



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING
JUNE 7th AND 8th, 2014 AS MARINE PROTECTED AREA
AWARENESS WEEKEND IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the County of Santa Barbara is located immediately adjacent to the Pacific Ocean and the Santa Barbara Channel, an area considered to be one of the most biologically diverse locations throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, in 1999 the California Legislature passed the Marine Life Protection Act, which required the redesign of the State's network of Marine Protected Areas where take of marine life, or fishing, is prohibited or restricted with the goal of protecting and restoring habitats and ecosystems, providing a refuge for all sea life, providing reference areas for research and educational opportunities, and protecting our nation's marine natural heritage for future generations; and

WHEREAS, since 2003 a network of eighteen Marine Protected Areas has been established within the Santa Barbara Channel and along the County's coastline; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized that the adoption of MPAs within Santa Barbara County represented a major sacrifice made by many members of the fishing community, which is doing its part to comply with new regulations by sharing and disseminating information and by supporting recreational fishing in waters that remain open to fishing; and

WHEREAS, in Santa Barbara County, 25,283 jobs rely on coastal tourism and recreation, and approximately 60,000 people visit the Channel Islands each year for aquatic recreation such as fishing, sailing, kayaking, wildlife watching, surfing, and diving; and

WHEREAS a series of events and activities are being held on June 7th and 8th as part of this year's Santa Barbara Ocean Festival to commemorate a decade of protection at Santa Barbara Channel MPAs, educate the public about them, and promote local ocean based businesses and best practices that demonstrate responsible use and enjoyment of our ocean areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors proclaims June 7th and 8th, 2014^h as MPA Awareness Weekend in Santa Barbara County.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California this 3rd day of June, 2014 by a unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

Monica [Signature]
Clerk of the Board

[Signature]
Supervisor - 1st District
[Signature]
Supervisor - 2nd District
[Signature]
Supervisor - 3rd District
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Supervisor - 4th District
[Signature]
Supervisor - 5th District