

National Marine Sanctuaries



Agenda Item C.2.b

Supplemental NMS PowerPoint

June 2014

Pacific Fisheries Management Council Presentation for CBNMS and GFNMS Proposed Boundary Expansion (DEIS, Proposed Rule, Management Plans)

**Cordell Bank and Gulf of the Farallones
National Marine Sanctuaries**

June 24, 2014

Process for Proposed Boundary Expansion



1. Scoping

Published Notice of Intent; solicited comments to determine the scope of issues



2. Develop DEIS; draft related documents

Considered scoping comments; conducted impact analysis; developed Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), revised site mgt. plans, proposed regulations, and revised terms of designation.



3. Reviews & Public Comment

DEIS and draft revised mgt. plans, draft proposed regulations, and draft revised terms of designation released; conduct agency consultations; Congress and Governor review; and public comment.



4. Publish FEIS, Final Docs.; Decision Effective

Respond to comments, finalize documents based on public comment. Publish Final EIS, mgt. plans, and final rule. Congress and Governor review. Publish Record of Decision.

Dec. 1, 2012 -
March 1, 2013

Spring 2013 –
Winter 2014

April 14 - June 30,
2014

Summer/Fall 2014 –
Winter 2014/15

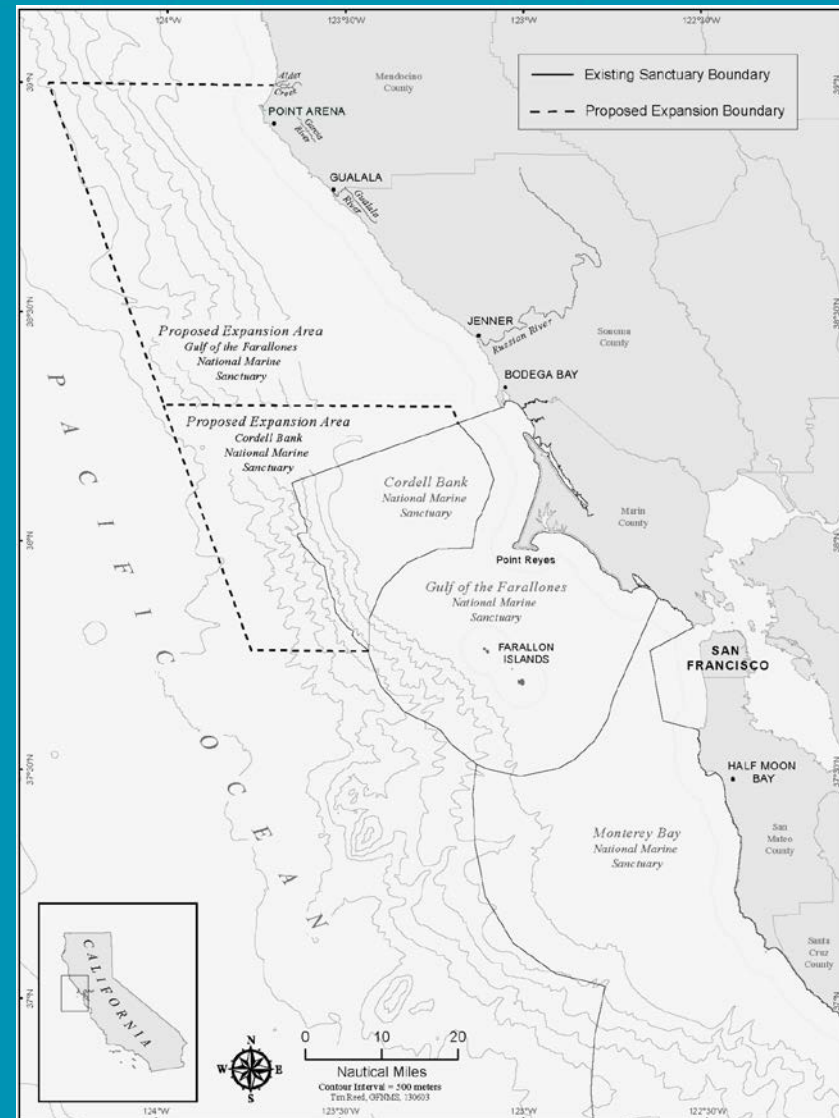
Proposal for CBNMS & GFNMS Expansion



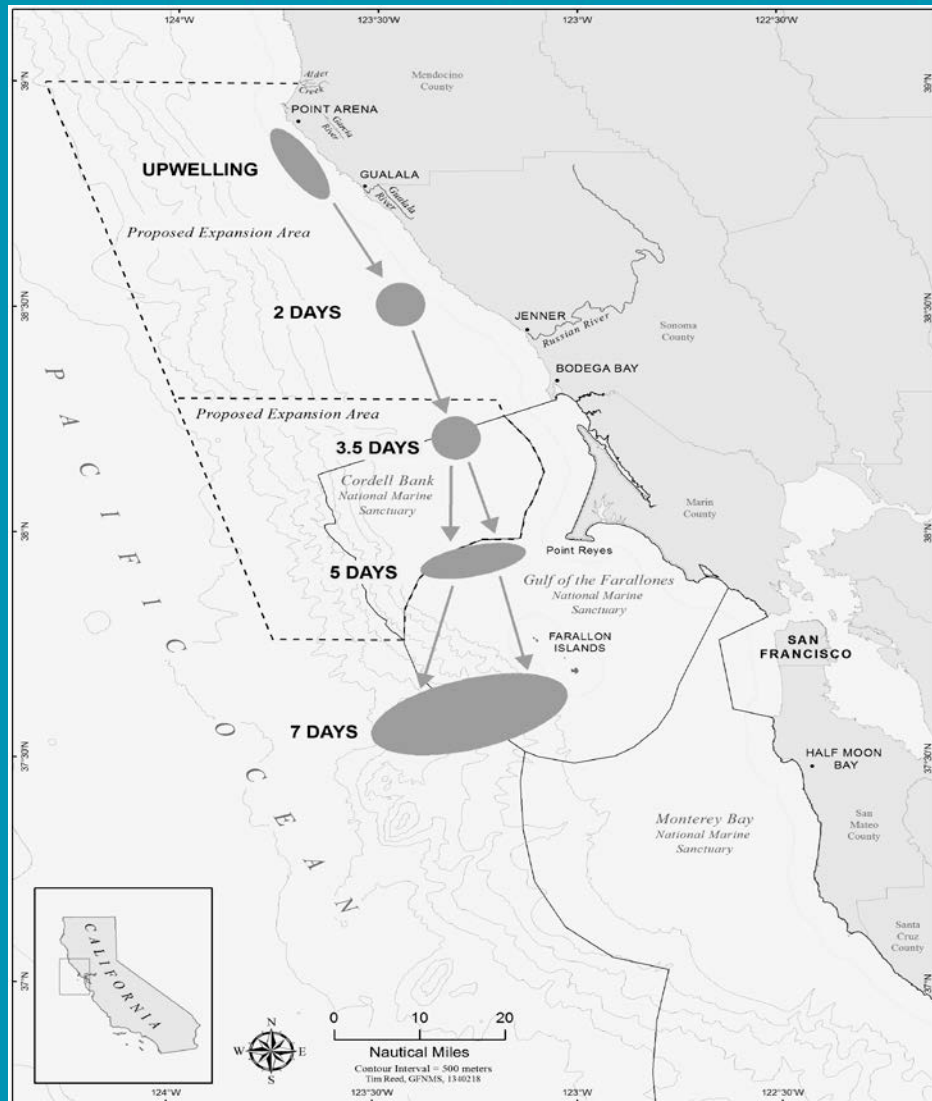
In response to public interest, NOAA is proposing to expand CBNMS and GFNMS.

NOAA is seeking public comment on 4 documents:

- Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)
- Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Proposed Rule)
- Revised Management Plans for CBNMS and GFNMS



Purpose

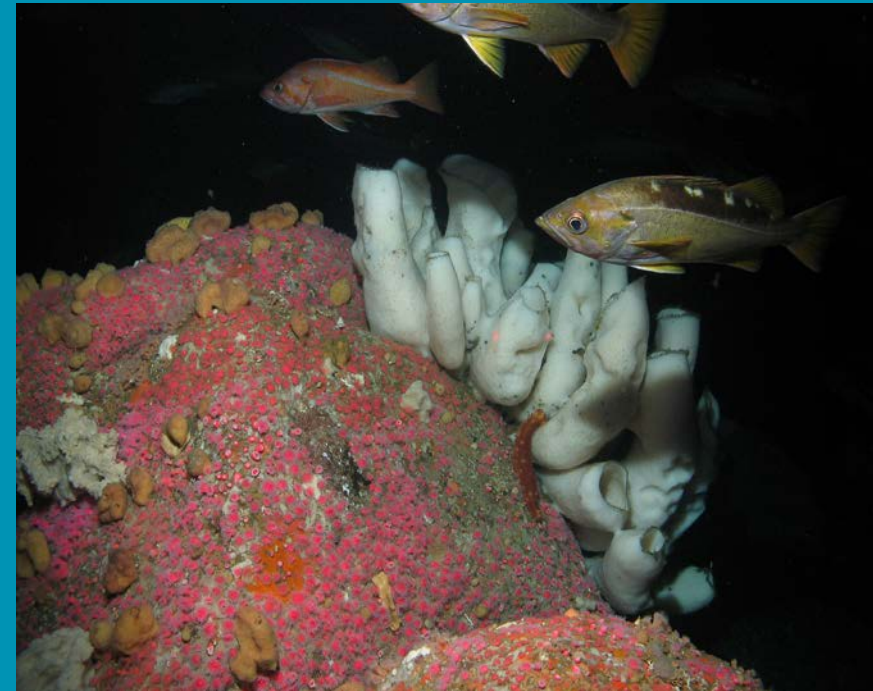


Expansion of sanctuaries waters and submerged lands to the area north & west to increase protection of the environment, completing protection of the globally significant coastal upwelling cell originating off Point Arena and flowing via wind driven currents into the sanctuaries.

