

CARL MAYHUGH

San Diego, CA 92106

California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814
Attention: Melissa Miller-Henson

Dear Regional Stakeholder Group Selection Committee,

I would like to nominate myself to become a member of the Regional Stakeholder Group for the MLPA South Coast Study Region. I believe that I will be able to provide regional and local experience, and a balanced view of the issues involved.

I have worked for many years in the scuba diving, fishing, and marine biology fields, and I am a current Director of the San Diego Oceans Foundation. I have first-hand knowledge of the region, having worked as a Captain from the Channel Islands in the north, to Baja in the south. I am currently the President of Pacific Oceanworks Inc., which provides scuba diving charters and eco-tours to the public as well as scientific research. My current research is affiliated with NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service and Scripps Institution of Oceanography. A broad perspective and an understanding of the science involved give me the ability to be open-minded, and to work with people representing diverse interests. I have some connections with local TV news stations, and I was interviewed in the current issue of WetPixel magazine regarding my conservation work with marine turtles in San Diego. More importantly however, the network I have established with both fishing and conservation groups also gives me the ability to disseminate unbiased information through personal contact. I am in daily contact with both sides of the conservation issues regarding the implementation of the MLPA, including commercial fishermen, conservationists, and everyone in between.

I have been researching the MLPA process for over a year. I understand the time commitment that will be required and I am fully committed to the entirety of the process. During this time, I have met with representatives from a conservation group (Coastkeeper), as well as fishing groups (United Anglers, SAC, San Diego Rod & Reel Club). I have gained the support of diverse groups such as the Southern California Dive Boat Operators Association (representing 23 commercial dive boats and thousands of divers), marine science educational groups, and fishing groups. I gained this support, not by promoting a position, but by speaking to these differing constituencies regarding the need that we all have in common: a healthy and sustainable ocean. Other preparations have included attending the Eco-Trust meeting for fishermen in La Jolla, and attending the public outreach meeting in Oxnard.

In closing, I believe that my scientific background and local knowledge would be an asset to the MLPA process. I believe that I would be able to help bring groups of diverse interests together to find solutions and create viable proposals. A full CV is available upon your request.

Sincerely,

Carl Mayhugh
President-Pacific Oceanworks Inc.