



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary
University of California Santa Barbara
Ocean Science Education Building 514, MC 6155
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-6155

September 28, 2015

Dr. Sherry Lippiatt
California Regional Coordinator
NOAA Marine Debris Program/IMSG
Office of Response and Restoration
Coast Guard Island, Bldg 50-8, Alameda, CA 94501

Dear Dr. Sherry Lippiatt:

At the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting on September 18th, Sean Hastings, Resource Protection Coordinator, presented on a lobster trap loss prevention and recovery pilot project that may be eligible for funding from the NOAA Marine Debris Program.

Mr. Hastings explained that a goal of the proposed project is to work with the local lobster fishing community to develop and communicate a suite of best practices to prevent the loss of lobster gear and recover lost gear. The council discussed the project proposal, noting that lost lobster gear is one of the biggest sources of marine debris in Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. The council also discussed how this project may fold in with the new California Spiny Lobster Fishery Management Plan, which is currently in review and is expected to be implemented for the 2017/2018 lobster season. The council was especially interested in focusing on preventing the loss of lobster gear, while noting that loss of some gear is inevitable and thus recovery is an important aspect of the project as well.

Following questions and discussion, Michael Cohen, business seat on the council, made a motion to support the proposed project. Luhui Isha Ward, Chumash community seat on the council, seconded the motion. **The council then voted unanimously to support the project.**

The Sanctuary Advisory Council is a 21- member body that brings together community members and representatives from government agencies to advise the Sanctuary Superintendent and NOAA. The Sanctuary's mission is to provide long-term protection to its nationally significant marine resources, while facilitating compatible human uses.

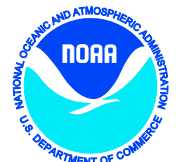
The council's vote of endorsement illustrates that this project is supported by a diverse group of community members, including recreational and commercial fishing interests. Widespread community support will contribute to this project's success, which will ultimately help reduce the impacts of marine debris on Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. We hope this community support reflects favorably upon the proposal, and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Morgan Visalli, Resource Protection Specialist

cc: Dianne Black, Chair, Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

enclosure: Voting Record, Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council,
September 18, 2015



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SAC Voting Record
September 18, 2015

Name	Advisory Council Seat	Vote
Michael Cohen	Business	Yes
Molly Troup	CA Coastal Commission	Yes
Julia Coates	CA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife	Yes
Luhui Isha Ward	Chumash Community	Yes
John Hoadley	Commercial Fishing	Yes
Kristi Birney	Conservation	Yes
Amanda Allen	Education	Yes
Ben Pitterle	Non-Consumptive Recreation	Yes
Phyllis Grifman	Public at Large #1	Yes
Capt. David Bacon	Recreational Fishing	Yes
Dr. Robert Warner	Research	Yes
Dianne Black	Santa Barbara County	Yes
CDR Casey Hehr	US Coast Guard	Yes
John Ugoretz	US Department of Defense	Yes

The following seats were not present at the September 18, 2015 council meeting: Tourism, Public at Large #2, NOAA Fisheries, National Park Service, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, CA Natural Resources Agency, and Ventura County.