

From: chris.voss
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Cc: [Barnes, Tom@Wildlife](mailto:Barnes_Tom@Wildlife); FGC; [Fonbuena, Sherrie@FGC](mailto:Fonbuena_Sherrie@FGC)
Subject: Abalone FMP
Date: Sunday, August 10, 2014 11:53:48 AM

Dear Mr. Mastrup and Miss Ashcraft

The Marine Resource Committee has recommended to the Fish and Game Commission that an FMP be developed for the north coast recreational red abalone fishery leaving the south and all other abalone species under ARMP management. This would be the first time an FMP would be developed for a sector (recreational) and for a fraction of a species distribution (north coast region). The justification for this approach offered by the DFW is a need to focus on an existing fishery and limited resources.

My concern is that this approach is politically motivated and, if allowed, will damage the credibility of the MLMA and future FMP development processes. By focussing exclusively on one region and one sector of fishery participants, the DFW and the FGC are marginalizing the commercial abalone dive community eliminating any contribution to FMP development from this community. This action directly violates the inclusive spirit of the MLMA in the interest of political considerations and expediency.

To date no FMP has been constrained in this way. By allowing this to go forward the Commission is condoning the overt politicization of fisheries management undermining the foundation of the FMP development process described by the MLMA. The proposed FMP, *at the very least*, should govern the red abalone resource state wide.

Please reconsider the current MRC recommendation before the Fish and Game Commission to include the consideration of the red abalone resource state wide for FMP development.

Sincerely,

Christopher J. Voss

President: Commercial Fishermen of Santa Barbara

Please forward this request to the Commission.