

CALIFORNIA FISHERMEN'S RESILIENCY ASSOCIATION

1118 6th St.
Eureka, CA 95501

Kate Huckelbridge
Holly Wyer

July 12, 2023

Re: Condition #7 Working Group, Site Survey

Dear Kate and Holly,

The California Fishermen's Resiliency Association (CFRA), working jointly with the Morro Bay and Avila fishermen, the Alliance of Communities for Sustainable Fisheries (Steve Scheiblauber), PCFFA, and the California Wetfish Producers Association, has had numerous meetings to discuss the Coastal Commission Condition C, Fishermen's Working Group.

Here are some suggestions from the CFRA concerning the 7C Working Group:

1. The Working Group should have eight voting fishermen's representatives.
2. Fishermen participants should be fishing industry leaders who have a track record working with OSW development in California and who represent large segments of the fishing industry.
3. Fishing industry participants will each pick an alternate to attend in case of scheduling conflicts.
4. Any application for the 7C Working Group should include a resume and letters of support from California commercial fishing organizations.
5. This initial working group process needs to start soon, meet at least monthly, and come prepared to work collectively to develop rules, protocols and industry to industry agreements within one year of the formation of this working group.
6. No site assessment survey work should be permitted or allowed until the rules describing how site assessment and impacts to the fishing industry are clarified and approved by the Coastal Commission.

7. We would like to see regularly scheduled meetings with the Coastal Commission and the above named fishermen's groups that would help to guide the process of organizing the 7C Working Groups

The CFRA looks forward to working with Coastal Commission and State Lands staff to figure all this out before actual permitting begins and sincerely hope to avoid past mistakes as seen in the permitting and mitigation of subsea cable projects in California. Lastly, please consider this as a request to meet with your staff via Zoom to better understand Coastal Commission concerns and challenges.

Sincerely,

On behalf of the California Fishermen's Resiliency Association Board of Directors

Jake Mitchell, President

Ken Bates, Executive Director