

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

Date: September 20, 2018
To: Harbor Commission
From: Scott Riedman, Waterfront Director
Subject: Harbor Operations Report

2017 COMMERCIAL FISH LANDINGS AND VALUE

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife has released its 2017 landings report for the state's commercial fisheries, including Santa Barbara Harbor. The data is expressed both in "ex-vessel" landings (money paid directly to fishermen for their catch) and value in dollars. Last year's results reflected an ongoing trend in decreased landings over the past few years, combined with steady overall value.

Landings: Sea urchins continued as the chief contributor to Santa Barbara's port landings, at 1.8 million pounds in 2017, followed by rock crab (492,000 pounds), sablefish (289,000 pounds), shortspine thornyhead (215,000 pounds), and California lobster (201,000 pounds). Notable in this data is a drop-off in urchin landings to their lowest level in several years, due primarily to environmental fluctuations that have temporarily depleted some island kelp stocks, the animals' primary food stock.

Value: While landings have decreased, the value of those landings have remained steady at about \$13 million, equivalent to about \$35 million in overall economic benefit, considering ancillary value to trucking firms, ice providers, distributors, retail shops, restaurants and such. The notable trend here is the growing disparity between landings, trending downward, and value, remaining steady. Staff will discuss these trends (attached) in more detail at the Commission meeting.

NEW HARBOR PATROL OFFICER ELIJAH BROWER

Elijah "Eli" Brower joined the Department in August as its newest Harbor Patrol Officer. Born in Galveston, Texas and raised in Springfield, Illinois, where he was named the state's high school soccer player of the year, Eli eventually moved to Santa Barbara from Los Angeles, where he played college soccer. Eli most recently spent three years working as deckhand, then second captain on the dive boat *Truth*, before spending a year working as crew for Harbor Patrol.

A true waterman, Eli enjoys sailing and spearfishing, along with hiking and other outdoor sports. He also likes interacting with members of the harbor community, so don't hesitate introduce yourself when you see him on the docks or on the water.

HARBOR AND SEAFOOD FESTIVAL—SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13TH

Circle your calendars! The 17th annual Harbor and Seafood Festival will take place from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm on Saturday, October 13th. If you loved last year's festival, you'll love this one, too. We've got it all again this year—fresh crab, lobster, oysters, mussels, and barbequed albacore, plus paella, sea urchin “uni,” fish tacos, Brophy Bros' clam chowder and more. Then there's great music (three bands), 40+ arts and craft vendors, tall-ship tours, Coast Guard Cutter and Harbor Patrol Boat tours, touch tanks, free boat rides and maritime education booths. Festival admission is free and is presented by the City, Commercial Fishermen of Santa Barbara, Inc., Santa Barbara Harbor Merchants' Association, and Santa Barbara Maritime Museum. Find directions and parking details and more at www.HarborFestival.org or www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/SeafoodFestival.

Attachment: Santa Barbara Harbor Fisheries Landings and Ex-Vessel Value

Prepared by: Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager

Santa Barbara Harbor Fisheries Landings and Ex-Vessel Value

<u>Year</u>	<u>Landings</u>	<u>Value</u>
2013	6.5 million lbs.	\$10.7 million
2014	6.6 million lbs.	\$13 million
2015	6.2 million lbs.	\$14 million
2016	5.1 million lbs.	\$13.7 million
2017	3.9 million lbs.	\$13 million

Santa Barbara Harbor *Sea Urchin* Landings and Ex-Vessel Value

<u>Year</u>	<u>Landings</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Value/lb.</u>
2013	4.4 million lbs.	\$3.2 million	\$.73
2014	4 million lbs.	\$3 million	\$.75
2015	3.4 million lbs.	\$3.1 million	\$.91
2016	3 million lbs.	\$4 million	\$1.33
2017	1.8 million lbs.	\$3.9 million	\$2.17