

Eredita...pass it on

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CWPA CO-SPONSORS
TRINATIONAL SARDINE FORUM
IN 2007

EDITOR: D.B. PLESCHNER

2007 ... THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

The year 2007 began with heated environmental debate over the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA), as the Fish & Game Commission rushed to implement a network of MPAs, beginning on the central coast, and it ended with equally heated debate over sardine. Throughout its fourth full year of operation as a 501(c) non-profit association, CWPA served as the eyes, ears and voice of California's wetfish industry.

Protecting access to harvestable resources is a major goal of the association. In 2007 the continuing theme of CWPA's executive director was "On the Road Again", as she attended:

- 12 days in meetings related to federal CPS issues, including attendance at CPS Advisory Subpanel and Stock Assessment Review Panel meetings for mackerel and sardine, and testimony at the November 2007 meeting of the Pacific Fishery Management Council
- 7 days in meetings related to state fishery management issues, including Commission meetings and meetings of the MLPA Science Advisory Team
- 10 days attending meetings related to CWPA activities, including squid research, the CalCOFI Conference and Trinational Sardine Forum, which the CWPA co-sponsored along with the SW Fisheries Science Center.

Meeting venues stretched from San Diego to Portland OR, and points in-between.

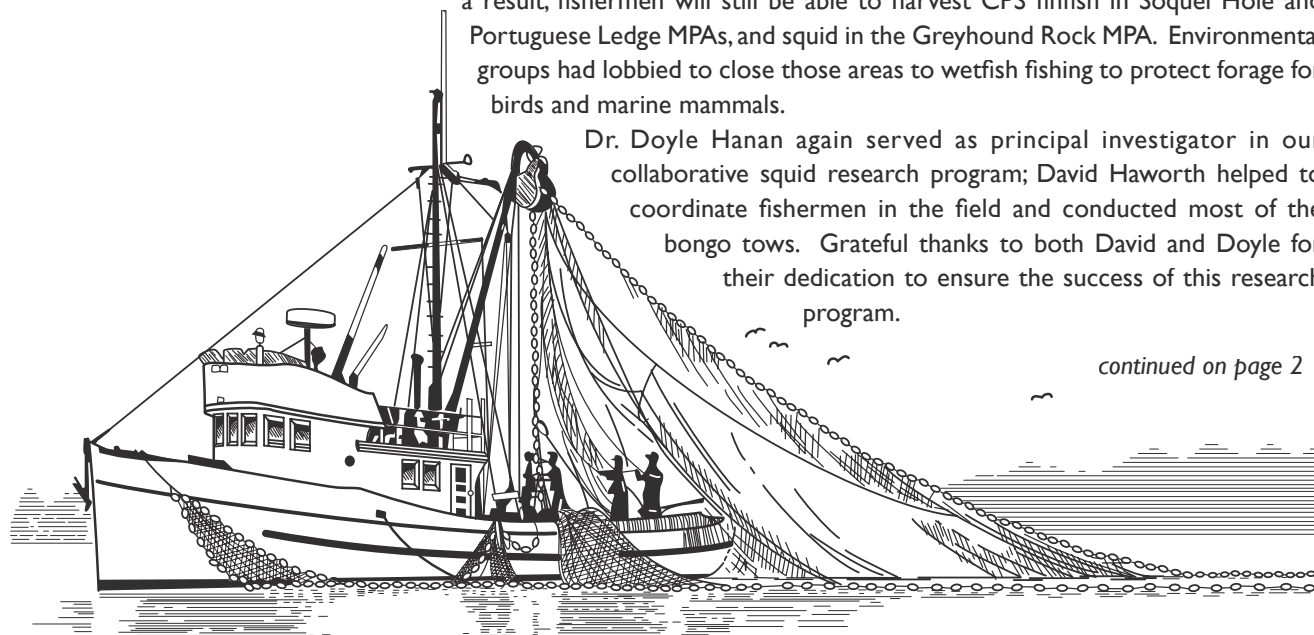
CWPA also participated actively in the California Fisheries Coalition, maintaining efforts to achieve a science-based outcome in the MLPA Initiative. In addition, CWPA advanced our collaborative field research program for squid, and worked to cement a cooperative agreement with the Department of Fish and Game as partners in research and advisors in management decisions.

