

Marine Interests Group Working Committee Adds Members

Summary Minutes from Thursday, February 20, 2003

1. Summary Minutes

a. Review and Confirmation of Working Committee Guidelines

The Committee members discussed their desire to approach the discussions with open minds and no pre-set agendas. Each member has interests, insights, and information to share. This is different, however, from advocating a pre-set position or solution. The Committee members unanimously affirmed the following policy guideline:

"While acknowledging that some members may have previously taken positions about marine resource protection issues, Working Committee members agree to openly consider the facts and options that may arise and to suspend further public advocacy of such positions until the Committee concludes its recommendations." In the unlikely event that elected officials serving on the Committee are called upon to vote on marine resource protection issues prior to the conclusion of the Committee's recommendations, everyone understands that this guideline does not preclude them from exercising their responsibilities.

b. Additions to the Working Committee

At its previous meeting, the Working Committee indicated an interest in additions in several areas, including marine-dependent businesses, at-large members, and sport fishing. It reviewed the submissions from nominees in these categories. The Committee decided to add one representative of marine-dependent business interests, two at-large members, and one sport fishing. The persons receiving the most votes in these categories and, thus, becoming new members of the Working Committee are: Steve Moore, Leslie Krinsk, Dave Sears, and Dave Rymal.

The complete list of Working Committee members is:

Bill Yates, Mayor, City of Morro Bay

Bob Hather, recreation fishing

Carolyn Moffatt, Commissioner, Port San Luis Harbor

Dave Rymal, sport fishing

Dave Sears, at-large, retired manager in State Parks (SLO County)

Dean Wendt, Ph.D., Professor of Marine Biology, Cal Poly

Hugh Thomas, commercial fishing interests (Port San Luis)

Joy Fitzhugh (Don Warden alternate), SLO County Farm Bureau

Leslie Krinsk, at-large, Sierra Club conservation committee

Marla Morrissey, conservation

Matt Fleming, Chair, Surfrider Foundation

Mike Multari, Director, Morro Bay National Estuary Program

Pat Mullen (James White alternate), Duke Energy

Pam Heatherington, Exec. Dir., ECOSLO

Patricia Wilmore, legislative affairs, SLO Chamber of Commerce
Ron Massengill, (Cambria) Sanctuary Advisory Council, MBNMS
Shirley Bianchi, District 2 Supervisor
Steve Moore, marine-dependent business, Patriot Sport Fishing/Whale Watching

Ex-officio members

Greg Haas, District Representative, Congresswoman Capps
Richard Macedo, Legislative Aide, Supervisor Bianchi
Sandy Agalos, District Coordinator, Assemblymember Maldonado
Teresa Martinez, District Representative, State Senator McPherson
Vicki Janssen, Legislative Aide, Supervisor Katcho

The Working Committee members reiterated their interest in creating multiple opportunities for all interested members of the public to participate in the dialogue about marine resources. Be sure to share your issues, concerns, and information requests with members of the Working Committee.

2. Agenda for Next Meeting of Working Committee

The next session of the Working Committee will be at 4-6 p.m., Thursday, February 27, 2003, at the Multi-Purpose Room of the Morro Bay Community Center, 1001 Kennedy Way.

The suggested agenda is as follows:

Hopes for Future of Marine Resources (discussion)	30 minutes
What's important to various interests and why?	
<i>Intended result:</i> Shared set of hopes for the future of the resources	
Issues, Threats, and Concerns (discussion)	60 minutes
What are the key concerns?	
What information is desirable to address them?	
<i>Intended result:</i> Clear list of topics and information requests for agencies and other information resources to address; input to go to agencies meeting	
Next Steps	10 minutes
Plans for the agencies meeting	
Initial thoughts about public workshops in the spring	
Next meeting of Working Committee	
Communications with the public	
Additional Comments from Other Attendees	10 minutes
Closing	10 minutes

Note: Copies of summary minutes and materials from Working Committee meetings are available for review in a binder maintained at the offices of the Morro Bay National Estuary Program, 601 Embarcadero, Morro Bay. We are exploring opportunities to post materials on a web site as well.

Don Maruska
independent facilitator and public information contact
Marine Interests Group Working Committee