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMISSION

August 21, 2013

Doug Bosco, Chair
California State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Floor 13
Oakland CA 94612-2530

Re: South Coast Community Fisheries Revitalization Plan

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am writing in support of the proposed plan to develop a community fisheries revitalization plan for San Pedro. This area has been an important fishing area for generations, and it is critical to promote sustainable fisheries that will continue to support our local industries and the greater regional economy.

San Pedro is well-known for its fishing industry and working waterfront. As the home of the Port of Los Angeles, this community was built around marine activities that include fishing, boating, and maritime trade. It is also a center for tourism with a thriving cruise ship industry.

I am very much in favor of the proposed planning effort that will provide a greater understanding of local and regional economic factors and identify actions needed to promote economic revitalization for working waterfronts. The plan, as I understand it, will also focus on how to better engage communities and tourists about the importance of local resources and sustainable fishing.

I look forward to working with Ecotrust on this important effort. Should you have any questions, or if my office can be of any assistance, please feel free to call my district office at (562) 495-2915.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Lowenthal

BONNIE LOWENTHAL
Assemblymember, 70th District

THE PORT OF LOS ANGELES
425 S. Palos Verdes Street Post Office Box 151 San Pedro, CA 90733-0151 TEL/TDD 310 SEA-PORT www.portoflosangeles.org

Antonio R. Villaraigosa | Mayor, City of Los Angeles
Board of Harbor Commissioners | Cindy Miscikowski, President | David Arian, Vice President | Robin M. Kramer | Douglas P. Krause | Sung Won Sohn, Ph.D.
Geraldine Knatz, Ph.D. | Executive Director

August 22, 2013

Doug Bosco
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Floor 13
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Chairman Bosco:

SUBJECT: SUPPORT TO DEVELOP SOUTH COAST COMMUNITY FISHERIES REVITALIZATION PLANS

The City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (LAHD) strongly urges State Coastal Conservancy funding to develop a community fisheries revitalization plan for San Pedro.

Vibrant fisheries and working waterfronts have long been integral parts of California's coastal communities—attracting and serving visitors, driving local and regional economies, and forming an iconic part of each community's heritage. While interest in and demand for sustainable seafood and a working waterfront experience has been building, residents and visitors have become increasingly disconnected from working waterfront activities.

The proposed planning effort will provide an understanding of local and regional economic factors, and identify actions needed to promote economic revitalization related to working waterfronts. The plan will also focus on how to better engage communities and tourists about the importance of local resources and sustainable fishing.

The proposed project objectives of the South Coast Community Fisheries Revitalization Plan are directly in line with several concerns and projects of LAHD, our tenants and stakeholders. The Port of Los Angeles' Master Plan designates space for commercial fishing and fish processing on Terminal Island, and the commercial fishermen in San Pedro fish for spot prawns, urchins, halibut, rockfish, squid, lobster, sea cucumber, sardines, and rock crab. Our San Pedro Waterfront Project is geared to revitalize this waterfront, bring the community to the water, and enhance opportunities for local

industries, including our commercial fishermen. We fully support any efforts to enhance marketing strategies for wholesale, direct-to-consumers, or niche markets, as well as enhancing public access and tourism, promoting sustainable fisheries, and cultivating local demand and markets for San Pedro fishermen.

We look forward to working with Ecotrust on this important effort, and urge the Coastal Conservancy's full support.

Sincerely,

GERALDINE KNATZ, Ph.D.
Executive Director

BOARD OF PORT COMMISSIONERS
Gregory Carson, Chairman
Jim Friedman, Vice Chairman
Everard Ashworth, Commissioner
Robert J. Bravo, Commissioner
Bruce E. Smith, Commissioner

Oscar Peña, General Manager

August 16, 2013

Doug Bosco
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Floor 13
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Subject: Support to develop South Coast Community Fisheries Revitalization Plans

Dear Chairman Bosco:

The Ventura Port District strongly urges State Coastal Conservancy funding to develop a community fisheries revitalization plan for the Ventura Harbor.

Vibrant fisheries and working waterfronts have long been integral parts of California's coastal communities, attracting and serving visitors, driving local and regional economies, and forming an iconic part of each community's heritage. While interest in and demand for sustainable seafood and a working waterfront experience has been building, residents and visitors have become increasingly disconnected from working waterfront activities.