Protecting access to fishery resources

Squid: CWPA again maintained "eyes on the ground" and close communication with DFG and the Fish and Game Commission in 2007. The Commission heeded concerns of the wetfish industry in its final decision on the south-central coast MLPA marine reserve network. As a result, fishermen will still be able to harvest CPS finfish in Soquel Hole and Portuguese Ledge MPAs, and squid in the Greyhound Rock MPA. Environmental groups had lobbied to close those areas to wetfish fishing to protect forage for birds and marine mammals.

Dr. Doyle Hanan again served as principal investigator in our collaborative squid research program; David Haworth helped to coordinate fishermen in the field and conducted most of the bongo tows. Grateful thanks to both David and Doyle for their dedication to ensure the success of this research program.



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A CLOSER LOOK...

CWPA co-sponsors 2007 Trinational Sardine Forum

TRINATIONAL SARDINE FORUM
FORO TRINACIONAL DE LA SARDINA

8th ANNUAL MEETING
Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute
San Diego, California, U.S.A. 92109
November 29 and 30th, 2007
<http://swfsc.noaa.gov/bsf.aspx>

LOCATION, TIME AND DATE:
The 8th Annual Trinational Sardine Forum will be held in the Shedd Auditorium of the Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute, located at 2595 Ingraham Street, San Diego, California, U.S.A. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 29th and end by 6:00 p.m. on Friday, November 30th. Hubbs-SeaWorld is about a 5 minute walk from The Dana Hotel, so rental cars are not essential. We will provide transportation for an off-site dinner, generously sponsored by the California Wetfish Producers Association on the evening of the 29th. Please visit <http://swfsc.noaa.gov/bsf.aspx> for more information on the 8th Trinational Sardine Forum as it becomes available.

OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR VISITING THE UNITED STATES:
All visitors to the United States must have a valid passport. Mexican citizens are required to obtain a non-immigrant visa or be in possession of a Border Crossing Card. Canadian citizens do not need a visa unless they are members of the Canadian government, in which case a visa is required.

It is important to apply for a visa early as visa applications are now subject to a greater degree of scrutiny than in the past. Please visit this website for more information about visiting the United States:
http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/without/without_1260.html

HOTEL INFORMATION:
The Dana on Mission Bay
1710 W. Mission Bay Drive
San Diego, CA 92109
Ph: 1-800-445-3339 (toll free)
1-619-222-6440 (direct)
Fax: 1-619-222-4031
www.thedana.net

The Trinational Sardine Forum was originally conceived by John Hunter, former director of the SW Fisheries Science Center, as an annual gathering of scientists, fishery managers and industry participants from Canada, the three west coast states in the United States, and Mexico. Host duties rotate among countries, with the purpose to share the latest in sardine research and industry issues.

Early in 2007, the TSF coordinator contacted CWPA to ask for help to make the 8th Annual Forum a roaring success, in light of the red-carpet event staged in Vancouver Canada the prior year.

We accepted the challenge and volunteered to co-sponsor the Forum in 2007, which was held at Hubbs Sea World Research Institute in late November, following the CalCOFI Conference.

In addition to serving as repository for registration fees and helping to coordinate registration logistics and refreshments, CWPA hosted a reception dinner for attendees at the Fish Market Restaurant on the waterfront in San Diego.

Head fish buyer Aiden Coburn, former president of the California Seafood Council and a good friend to California's fishing industry, rolled out the red carpet for the TSF, with a spectacular dinner featuring California seafood, including local ridgeback shrimp, calamari fritti and, of course, grilled sardines. Grateful thanks to Vince Torre and John Gingerich for providing local product for the event. SWFSC fisheries director Roger Hewitt praised the evening as the best event ever!

2007 CONTINUED

Sardine: CWPA was instrumental in securing the first coastwide synoptic sardine field survey, extending from Baja California to the Pacific Northwest and Canada (BC2BC) launched in April 2006. When the 2007 stock assessment reported a decline in sardine biomass, reducing the 2008 HG by 40 percent, we again lobbied to ensure adequate funding for two coastwide cruises in 2008 – the first in April and a second in July, timed to measure peak spawning in the PNW.

