

Marine-Dependent Economic Activities in Santa Monica Bay

The Santa Monica Bay has experienced dramatic changes in water quality and environmental health over the last century. These changes have impacted commercial and non-commercial activities that depend on coasts and oceans. Unprecedented efforts to monitor and restore the ecological health of the Bay have been undertaken by Federal, State and local agencies and organizations. However, more information is required to understand how marine dependent businesses and activities are affected by changes in the Bay's marine environment.

The Coastal Ocean Values Center at The Ocean Foundation and the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (SMBRC) are working together to develop a better understanding of the links between the environmental health of the Santa Monica Bay and the economic vitality of the coastal economy.

We are working with businesses to collect historical and current data on business activity and coastal uses, especially activities that are directly tied to the environmental condition of the Bay.

The results of our work will inform the local businesses and the restoration efforts. We will work to:

- establish a baseline of economic activities that depend upon the Santa Monica Bay, including: **commercial and recreational fishing, boating, kayaking, SCUBA diving, surfing, wildlife viewing, and beach going;**
- better understand how people use the Bay and nearby coastal areas;
- better understand changes in marine-dependent activities in and around the Bay; and
- explore how marine restoration, regulation, and management alternatives could affect local businesses and recreation in Santa Monica Bay.

WE NEED YOUR INPUT, KNOWLEDGE, AND WISDOM

If you can help provide information about coastal uses in Santa Monica Bay or are interested in learning more about our research, please contact: the Project Manager, Allison Chan at (424) 731-0650 allison@coastalvalues.org, the Program Associate, Sharon Khan, sharon@coastalvalues.org, or the Principal Investigator, Dr. Linwood Pendleton, linwoodp@coastalvalues.org.