

## COMMITTEE STAFF SUMMARY FOR JULY 21, 2016

**8. FISHING COMMUNITIES****Today's Item****Information** **Direction** 

Receive update on California's fishing communities and summary of Jul 20 public meeting, consider next steps

**Summary of Previous/Future Actions**

- Initial discussion on fishing communities Mar 4, 2015; MRC, Marina
- Continue discussion on fishing communities Nov 4, 2015; MRC, Ventura
- Public meeting and discussion Jul 20, 2016; Public Meeting, Petaluma

**Background**

Discussions in Mar and Nov 2015 between the MRC and members of various fishing communities demonstrated the potential value in expanding the conversation surrounding challenges facing California's coastal communities and providing additional time through a public meeting dedicated to the topic. At the direction of the MRC, a public meeting was held Jul 20, 2016 in Petaluma. Today, staff will provide highlights from the discussion and explore how to move forward. The agenda from the public meeting is included as Exhibit 1.

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

1. [Agenda, Fishing Communities Public Meeting, Jul 20, 2016, Petaluma](#)

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

**Commissioners**  
**Eric Sklar**, President

Saint Helena

**Jacque Hostler-Carmesin**, Vice President

McKinleyville

**Anthony C. Williams**, Member

Huntington Beach

**Russell E. Burns**, Member

Napa

**Peter S. Silva**, Member

Chula Vista

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor

**Valerie Termini**, Executive Director

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## Fish and Game Commission



*Wildlife Heritage and Conservation*  
*Since 1870*

### Fishing Communities Discussion Meeting Agenda July 20, 2016, 1:00 pm

**Petaluma City Schools Board Room**  
**200 Douglas Drive, Petaluma**

#### Meeting Goals

- Opportunities for coastal communities to share perspectives on observed changes in ocean ecosystems, marine resources and related harvest opportunities
- Discuss ideas for building stronger coastal communities in the face of change
- Identify process for next steps, if any

#### **I. Welcome, Background, and Goals**

- 1) Welcome and introductions
- 2) Background of Commission fishing communities discussion
- 3) Identify goals for In-Depth Discussion from Commission and participants viewpoints

#### **II. In-Depth Discussion and Dialogue**

##### **PART A: Understanding California's fishing communities - a community-based dialogue**

##### Discussion Questions:

- 1) What defines a fishing community (port, region, fishery, state)?
- 2) What makes a high quality working waterfront for California? Does that vary substantially across regions and ports or are there uniform needs that you can identify statewide?
- 3) What are the changes in your fishing community that have affected productivity (e.g., aging infrastructure, biological changes from ocean conditions, access)?

- 4) What traditionally available resources relied on by your fishing community have changed, and how?
- 5) What characteristics of fishing communities are most important to protect or are the most vulnerable to change?
- 6) What are the current and foreseeable barriers to success for fishing communities in the current management structure (e.g., costs, permits, biological changes)?

## **PART B: Continuing the Discussion - Looking forward**

### Discussion Questions:

- 1) What does success look like for the future of California fishing communities given the changes that have occurred?
- 2) What localized efforts have happened to promote fishing communities? Can they be shared across fishing communities and working waterfronts?
- 3) Suggestions on moving forward? How can your fishing community directly move forward to promote opportunities for development (e.g., sustainably caught seafood co-operatives, working waterfront models, shared permits, diversify fisheries, etc.)?

### **III. Next Steps and Wrap-up**

- 1) Meeting recap
- 2) Explore possible next steps
- 3) Meeting Close and Adjournment

*Thank you for participating!*