We're also encouraging PNW industry efforts in 2008 to develop a second index involving an aerial-spotter survey, scientifically calibrated with point sets to measure estimates of biomass, which are also photographed. This research is crucial to validate sardine abundance and develop accurate biomass assessments, on which future sardine harvest guidelines will be based.

MLPA Initiative: CWPA participated actively in efforts of the CA Fisheries Coalition (CFC) in 2007.

The Commission approved its preferred alternative for the central coast MPA network on Friday April 13. Thanks to extensive legwork, the wetfish industry retained most of its essential fishing turf.

MLPA moved next to northern CA, where Mike McHenry served as the wetfish rep. on the Regional Stakeholder Group. (Thanks Mike!!)

CFC continued to press the administration to acknowledge and integrate fishery science into MPA planning. The addition of Drs. Ray Hilborn and Carl Walters to the Science Advisory Team introduced modeling into the analysis process, facilitating consideration of existing fishery management and setting the stage for improved science when MLPA comes to S.CA. in 2008.

The Commission will open discussion on north-central coast MPA proposals on June 11, 2008.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2008

President	Vince Torre Tri-Marine Fish Company
Vice President	David Haworth Hueneme fisherman
Treasurer-Secretary	John Gingerich Hueneme Fish Co.
San Pedro (alternate)	Vince Torre Vanessa DeLuca, State Fish Ciro Ferrigno Nick Jurlin
Ventura-Hueneme	John Gingerich Pete Guglielmo, SCS David Haworth Neil Guglielmo
Monterey	Joe Cappuccio, Del Mar Sal Tringali, MFC David Crabbe Anthony Russo
Executive Director	Diane Pleschner-Steele

**Promote Sustainable Production
&
Facilitate Communications**

Two additional goals of CWPA are to enhance sustainable production and facilitate communications within and outside the wetfish industry. In 2007 CWPA communicated extensively with NMFS trade officials to resolve threats of market disruption regarding CA squid exported to China.

CWPA also mounted a website:

www.CaliforniaWetfish.org

to inform the public and promote CA's historic wetfish industry.

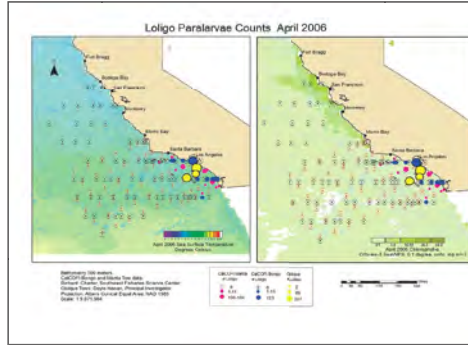
Beyond facilitating inter-industry communication, CWPA provided written and oral testimony to the Fish and Game Commission, the Secretary for Resources, Legislators and the PFMC. We also coordinated the first meeting of the 'ad-hoc' squid/wetfish advisory committee

SQUID RESEARCH PROGRESS

In 2007, CWPA again contracted with Dr. Doyle Hanan to lead our industry-sponsored squid research program. Doyle led CWPA's field research efforts, expanding on quarterly CalCOFI research cruises that capture squid paralarvae offshore during the months of February, April, July and November.

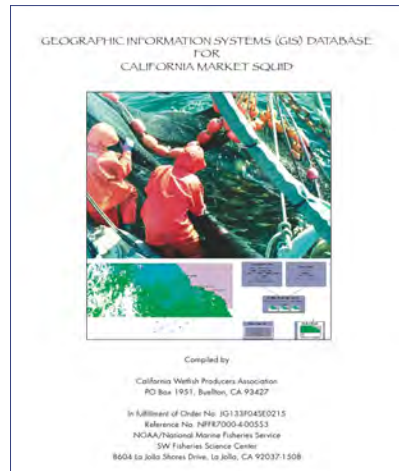
David Haworth coordinated fishermen towing bongo nets and led these field research efforts, as CWPA neared completion of our federal grant.

Another way to measure local biomass is via **hydroacoustic echosounder**, which records squid concentrations on computer for later analysis. Doyle deployed the Biosonics DT-X at Catalina and the northern Channel Islands in 2007. He is looking for fishermen interested in chartering their vessels to conduct surveys on weekends during squid season in 2008.



