

Shad Catarius, 41, Commercial Fisherman and President of the San Diego Ocean Foundation

Shad Catarius has been commercially fishing lobster and other hook and line fish for nine years. He has been involved with a variety of organizations, most recently serving as the president of the San Diego Ocean Foundation for the past two years. In addition, Shad worked on the MPA Lobster Baseline Study for the south coast region and was a commercial representative on the Lobster Advisory Board for the lobster Fishery Management Plan (FMP).

I will be speaking on my experiences with the lobster FMP and my current concerns with poaching and lack of support from the DA's office in the prosecution of poachers. My gravest concern lies with repeat poachers. I will also speak about the ongoing need for collaboration between fishermen and scientists throughout the fishery management process. Finally, I will touch upon the catastrophic effects of the proposed landing tax.