

## COMMITTEE STAFF SUMMARY FOR JULY 21, 2016

**12B. UPDATES: PIER AND JETTY FISHING****Today's Item**Information Direction 

Receive update on pier and jetty fishing review, a topic previously before the Committee

**Summary of Previous/Future Actions**

- Discuss pier fishing incident and restrictions Nov 5, 2014; MRC, Los Alamitos
- Update on pier fishing follow-up/outreach Nov 4, 2015; MRC, Ventura

**Background**

This topic originated from an incident in summer 2014 that led to actions taken or proposed by cities of Manhattan Beach and Hermosa Beach, respectively, to close or restrict fishing on their public piers. FGC and other State agencies responded directly to the city managers and councils that these taken or proposed actions were found by to be solely within the authority of the State (see Exhibit 1 for background).

Following discussion at the Nov 2014 MRC meeting, FGC supported a staff review of pier and jetty fishing concerns as well as municipal codes and rules governing fishing from individual piers in Southern California, beginning with hotspot piers in Los Angeles County.

Following that time, a combination of public outreach efforts related to fishing on piers in LA county, such as public forum roundtables with city managers and councils, sport fishing organizations and NGOs (including a joint workshop between Heal the Bay and FGC staff), reflected the potential effectiveness of outreach and education efforts in lieu of State regulatory action.

Today's update was prompted by public comment at the Apr 2016 FGC meeting identifying potential concerns regarding pier fishing restrictions on several "hotspot" piers in Southern California. Staff will provide an update on recent review of fishing restrictions at the identified hotspot piers.

**Significant Public Comments (N/A)****Recommendation (N/A)****Exhibits**

1. [Staff summary with additional subject background from Nov 2014 MRC meeting](#)

**Committee Direction/Recommendation (N/A)**

## COMMITTEE AGENDA ANALYSIS NOVEMBER 5, 2014

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### 5. PIER FISHING CONCERNS

Est. Time: 60 min

Today's Item:

Information  Direction

Review background, precipitating events, and issues associated with pier fishing and actions taken at the city level. Discuss a process to evaluate concerns associated with pier fishing regulations. We may see representatives from the Cities of Manhattan Beach or Hermosa Beach, who should be acknowledged.

Summary of Previous/Future Actions: N/A

Background:

The issue of regulations governing fishing from piers has been elevated in light of an incident occurring off the Manhattan Beach Pier between a fisherman, white shark, and swimmer. While this was an unusual precipitating event, the actions taken or contemplated by the City of Manhattan Beach, and subsequently the City of Hermosa Beach, highlight that pier fishing regulations and user conflicts warrant a review.

Actions taken by the City Council included a 90-day emergency closure to pier fishing, and development of a draft city ordinance to modify fishing regulations it described as necessary for public safety. Based on joint efforts of OPC, FGC, CDFW, and California Coastal Commission, the City Council postponed action to adopt the final city ordinance (Exhibits 5.1, 5.2). Instead, the group offered the opportunity for the city to present their concerns and proposed solutions, for consideration by the California Fish and Game Commission, following discussion at the MRC. The City of Manhattan Beach responded to request additional time to manage their concerns through non-regulatory means (Exhibit 5.3). However, the City of Hermosa Beach submitted a formal petition for regulatory change and request to discuss their concerns and draft options at the November MRC meeting (Exhibit 5.4).

This meeting provides an opportunity for the MRC to review the actions to date, hear concerns from the perspective of the cities, and discuss an appropriate process to investigate this issue further.

Significant Public Recommendations/Comments:

Email from Eileen Neill, in support of pier fishing closure

Letter from Marko Mlikotin, California Sportfishing League, opposing pier closure

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends that any review of issues or concerns be considered in the full context of user groups in the area surrounding public piers. A review of Fish and Game regulations governing pier fishing, followed by a review of city ordinances relevant to pier fishing and other users of piers or adjacent waters may help set the context. Provide direction to staff on next steps.

Exhibit(s):

1. Letter from FGC to Manhattan Beach City Council, 8/11/14

Author: Susan Ashcraft

## COMMITTEE AGENDA ANALYSIS NOVEMBER 5, 2014

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2. Letter from CNRA Legal Counsel to City of Manhattan Beach, 8/18/14
3. Letter from City of Manhattan Beach to CNRA, 9/25/14
4. Letter from City of Hermosa Beach to FGC, 9/11/14
5. Email from Eileen Neill, in support of pier fishing closure
6. Letter from Marko Mlikotin, California Sportfishing League, opposing pier closure

Committee Direction: Provide guidance to staff regarding process to evaluate pier fishing regulations, user conflicts, and associated concerns.