



Ensenada, Baja California, March 10th, 2018

Letter of support

Dear selection committee,

I write to convey my excitement to support the project proposal "***A multi-faceted approach to enhance sustainability of the California spiny lobster fishery***" submitted by my colleagues Dr. Kevin Hovel and Dr. Robert Dunn from San Diego State University. This study is an incredibly needed large scale regional study to promote our understanding for lobster populations dynamics that will support sustainable management of one of the most important economic resources of the California Current System. In addition, will promote collaboration across the US-Mexican border.

I am writing this letter to inform my intent to participate in this project. I am professor of fisheries ecology and a researcher at Facultad de Ciencias Marinas, at the Universidad Autónoma de Baja California, México. The main goal of my lab (<https://mex-cal.org/>) is to understand how natural coastal ecosystems and the ecosystem services they provide to humans cope with climate change. For this specific project, I can contribute with field logistics including vehicles, boats, and equipment that could be used in this project. In addition, I will include students from UABC to help with the field and lab work.

This project will strengthen the relations and communications between investigators across USA and México. This research is mutually beneficial and will support exchange of ideas and future collaborative research.

I am very excited to contribute to this project and fully support this proposal.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rodrigo Beas
Professor
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July 19, 2018

Dear California Sea Grant Selection Committee:

I am writing to express my support for the California Ocean Protection Council Proposition 84 grant application entitled "A multi-faceted approach to enhance sustainability of the California spiny lobster fishery", submitted by principal investigators Dr. Kevin Hovel and Robert Dunn of San Diego State University. Their proposed project will have a significant positive impact on our understanding of spiny lobster biology and can directly inform future management of this important fishery species.

As a professor of population genomics at UC Davis, I support the research group's aim to characterize the spiny lobster population using next-generation sequencing techniques, including a restriction-site associated DNA (RAD) sequencing protocol developed by my lab. The methods described in the proposal are thorough, attainable over the timeline of the grant, and will provide the research team with the data necessary to answer important questions regarding the demography, phenotypic variation, and genetic diversity of spiny lobsters across a broad portion of their geographic range.

I am committed to the success of the proposed project and if selected for funding, I will continue to offer my intellectual and logistical support as the project moves forward. This could include, among other support, providing materials and space in my lab as well as facilitating sequencing procedures through the UC Davis Genome Center. Additionally, I sit on the qualifying exam committee of a PhD student in Dr. Hovel's lab who will contribute to this project and am therefore invested in the success of the proposed research. San Diego State and UC Davis have a long-standing Joint Doctoral Program in Ecology, and this project will contribute to the continued collaboration between numerous lab groups from both institutions.

Sincerely,

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