

To the attention of the California Air Resources Board
The new CARB emissions requirements for sportfishing boats are unfairly targeting two distinct classes: people who want to fish but do not own boats and small family owned sportfishing boats.

A large segment of the population does not own boats and relies on friends with boats, fishing boats and fishing piers to get out on the water to fish.

Access to sportfishing, diving, whale watching and surfing the ocean points is a luxury for those boaters that own boats, whether they are moored, docked or parked in their drive way.

This very expensive CARB demand targets one of the smaller vessel groups: family owned sportfishing boats. The compliance shouldered solely by the sportfishing industry and coupled with an unreasonable timeline for compliance with no available parts to remedy the demand. The technology does not currently exist to accomplish the new required directives.

The majority of sportfishing boats are older, retrofitting them is not an option, even if the parts were available. Their power plants run at much lower rpm's than what would be necessary for air scrubbers to work without loading up and damaging the engine.

The time table for compliance is unreasonable, burdensome and prejudicial.

The sportfishing industry somehow survived the pandemic and complied with health guidelines for very long and gradual return to “normal” operations. Coupled with no business for a year, depleting reserves and no commitment by CARB to fund grant programs how does CARB justify issuing new, sudden and drastic compliance laws. Where is the sensible middle ground?

One solution would be to grandfather in the sport boats that are operating now and require new sport boat construction to incorporate the new technology and comply with the new air quality emission standards.

What is the end game here? Is this an eminent domain staging for a land grab?

Where is the California Coastal Commission’s protection and defense of access to the ocean for non-boat owners?

Where is the respect, consideration and accommodation for the sportfishing industry that built and sustained the waterfront as much as the boatyards, the ship chandleries, the yacht clubs, the launch ramps?

Please take a step back and help the sportfishing industry.

Thank you. Janet Callow 10-10-21