

F/V TARA DAWN INC.

Tom & Julie Estes

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Office of the Secretary

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Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
C/O California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

RESOURCES AGENCY OF CALIFORNIA

Regards: NCRSG Nominations:

My name is Tom Estes and I would like to serve on the North Coast MPA Stakeholder Group. I have been approached by members of the fishing industry concerning a position as a stakeholder and to represent their concerns in this important, decision making group that will have a dramatic affect on their livelihood. I have a wealth of knowledge to offer pertaining to the commercial and recreational fishing areas off our coastal area. I am very much interested in that I, like many of the fishermen from the Fort Bragg area, spend a considerable amount of time fishing in the area being studied for MPA's from here to the Oregon border.

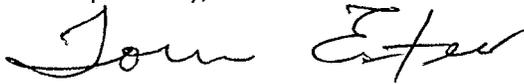
My personal qualifications are that I have been making a successful living commercial fishing since 1967. The fisheries I have been involved in are salmon trolling, longline blackcod fishing, crabbing, albacore tuna fishing, pink shrimp trawling and bottom trawling. Prior to 1967, I started fishing in 1957 as a crewman on salmon trollers. After a couple of years I leased a boat and then purchased a small troller. With this small troller I was able to support myself and achieve a B.A. Degree at Sacramento State College. I have owned three different vessels and the one I have now is a combination bottom/shrimp trawler, crabber and albacore tuna boat. I have recently retired and my eldest son now captains the vessel. I also have another son who has a vessel and is a full time fisherman. Not actively fishing should allow me to devote the time needed to see this project through.

I have had some experience politically. For a period of about fifteen years, during the formative years of the PMFC, I attended many meetings as a member and officer of the Fishermen's Marketing Association which represented bottom trawlers of California. On the state level I have been involved in a reactive capacity in trying to defeat legislation that would be harmful for segments of the fishing industry. I have also attended and given testimony at California Fish and Game Commission hearings. I served as an alternate delegate on the MPA North Central Coast Stakeholders Group.

I have extensive knowledge about the area from Point Arena to the Oregon border which is the area being studied from my experiences fishing salmon, shrimp trawling and crabbing in these

waters. In Fort Bragg we still have the Salmon Trollers Marketing Association who also represent kelp or near shore fishermen, and members of Fishermen's Marketing Association who represent trawlers and also shrimp trawlers. Both of these groups represent crab fishermen with whom I can converse with. We also have a Sea Urchin Group that I am not that familiar with but I know that MLPA's could have a devastating impact on them. I would have to consult with this group and get their input. Our coast is heavily depended on the tourist dollar. Abalone sport fishing, ocean sport fish trolling and shore rock fishing are all important to the economy of this area. I feel I can be a liaison to these various entities as a representative of the north coast area.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Estes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tom Estes

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