



**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
COMMERCIAL FISHERIES REVITALIZATION PLAN
CORE COMMITTEE MEETING
December 18, 2008, 10:30 a.m.
(Port Training Room)**



Attendees:

August Felando, Fisheries Attorney
Bruce Cummings, Port – Maritime Operations
Chris Morrow, Project Design Consultants
Domenic Lupo, Project Design Consultants
Henry Pontarelli, Lisa Wise Consulting
Jonathan Hardy, Senator Ducheny's Office
Kathryn Gillick, Lisa Wise Consulting
Kelly Falk, Port - Real Estate, Chair
Maryanne Kind, Port - Grants

Lawrence Honman, Merkel & Associates
Matthew Valerio, Port - Land Use Planning
Mitch Hobron, Fisherman's Working Group
Peter Fournoy, Attorney, Fishing Industry
Stacy Gomez, Helix Environmental
Steve Foltz, Chesapeake Fish Processing
Tina Pierce, Port - Grants Office
Walter Crampton, TerraCosta Consulting

Open Meeting, Introductions, Updates from Port

Kelly Falk opened the meeting and provided an overview of the meeting agenda: presentations from TerraCosta, Helix Environmental and Lisa Wise Consulting and the distribution of the draft *Commercial Fisheries Revitalization Plan, Background and Existing Conditions Report* for review by the Core Committee members (comments are due January 8, 2009). The second item on the agenda, "Updates, Items of Interest" (round-table reports) will be heard after the presentations.

Geotechnical Analysis (Walter Crampton, TerraCosta Consulting Group)

Walter Crampton reported on the geotechnical analysis summary of findings and gave a very interesting presentation regarding the history of San Diego Bay and Port Tidelands dating back 120,000 years ago to present day. The old photographs and illustrations were fascinating. He focused on the geological formation of the two commercial fishing locations, Driscoll's Wharf and Tuna Harbor, pointing out items of possible concern such as earthquake faults; i.e., the Coronado Fault, which is active and located near Tuna Harbor. He described liquefaction and indicated that it is fairly easy to deal with. Habitable structures must mitigate for liquefaction, but piers are not required to do so; e.g., embarcadero.

A Sea Level Rise Report will be authorized by both the Port and Coastal Conservancy in January 2009 and will be incorporated into the Commercial Fisheries Revitalization Plan. This report will not be a full risk analysis.

Above-Water Environmental Analysis (Stacy Gomez, Helix Environmental Planning)

Stacey Gomez presented the land-based existing conditions and environmental constraints analysis for Driscoll's Wharf and Tuna Harbor which included the following information:

Biological resources (not including in-water and intertidal resources); hydrology, water quality, storm water runoff and floodplains; geology/seismicity, paleontological resources, visual/aesthetics, cultural resources, air quality, noise, hazards and hazardous materials, and utilities/emergency services.

Likely constraints include:

Sensitive bird species – USFWS/Corps permits; public views and public art; noise and vibration impacts during bird nesting season (Driscoll's Wharf area-Least Tern, April-September), and possibly on Old Police Headquarters (near Tuna Harbor); technical studies and/or Best Management Practices required for: hydrology/storm water/water quality impacts; visual impacts; geology impacts, possible paleontological monitor; air quality impacts, hazardous materials Phase I site reports, and the

environmental analysis document required under CEQA (which will depend on the nature of the projects selected).

Core Committee Updates (Roundtable Reports)

The next Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Initiative South Coast Regional Stakeholder Group meeting will be held in San Diego January 13-14, 2008. Both the Blue Ribbon Task Force and the Stakeholder Group will take comments for consideration regarding the Commercial Fisheries Revitalization Project. All Core Committee members were encouraged to attend. The MLPA may close off certain commercial fishing areas. It was pointed out that some of our fisheries (e.g., urchin, lobster, crab) are within the three-mile zone that is of interest to the MLPA, and that it is critical that the MLPA Board understand that these fisheries are really going to be impacted if these areas are closed.

The Core Committee would like to send a letter sent to the MLPA making them aware of its concerns; a second letter should be sent from the political supporters of commercial fisheries, e.g., Port member city mayors, Coastal Commission, County Supervisors, SanDAG). A member of the Board of Port Commissioners (as well as Port staff) should also attend MLPA meetings and serve as a champion for commercial fisheries. It was suggested that Port staff should work with SanDAG, as our regional planning agency. SanDAG should be included on the Commercial Fisheries Steering Committee and also participate in the MLPA process.

Draft Background and Existing Conditions Report (Henry Pontarelli, Lisa Wise Consulting)

Henry Pontarelli distributed to the Core Committee members the draft *Background and Existing Conditions Report* (BEC) for their review. A spreadsheet was distributed that is to be used to record comments. Henry also offered to meet with individual committee members, should they would prefer to give their comments to him personally. Comments are due to Kelly Falk by January 8, 2009. Several Core Committee members stated that Lisa Wise Consulting had done an outstanding job in compiling the report as it included a wide area of work. Henry commented that the Report included information obtained from fishermen and stakeholders during 140 or more hours of interviews.

The BEC includes analysis of the historic and current state of the commercial fishing industry in Driscoll's Wharf and Tuna Harbor as well as an industry overview; it will provide justification for recommendations and alternatives for improvement that will be presented in the Implementation Report. The BEC report gives a comprehensive view of the fishery and related infrastructure; markets; fishery management efforts; landing and earning trends; comparisons to state and national fisheries and other ports; existing projects; wet and dry utilities; traffic and parking; marine structural, geological and soil composition of the sites; environmental conditions and potential constraints; and a review of pertinent documents such as the Port Act, Port Master Plan and Strategic Plan, and the 1980 and 1998 Commercial Fishing reports.

Next Steps

Next steps/future meetings were outlined beginning with January 22, 2009 as the date the draft BEC will be finalized and ready for formal distribution, the tentative dates of future workshops and Core Committee meetings, and, lastly, the date the conceptual proposal (preferred alternative) will go before the Board of Port Commissions for its consideration and approval (April 2009). The format of future workshops was also discussed with new ideas shared with the group, e.g., to use an input form to capture the thoughts and concepts of fishermen who are actually going to use the facilities.