



Orange County Marine Protected Areas

July 8, 2008

Melissa Miller-Henson
Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
c/o California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Melissa,

Please accept this submittal as a nomination of Calla Allison to be on the Regional Stakeholder Group. We submit this on behalf of the Orange County Marine Protected Area Committee and all of its member agencies.

The Orange County Marine Protected Area Committee (OCMPAC) currently includes representatives from California State Parks, City of Laguna Beach, City of Newport Beach, City of Dana Point, California State University Fullerton, MBC Applied Environmental, County of Orange, Laguna Ocean Foundation, and the Ocean Institute. We have been an active committee as part of the Orange County Coastal Coalition for over nine years and have had significant impact on improving the quality of our valuable rocky intertidal and beach resources.

The Orange County Coastal Coalition derived Marine Protected Area Committee shares values with the MLPA and we could be excellent contributors to the Regional Stakeholder Group. Our Committee members have been working for nine years to improve conditions in our coastal zone and are excellent candidates to represent Orange County's needs. Our Committee members understand the balance between public usage and conservation needs and are optimally suited to recommend balanced solutions.

In this submittal you will find:

- a) Signatures of all Orange County Marine Protected Area organizational representatives
- b) Nominee information
- c) Support letters from:
 - Ken Kramer, District Superintendent, Department of Parks and Recreation*
 - Joel Bishop, Mayor, City of Dana Point*
 - Homer Bludau, City Manager, City of Newport Beach (sent directly to Melissa Miller)*
 - Kenneth Frank, City Manager, City of Laguna Beach*
 - Greg Thomson, Bureau of Land Management, Offshore Coastal Monument*
 - Debbie Karimoto, OC Diving*
 - Judy York, Laguna Beach Bluebelt Coalition*

The OCMPAC supports the goals and objectives of the MLPA and will contribute in any way possible toward a successful new network of interconnected marine protected areas. We think that Calla Allison would be an excellent contributor to the process and we hope that she can serve on the Regional Stakeholder Group.

Sincerely,



Harry Helling, Chair
Orange County Marine Protected Areas Committee
Executive Vice President, Ocean Institute

 Orange County Marine Protected Areas

On behalf of the Orange County Marine Protected Area Committee, the following members enthusiastically support the nomination of Calla Allison as our representative on the Regional Stakeholder Committee. Further, the OCMPCAC submits Jeff Rosaler as equally qualified and as our first alternate.

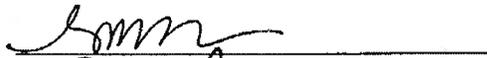
Calla Allison, City of Laguna Beach



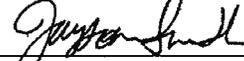
Winter Bonnin, California State Parks



Susan Brodeur, County of Orange



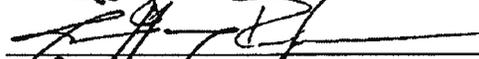
Dr. Jayson Smith, CSUF, Fullerton



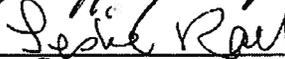
Dave Pryor, California State Parks



Jeff Rosaler, Laguna Ocean Foundation



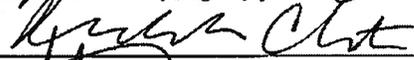
Leslie Ray, County of Orange



Fred Sattler, Laguna Ocean Foundation



Michelle Clemente, City of Newport Beach



Mike Tope, City of Dana Point



Dave Vilas, MBC Applied Environmental



Harry Helling, Ocean Institute
OCMPAC, Chair





Nomination from the Orange County Marine Protected Areas Committee

Nominee:

Calla Allison, Marine Protection Officer, City of Laguna Beach

Statement:

I currently work in coastal resource management as the Marine Protection Officer for the City of Laguna Beach. In just two and a half years, Laguna Beach Marine Protection has evolved from a simple coastal patrol position to a viable comprehensive marine protection program.

Implementation of the program has resulted in the passing of an enforceable local marine protection ordinance; the creation of an education program with both paid and volunteer staff; a public outreach effort including the design and construction of interactive interpretive signs, brochures, and lecture series; and an area manager designation responsible for monitoring research and education groups. Whether analyzing state legislation, discussing area management duties with Fish and Game, or developing signage and outreach, I have consistently worked on behalf of and in conjunction with my colleagues along the entire Orange County coastline.