The proposed planning effort will provide an understanding of local and regional economic factors, and identify actions needed to promote economic revitalization related to working waterfronts. The plan will also focus on how to better engage communities and tourists about the importance of local resources and sustainable fishing.

Revitalization of a working waterfront is particularly important to the Ventura Port District because the land use for the southwest harbor area is designated for commercial fishing. This priority land use requires the District to maintain infra-structure improvements that serve the commercial fishing industry. This includes a commercial fish dock that is 115' x 200', a fisheries commerce building that consists of approximately 7,706 sq. ft. and includes an ice plant and loading dock area, a fuel pier for commercial vessels and a boatyard with a ship lift capacity of 150 tons to accommodate the larger commercial fishing vessels. The Port District also owns and operates a 135 slip marina that is primarily occupied by commercial fishing vessels. Some of the needed infra-structure is maintained by tenants that have a lease with the Port District; however, this does not apply to the fish dock that also includes two hoists, the fisheries commerce building and the marina. This aging infra-structure (35 yrs. old) must be maintained/replaced by the Port District. In order to achieve this object, we must have a viable and sustainable fisheries revitalization plan to continue with this priority land use mandated by the California Coastal Commission.

Ventura Port District
1603 Anchors Way Drive, Ventura, CA 93001-4229
805/642-8538 • FAX 805/658-2249
www.venturaharbor.com

Additionally, the Port District receives federal funds for dredging the harbor entrance and sand trap because of the presence of commercial fishing. Without a viable fisheries, the Federal Government may not provide the $3 to $4 million needed every year to dredge the harbor entrance to ensure it remains safe and navigable to the general public and the many commercial fishing vessels that make the Ventura Harbor their home port.

We look forward to working with Ecotrust on this important effort, and urge the Coastal Conservancy's full support.

Sincerely,

Oscar Peña
General Manager
Ventura Port District

August 21, 2013

Doug Bosco
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Floor 13
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

RE: Support of the development South Coast Community Fisheries Revitalization Plans

Dear Chairman Bosco:

My name is Bob Bertelli, and I am the current chairman of the California Sea Urchin Commission (CSUC), which is a one of several marketing boards that are part of the CA. Dept. of Food and Agriculture. I was also a stakeholder in the South Coast Marine Life Protection Act Initiative (MLPAI), advised fishing interests on the North Coast segment of the MLPAI, a stakeholder with the CA. Fish and Wildlife Strategic Vision Process, and the Terminal Island Plan Working Group (Port of LA).

I strongly support State Coastal Conservancy funding to develop a community fisheries revitalization plan for San Pedro. I started commercial fishing in 1975, which was about the time that California started to change the way it managed its' fisheries. Regulations began to impact the fishermen, and amount of fish landed, all in efforts to prevent over harvesting of the resource. However there has been an unintended consequence of focusing most of our efforts on protecting the resource: we have neglected the wellbeing of fishermen, and the critical port infrastructure that supports them (ice machines, hoists etc.). Sound fisheries management requires both a sustainable resource, and sustainable fisherman. That is what makes a well-managed fishery.

These fisheries and working waterfronts have long been integral parts of California's coastal communities—attracting and serving visitors, driving local and regional economies, and forming an iconic part of each community's heritage. While interest in and demand for sustainable seafood and a working waterfront experience has been building, residents and visitors have become increasingly disconnected from working waterfront activities.

Fishermen need to develop new and creative marketing strategies, and help improve port infrastructure, that will promote economic revitalization related to working waterfronts and work towards a long-term goal of owning and operating waterfront retail fish markets. This is the best way to facilitate public education about local fisheries and products, especially via direct interaction between fishermen and the public. It will also strengthen San Pedro's identify and heritage.

This proposed project for San Pedro will promote sustainable fisheries and sustainable fishermen. It also makes economic and social considerations that are directly associated with managing the resource. Developing direct-to-consumer sales will support local community fishing associations that have a vested interest in maintaining the sustainability of local fisheries. It will also help advance both goals, and is consistent with the Marine Life Management Act

(MLMA), the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA), and the CA. Coastal Commission's (CCC) policy on commercial fishing port infrastructure.

