

Ben Platt

I am a full time commercial fisherman who crabs in California and trolls for salmon in California, Oregon, Washington and Alaska. I employ three crewmen and am based out of Half Moon Bay. As a commercial fisherman, I have been able to support a family of four, help put two stepsons and my wife through college and most recently, buy a house. I am from a multi-generational California fishing family and a family that has been active politically for many years fighting for the rights of fishermen and fish. We are grateful to have been able to prosper from the ocean's bounty and equally grateful to be able to give back as much as possible through service to our industry.

In addition to serving on the board of the California Salmon Council, I have also been a member of the board of the Pacific Coast Federation of Fisheries Associations for over a decade, a past board member of the Salmon Trollers Marketing Association of Ft. Bragg, and am now an active member of the Half Moon Bay Seafood Marketing Association. Most recently, I am acting as fishing fleet spokesperson for Senator McGuire's ad-hoc committee for Dungeness crab PR and Marketing.

I am honored to be here to explain the work of the California Salmon Council and the issues facing our fishery today.