

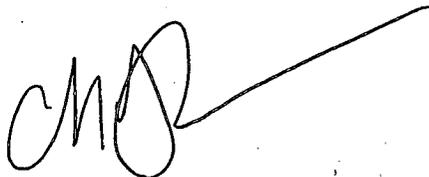
State of California  
Department of Fish and Wildlife

## Memorandum

Date: March 19, 2015

To: Sonke Mastrup  
Executive Director  
Fish and Game Commission

From: Charlton H. Bonham  
Director



Subject: **Consent Item for the April 8-9, 2015, Fish and Game Commission Meeting:  
The Abalone Farm, Inc., Revised Kelp Harvest Plan**

In accordance with the revised 2014 regulations for mechanical harvesters of giant kelp (*Macrocystis pyrifera*) [Sections 165(c)(6) and 165.5(b)(2), Title 14, California Code of Regulations], The Abalone Farm, Inc., submitted a revised kelp harvest plan (KHP) to include the addition of leasable kelp bed 17 (bed available for harvest by all commercial kelp harvesters until an exclusive lease is obtained) and open kelp bed 18 (bed available for harvest by all commercial kelp harvesters and cannot be leased). Kelp beds 17 and 18 are offshore of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties.

The Department has reviewed the revised KHP for kelp beds 17 and 18 and has determined that it meets the standards necessary for a KHP. The Department recommends the Commission approve the revised plan for a five-year period.

A second commercial harvester, The Cultured Abalone Farm, LLC, also has a Commission-approved kelp harvest plan that includes kelp bed 18. Current regulations allow harvest in this bed by multiple harvesters.

If you have any questions or to request additional information, please contact Dr. Craig Shuman, Manager of the Marine Region, by telephone at (805) 568-0216, or email at [Craig.Shuman@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Craig.Shuman@wildlife.ca.gov).

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