Therefore, I strongly urge you to join with the local community, and support our proposal. I look forward to working with Ecotrust on this important effort, and urge the Coastal Conservancy's full support.

Thank you for your consideration,

Respectfully,
Bob Bertelli

Ventura County Commercial Fishermen's Association
3600 S. Harbor Blvd., PMB 240
Oxnard, CA 93035
rhoeflinge@aol.com
neptuneobs@aol.com

August 18, 2013

Doug Bosco
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Floor 13
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Subject: Support to develop South Coast Community Fisheries Revitalization Plans

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I, Pete Dupuy, as president of the Ventura County Commercial Fishermen's Association, (VCCFA), strongly urge State Coastal Conservancy funding to develop a community fisheries revitalization plan for Ventura.

Vibrant fisheries and working waterfronts have long been integral parts of California's coastal communities—attracting and serving visitors, driving local and regional economies, and forming an iconic part of each community's heritage. While interest in and demand for sustainable seafood and a working waterfront experience has been building, residents and visitors have become increasingly disconnected from working waterfront activities.

We have been focusing our fishing business on building a Saturday Fishermen's Market for 15 years, with the hope of bridging the economic and food system gap between local fishermen and local consumers. Most recently, we have been focusing efforts towards micro-processing, (wet floor, walk-in cooler & freezer), for local fishermen, enabling them to have the proper permits to sell cut fish at the Saturday fishermen's market, and in local farmer's markets. Adding to this, we now provide an area for fishermen to store and maintain their fishing gear – incorporating a true working waterfront with commercial fishing as defined by the California Coastal Commission. These efforts have been in partnership with the Port of Ventura and various local fishermen using marketing and strategic planning.

Unlike the other ports along the California coast, we have been spearheading these efforts with minimal state, university and non-profit support. Needless to say, we support and look forward to participating in the proposed planning effort. It will provide an understanding of local and regional economic factors, and identify actions needed to promote economic revitalization related to working waterfronts that we have been pursuing. The plan will also focus on how to

better engage communities and tourists about the importance of local resources and sustainable fishing.

Revitalization of a working waterfront is particularly important to us. We look forward to working with Ecotrust on this important effort, and urge the Coastal Conservancy's full support.

Sincerely,

Pete Dupuy
President
VCCFA

August 13, 2013

Doug Bosco
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Floor 13
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Chairman Bosco,

My name is Miguel Ferre, (F&G number 002786), I'm a commercial fisherman in Ventura. I fish for squid and sardines.

I support Pete Dupuy's plan for marketing and wet floor .

Sincerely,

Miguel Ferre
413 Las Palomas Dr.
Port Hueneme, CA 93041
(805) 415-9616

August 18, 2013

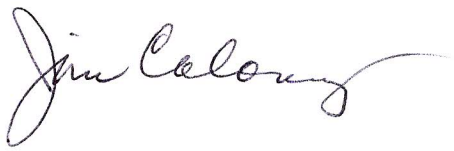
Doug Bosco
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Floor 13
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Chairman Bosco,

My name is Jim Colomy, I'm a commercial fisherman. I fish lobster, salmon, and rockfish out of Ventura Harbor.

I support Pete Dupuy's plan for marketing fresh fish out of Ventura Harbor and local farmer's markets.

Sincerely,



Jim Colomy
P.O. Box 1135
Summerland, CA 93067

bay restoration foundation
STEWARDS OF SANTA MONICA BAY
santa monica bay restoration foundation ✐ 320 west 4th street, ste 200; los angeles, california 90013
213/576-6615 phone ✐ 213/576-6646 fax ✐ santamonicabay.org

August 14, 2013

Doug Bosco
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Floor 13
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Subject: Support to develop South Coast Community Fisheries Revitalization Plans

Dear Chairman Bosco:

The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation (SMBRF) strongly urges State Coastal Conservancy funding to develop a community fisheries revitalization plan for San Pedro.