Resource management must be a team effort that incorporates input and expertise from a diverse range of user and conservation groups. As an active member of the Orange County Marine Protected Areas Committee, I have co-hosted enforcement trainings for all enforcement personnel patrolling the coast in Orange County, teacher workshops for educators from four different Southern California Counties, public forums for both environmental non-profits as well as avid fishing and diving groups, and training sessions for tidepool docent volunteers. I am constantly working to balance the process of coastal management by keeping abreast of issues in the fishing and diving communities, concerns of law enforcement personnel, implementation problems of my colleagues in city and county government, and the latest developments of marine science in academia.

MLPA Regional Stakeholder Group - Nomination for Calla Allison from OCOMPAC

Facilitating critical thinking and consensus building to solve problems has been the main focus and interest of both my educational and professional career. I have a Master's Degree in Pacific International Affairs from the University of California, San Diego, where my focus was on environmental policy of the Americas, specifically negotiations between regulatory agencies, governments, big businesses and environmental non-profits. I have also taught as a college instructor for the last seven years, teaching Sociology to undergraduates and Cultural Democracy to graduate students. These courses focus on soliciting input from different subcultures and interest groups and promoting positive change through participation in public policy and education. From these experiences, I have developed a personal passion for using a multi-tiered approach and identifying diverse solutions to root causes of environmental degradation.

The next phase of California's Marine Life Protection Act will be a highly contentious process. As a representative of Orange County Marine Protected Areas Committee, I will act as a strong proponent of the values we have established as a conservation management coalition, while identifying areas for potential compromise with a diverse range of coastal user groups.

Current Marine Resource Management Affiliations:

Members of Orange County Marine Protected Areas Committee include the City of Newport Beach Harbor Resources Department, City of Laguna Beach Marine Safety Department, City of Dana Point Natural Resources Protection, Ocean Institute, California State Parks, Laguna Ocean Foundation, MBC Applied Environmental Science, California State University at Fullerton, County of Orange Board of Supervisors, Orange County Parks and Recreation, and the County of Orange Water Quality Department. OCOMPAC is a subcommittee of the Orange County Coastal Coalition.

Past Involvement:

The Orange County Marine Protected Areas Committee has worked diligently to set a model for implementation of the MLPA using the Marine Protected Area designations established by past State Legislation. We have collaborated with California Department of Fish and Game to streamline management of research and collection groups conducting studies in Orange County Marine Protected Areas, hosted Enforcement Training for all coastal enforcement personnel in county, co-hosted Educational Conference for teachers bringing classes to Orange County Marine Protected Areas, and attempted to attain consistency in marine violation retributions instituted by the Orange County court system.

MLPA Regional Stakeholder Group - Nomination for Calla Allison from OCMPAC

Time Commitment:

I am willing and fully supported by my employer to dedicate the time necessary to represent my constituents in the MLPA process.

Groups in Communication:

I am in regular contact with all resource management affiliations listed above as well as: citizens and council members of the Cities of Dana Point, Laguna Beach and Newport Beach, Laguna Beach Blue Belt Coalition, OC Diving, California Coastal Coalition (600 member list), Zero Trash Laguna, Orange County Coastkeeper, Endangered Planet, Help Blue Water, Surfrider Foundation, Aloha Surf School, South Laguna Civic Association, Laguna Beach Environmental Committee, Commercial Lobster Fishermen, Orange County Spearfishers, Laguna Dive Club, Southern California Elementary Science Teachers, Marine Science Instructors of Southern California Colleges and Universities, United Anglers Association, US Ocean Safety Department.

Outreach Mechanisms:

I plan on attending monthly meetings with non-profit environmental groups and various coalitions, making presentations to City Councils, Emailing updates to the Coastal Coalition listserv, posting updates and soliciting input on the Orange County Marine Protected Areas Committee webpage, disseminating information to respective constituents of members of Orange County Marine Protected Areas Committee.

Areas of knowledge/expertise:

I am well-versed on issues of enforcement feasibility of Marine Protected Area designations as a Marine Protection Officer, understand safety concerns as a 16 year lifeguard veteran and full time member of Laguna Beach Marine Safety Department, have a solid understanding of commercial and recreational fishing interests from relationships and conversations with Southern California fishermen, and am conversant on marine biology research and monitoring topics from running a tidepool education program and working with scientists within the Orange County Marine Protected Areas Committee.