

## **CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT**

### **MEMORANDUM**

**Date:** October 17, 2019  
**To:** Harbor Commission  
**From:** Karl Treiberg, Acting Waterfront Director  
**Subject:** **Harbor Operations Report**

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#### **COMMERCIAL LOBSTER FISHERY IN FULL SWING**

The opening of lobster season was Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Waterfront Department provided a free staging area for commercial fishermen's lobster traps in the launch ramp from September 21<sup>st</sup>, until October 4<sup>th</sup>. The fishermen have found this to be a valuable accommodation provided by the Waterfront. Approximately 30 commercial lobster fishermen take advantage of the designated lobster trap staging areas.

This particular fishery has undergone added regulatory guidelines resulting in a reduced number of traps allowed to be set by individual commercial fishermen. Reducing the number of traps is more manageable for fishermen and may be a potential benefit to local stocks. Lobster fishermen have seen a decline in price per pound, which is half of what it once was two years ago, partially as a result of tariffs. Despite the loss, both commercial fishermen and recreational divers, have reported high volume catches, an indication of a healthy population and increased by the domestic market.

The lobster season ends March 18, 2020.

#### **HARBOR WATCH MEETING**

Modeled after the Neighborhood Watch programs in your neighborhood, the Harbor Watch meetings are a citizen-based group who work together to spot and report crime and hazards to public safety. Over time, this program has morphed into a general exchange of information between harbor users and Harbor Patrol, followed by more practical hands-on education and training. With the added hands-on approach, past attendees have been trained in CPR/First Aid, fire extinguishers, demonstrations on the use of marina fire-box hoses, flare demonstrations, and the discharge of flares in a controlled setting.

Evening Harbor Watch meetings are generally held twice a year, in spring and fall, which are advertised on the marina gates.

Mark your calendars for tentatively scheduled Harbor Watch meetings on Tuesday, November 19, 2019, and Tuesday, May 19, 2020.

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### **33<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL PARADE OF LIGHTS DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>**

On Sunday, December 8th, boats will decorate to the theme of “Deep Space Holidays, for the annual Parade of Lights.” Slip permittees will receive participation sign-up forms in their November billing statements. Other boat owners are encouraged to participate and can pick up sign-up forms in the Harbormasters office, and online at [www.santabarbaraca.gov/waterfront](http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/waterfront)

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