Vibrant fisheries and working waterfronts have long been integral parts of California's coastal communities—attracting and serving visitors, driving local and regional economies, and forming an iconic part of each community's heritage. While interest in and demand for sustainable seafood and a working waterfront experience has been building, residents and visitors have become increasingly disconnected from working waterfront activities.

The proposed planning effort will provide an understanding of local and regional economic factors, and identify actions needed to promote economic revitalization related to working waterfronts. The plan will also focus on how to better engage communities and tourists about the importance of local resources and sustainable fishing.

The SMBRF works toward protecting the benefits and values of the Santa Monica Bay, including healthy fish stocks that support thriving commercial and recreational fisheries. Revitalization of a working waterfront is particularly important to the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation because a thriving fishing community will support the continued stewardship of the Bay's water quality, fish habitat, and other natural resources.

We look forward to working with Ecotrust on this important effort, and urge the Coastal Conservancy's full support.

Sincerely,

Dr. Shelley Luce
Executive Director, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation

California State University
Dominguez Hills

Department of Anthropology • (310) 243-3443
1000 East Victoria Street • Carson, CA 90747

August 19, 2013

Doug Bosco
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Floor 13
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Subject: Support to develop South Coast Community Fisheries Revitalization Plans

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I strongly urge State Coastal Conservancy funding to develop a community fisheries revitalization plan for San Pedro.

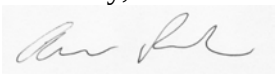
Vibrant fisheries and working waterfronts have long been integral parts of California's coastal communities—attracting and serving visitors, driving local and regional economies, and forming an iconic part of each community's heritage. While interest in and demand for sustainable seafood and a working waterfront experience has been building, residents and visitors have become increasingly disconnected from working waterfront activities.

The proposed planning effort will provide an understanding of local and regional economic factors, and identify actions needed to promote economic revitalization related to working waterfronts. The plan will also focus on how to better engage communities and tourists about the importance of local resources and sustainable fishing.

Having worked as a city contractor on a Port of Los Angeles Commercial Fisheries Infrastructure Report and the Terminal Island Land Use Plan, I am knowledgeable about the area's needs and potential. Establishing opportunities for fisheries within the Port area corresponds with the Port Master Plan and its efforts to create a working waterfront. Ports and their communities all over the country are experiencing profound economic and social successes through these types of revitalization efforts, and the Port of Los Angeles should be a part of this growing and successful trend.

I look forward to working with Ecotrust on this important effort, and urge the Coastal Conservancy's full support.

Sincerely,



Dr. Ana Pitchon
Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology
California State University Dominguez Hills
(310) 243-3479 - apitchon@csudh.edu

AQUARIUM
OF THE PACIFIC®
A non-profit institution

August 19, 2013

Doug Bosco
Chair, State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, Floor 13
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Subject: Support to develop South Coast Community Fisheries Revitalization Plans

Dear Chairman Bosco:

The Aquarium of the Pacific strongly urges State Coastal Conservancy funding to develop a community fisheries revitalization plan for Santa Barbara, Ventura, and San Pedro.

Vibrant fisheries and working waterfronts have long been integral parts of California's coastal communities—attracting and serving visitors, driving local and regional economies, and forming an iconic part of each community's heritage. Today, there is a disconnect between Californians and local fishermen. There are few places for consumers to access local seafood and the majority of the seafood in the state is imported from fisheries with little or no regulations in place to minimize their impacts. Minimal local support coupled with the strong fisheries management that has made California seafood sustainable has also come at a cost to our fishermen. Public access to local, responsibly harvested and farmed seafood is vital to the health of California's coastal economy.

The proposed planning effort will provide an understanding of local and regional economic factors, and identify actions needed to promote economic revitalization related to working waterfronts. The plan will also focus on how to better engage communities and tourists about the importance of local resources and sustainable fishing.

Revitalization of a working waterfront is particularly important to the Aquarium of the Pacific because well-managed fisheries supported by local coastal communities are critical to the health of our oceans, upon which California relies heavily for its robust tourism economy.

We look forward to working with Ecotrust on this important effort, and urge the Coastal Conservancy's full support.

Sincerely,

Jerry Schubel
President and CEO,
Aquarium of the Pacific

Kim Thompson
Program Manager, Seafood for the Future
Aquarium of the Pacific