

# MARINA DEL REY ANGLERS

4230 Del Rey Ave. Marina del Rey, CA 90292

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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

## **Taylor Treadwell Wins MDRA \$500 White Seabass Drawing**

Taylor Treadwell, from La Jolla, CA, is the latest winner of the white seabass head collection bi annual drawing, sponsored by the Marina del Rey Anglers. The drawing represented 180 white seabass heads turned in by recreational anglers during the period of July 1, 2009 thru December 31, 2009. Taylor has been fishing and free dive spear fishing off the Southern California Coast since he was ten years old. He turned in three white seabass heads in 2009 caught while free dive spear fishing and appreciates the white seabass enhancement program.

One afternoon in June 2009, Taylor and his friend, Grant Milbrand, decided to go spear fishing at the La Jolla Northwest kelp bed. Using Grants boat to reach the kelp approximately one mile off shore, in approximately 65 feet of water, they found the surface water to be at 64 degrees. Then they looked around for bait fish, either mackerel or top smelt, for about an hour. When they found the bait fish Taylor would grab his custom spear gun, he purchased at Spear Shack in Ocean Beach, and very quietly slip into the water to look for white seabass. Taylor said, "we must have continued looking and free diving for another two hours when I saw a single white seabass. I speared the fish, killing it instantly, and returned with it to the boat. I turned in the head at the Hubbs/Seaworld Hatchery in Mission Bay."

Congratulations Taylor! Marina Del Rey has sent Taylor a check for \$500.00. It's that easy anglers and divers. Just turn in your heads at any one of dozens of official white seabass collection centers along Southern California and be eligible for a \$500 reward.

Marina Del Rey Anglers is pleased to announce it is again sponsoring this bi annual WSB head drawing for \$500. That's \$1,000 for the two lucky anglers who turn in their WSB heads and have their names drawn every six months.

Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute (HSWRI) in San Diego operates the Ocean Resources Enhancement and Hatchery Program, (OREHP) under the direction of the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG). The OREHP program is a partnership between HSWRI, UASC, SAC, DFG and numerous angling clubs and environmental organizations throughout Southern California, including MDRA. Everybody involved urges all anglers to "get with the program" and turn in your white seabass heads. It's good for science; it's good for marine conservation and fisheries and it's potentially very profitable for you. All heads turned in qualify for the cash lottery; it doesn't even matter if your wsb head contains a tiny tag implanted by HSWRI.

The OREHP program began releasing cultured juvenile white seabass in 1986. Scientists at HSWRI implant each juvenile WSB with a coded wire tag in its cheek which contains the data about its genealogy, when it was spawned, and when and where it was released. The scientists use the data from the returned heads to help evaluate the efficacy of the program. To date the program has raised and released **1,200,000** juvenile white seabass. White seabass reach legal size after 3 to 5 years so we are now seeing the results of all of this effort. The elimination of near shore gill nets, long lines and the introduction of the OREHP program have all contributed to the strong resurgence of the wsb fishery in Southern California. MDRA has successfully released over 75,000 juvenile WSB back into the wild and has seen many of them caught several years later to the thrill of lucky anglers and families enjoying the delicious, tender white flesh for dinner.

Marina del Rey Anglers also runs the MDRA Youth Fishing Program which has hosted tens of thousands of kids from at risk environments to a summer fishing trip on the Betty-O out of Marina Del Rey. They also conduct fun fishing trips for members and hosts monthly fishing seminars to encourage new anglers to the sport and to teach old anglers new tricks.

Darrell Pickford is a director of MDR Anglers and chairs the club's white seabass program. MDRA is one of 10 organizations that maintain white seabass grow out pens which care for the juvenile WSB until they are large enough and strong enough to be released and survive in the wild. For more information about MDRA or its white seabass program contact Darrell Pickford at 310/ 633-1885 or [dpickford@Verizon.com](mailto:dpickford@Verizon.com).



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