All data gathered in the CWPA squid research program is entered into a **GIS database**. The initial phase of the database was completed in 2006, continued in 2007, and contains fishery independent data from CalCOFI cruises from the 1980s through 2007, along with Sea Surface Temperature and chlorophyll concentrations. The database will be updated periodically as new data are received, including fishermen's bongo tows and hydroacoustic estimates of abundance. The database will enable squid scientists to track squid abundance in varying environmental conditions. The goal is to document patterns in abundance over time.

In 2007 CWPA advanced our partnership with DFG and the SW Fisheries Science Center, with the goal to share research data and provide advice on future fishery management.



**2007
WHERE THE MONEY WENT
SUMMARY**

SPECIES ASSESSED JAN-NOV '07

P.MACKEREL	7,444 TONS
J.MACKEREL	623
SARDINE	137,735
SQUID	65,554
ANCHOVY	28,585
OTHER	1,507

TOTAL (ROUNDED) 242,034 ST

INCOME (ROUNDED)

2006 RETAINED **\$78,398.**

DEPOSITED 2007 243,202.

FISHERMEN \$ 97,753.

PROCESSORS \$129,950.

PY ASSES. REC'D \$15,499.

BANK INTEREST 107.

TOTAL GRANTS 24,626.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS 250.

TOTAL INCOME \$272,994

EXPENSES

BUSINESS TRAVEL TOTAL 9,480.

AIRFARE \$2,092.

AUTO \$2,692.

LODGING \$2,114.

MEALS + \$1,319.

MISC. \$1,263.

DONATIONS (CFC) 2,060.

DBP&A SERVICES 54,000.

DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS 1,527.

GRANT EXPENSE 28,137.

MEETING EXPENSE 1,074.

OFFICE EXPENSES (TOTAL) 4,487.

OPERATIONS \$310.

SUPPLIES \$1,053.

POST + PRINT \$369.

PHONE \$2,008.

PROFESSIONAL (CPA,LEGAL) 3,675.

RESEARCH EXPENSE 62,980.

PROGRAM EXPENSE (MLPA) 7,004.

TOTAL EXPENSES \$189,118.

NET ORDINARY INCOME \$83,875.

OTHER INCOME 1,795.

NET INCOME 85,670

BALANCE DEC. 31 \$164,068.

CWPA
PO Box 1951
Buellton, CA 93427

CWPA GOALS

Maintain Access to Resources

- TRACK LEGISLATION & COORDINATE RESPONSE
- SEEK GRANT FUNDING FOR RESEARCH
- COMMUNICATE WITH MANAGEMENT AGENCIES TO DEVELOP FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

Promote Sustainable Production

- TRACK ISSUES & COORDINATE RESPONSE
- COMMUNICATE WITH AUTHORITIES RE: PRODUCTION ISSUES
- FACILITATE RESOLUTION
- * SPONSOR RESEARCH

Facilitate Communication within and outside wetfish industry

- SERVE AS LIAISON BETWEEN FISHERMEN AND PROCESSORS
- SERVE AS LIAISON BETWEEN INDUSTRY AND MANAGEMENT
- * PRODUCE PERIODIC NEWSLETTERS TO INFORM INDUSTRY OF NEWS AND ISSUES

CWPA — PURPOSE AND FUTURE

In today's political climate, with Legislative term limits and changes in administration every few years, fisheries need an industry group in place to maintain the fishery profile: the fishery's "institutional" knowledge base and long-term goals. The goal of CWPA is to ensure the wetfish industry puts its best foot forward!

A non-profit organization such as CWPA commands attention despite political or management climate. It facilitates interaction and consensus building between fishery managers and industry, and it facilitates communication with state and federal fishery managers as well as the Legislature and Congress. Maintaining a clear presence in management circles is critically important now, with the state focus on the Marine Life Management Act and Marine Life Protection Act, and federal management guided by precautionary principles in the Magnuson Act. The current push for Sanctuary "management" of marine resources through MPAs adds yet another challenge. Maintaining "eyes on the ground" and a continued presence in management circles is critically important to stay in business.

In this era of precautionary management, it is essential to base management decisions on good science. Without good data, the precautionary principle will be applied and, as a result, fishermen and processors may not have a viable fishery. Field research is expensive, and that's where industry groups such as CWPA can play a critically important role. Research is the key to the future!