



# News Release

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portofsandiego.org

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**California Coastal Conservancy Awards  
Port of San Diego Grant Funding for Commercial  
Fisheries and Coastal Public Access Plan**  
*Grant would fund plans for Driscoll's Wharf and Tuna Harbor  
on San Diego Bay*

**May 25, 2007** – Two areas of San Diego Bay that serve the once thriving commercial fishing industry may undergo a refurbishment as a result of a \$450,000 grant from the California Coastal Conservancy. The locations are Driscoll's Wharf at America's Cup Harbor Basin and Tuna Harbor, located at the G Street Mole. Both are in the City of San Diego.

Over the past several years, the commercial fishing industry has declined in the region, due to competition from other areas and a variety of regulatory, economic and environmental factors. Regulatory changes have made it difficult for fishermen to make a living and for ports to maintain revenues associated with fishing activity. These revenues support needed maintenance on fishing docks, equipment storage, infrastructure and the shoreline. As a result, many fishermen have left the area and it has been difficult to attract new fishing entities. Also, facilities where the fishermen dock their vessels and store equipment, such as Driscoll's Wharf and Tuna Harbor, have incurred wear and tear over the years.

The proposed plan will address how to support commercial fishing at Driscoll's Wharf and Tuna Harbor with a variety of uses and related income producing opportunities both on and off site. It will also include a study of fisheries market feasibility, a marketing plan and preliminary conceptual designs.

"The Coastal Conservancy grant funding will assist the Port in its role of promoting recreation and fisheries," said Sylvia Rios, Chairwoman of the Board of Port Commissioners. "We would like to see this industry thrive again, while at the same time, improve the access to the waterfront so that everyone can enjoy San Diego Bay."

The Port of San Diego is a public benefit corporation and special government entity. Created in 1963 by an act of the California legislature, the Port manages San Diego harbor and administers the public lands along San Diego Bay. The Port has operated without tax dollars since 1970 and has been responsible for

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\$1.5 billion in public improvements in its five member cities – Chula Vista, Coronado, Imperial Beach, National City and San Diego. With an \$8.4 billion economic impact on the San Diego region, the Port oversees two maritime cargo terminals, a cruise ship terminal, 16 public parks, various wildlife reserves and environmental initiatives, a Harbor Police department and the leases of over 600 tenant businesses around San Diego Bay.