



November 2, 2005

Jana Roberts
California Department of Fish & Game
Los Alamitos Field Office and Laboratory
4665 Lampson Ave., Suite C
Los Alamitos, CA 90720

RE: Request for assistance contacting commercial fishermen

Dear Jana,

Thank you for speaking with me today about the project I am working on. As requested, following is a detailed summary of the request I am presenting at this time. **Due to existing permit requirements (30-day notification) and a project start date within the next two months, we are hoping we can resolve this as soon as possible.**

As I mentioned on the phone, I work for the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) in Moss Landing, CA. Since August, I have made contact with various people within the Department of Fish & Game for assistance with this project, including Rose Marie Carmona, Paula Elledge, and Isabelle Naranjo. Most recently, I have been referred to you as the most likely person to be in a position to help.

MBARI is working on a project called the Monterey Bay Accelerated Research System (MARS). The goal of this project is to install a submarine cable to provide power and data transfer capabilities to scientific instrumentation placed on Smooth Ridge in Monterey Bay. The cable will be buried along the majority of the route, as substrate will allow. (A copy of a map of the cable route is included here.)

We have been working with several agencies at the local, state, and federal level to obtain permits for this project. One requirement of many of the permits being issued states that MBARI needs to contact all commercial fishermen licensed to fish in the area to notify them of the proposed project, the proposed route, construction dates, and provide a copy of provisions dealing with entanglements, lost gear, and claims.

From the California Coastal Commission permit: *"At least 30 days prior to commencement of cable installation activities, MBARI shall use diligent good faith efforts to distribute written notification to any fisherman legally authorized to trawl in areas traversed by the cable route. MBARI shall obtain contact information for fishermen reporting catch in the project area from the California Department of Fish & Game (CDFG). The notification to fishermen, to be sent by certified mail and posted at the Moss Landing Harbormaster's Office, and filed with the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Office, and CDFG, shall: (a) described the proposed project, (b) include a navigation chart overlaid with the exact coordinates of the proposed route, (c) contain a copy of all provisions dealing with entanglements, lost gear, and claims, and (d) provide MBARI's contact information."*

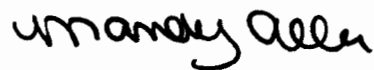
Additionally, after the cable has been installed, we need to send the fishermen a list of the final coordinates of the cable as laid, as well as updated charts which include the cable route. Similar requirements are included in our permit from the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and the California State Lands Commission.

When I last spoke with Isabelle, she indicated that she was unable to query the database specific to the area around the cable route. A search of all licensed commercial fishermen came up with over 3,300 names. In an attempt to narrow the list down, she suggested that you may be able to develop a list based on catch records for the fishing blocks where the cable will run. These include block numbers 507, 508, 509, 510, 516, and 519. (Please see the map provided for additional detail.)

I am writing now to see if you will be able to assist us with fulfillment of these requirements. An exact date for the cable installation has not yet been determined, but we hope to commence activities in the December/January timeframe. Because of the requirement to send notification to fishermen 30 days prior to installation activities, we need to identify a way to get this information out as soon as possible.

Thank you very much for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me to discuss this further. I can be reached at (831) 775-1885 or mandy@mbari.org.

Best regards,

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

Mandy Allen
Operations Administrator

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