Need



Sanctuary expansion would provide coordinated protection and programs for this area while facilitating uses compatible with resource protection. Existing laws and policies for the Point Arena upwelling area and south do not provide comprehensive and coordinated conservation and management to protect the rich and abundant natural resources of this area.



Alternatives



- *No action*: status quo maintained.
- *Proposed Action*
- *Application of existing sanctuary regulations* to expanded sanctuary areas for CBNMS and GFNMS.
- *Arena Cove boundary alternative*: the existing pier and waters east (shoreward) of the pier would be inside the GFNMS boundary. This alternative could be implemented with the Proposed Action or the application of existing sanctuary regulations alternative.
- *Alternative MPWC zones*: MPWC Zones 2a or 2b and 4 would be different sizes and shapes than Proposed Action MPWC Zones 2 and 4. This alternative could be implemented with the Proposed Action or the Arena Cove boundary alternative.

Proposed Action: Boundaries

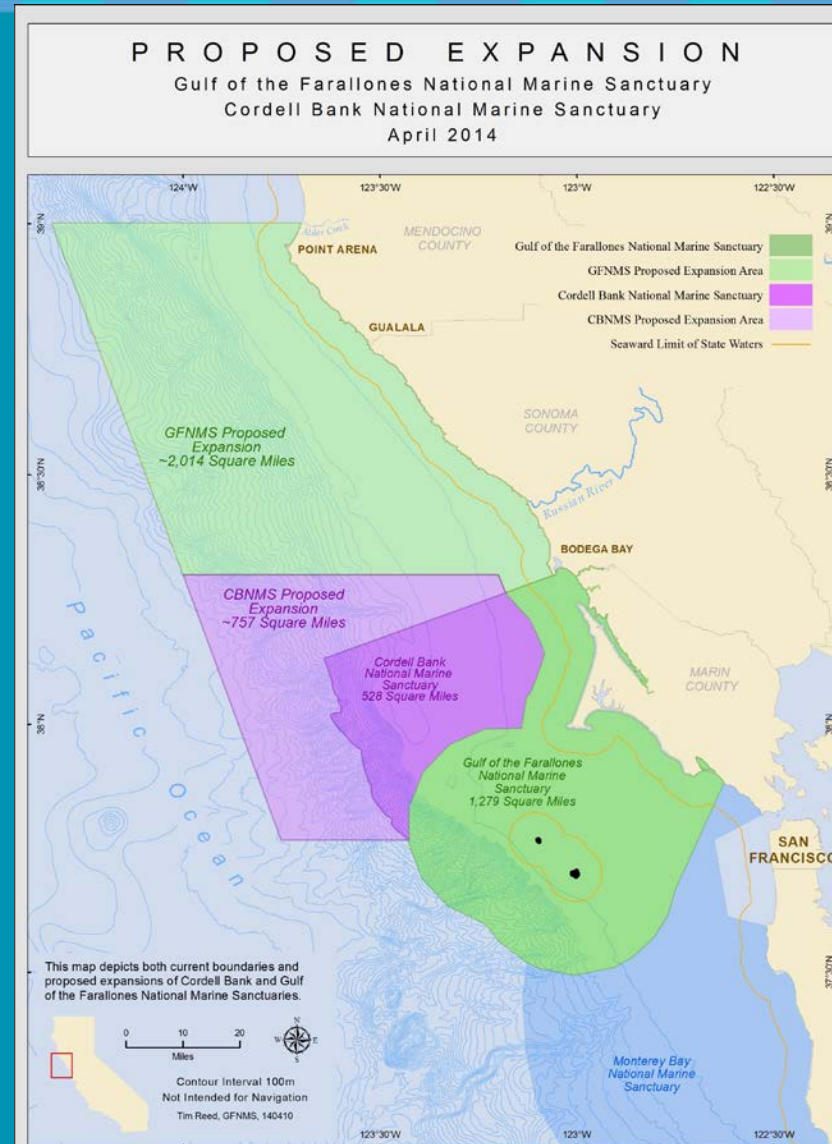


GFNMS

- Bodega Bay to Manchester Beach
- State and federal waters
- West to approximately the 10,000-foot depth contour
- Total area 3,297 sq. miles

CBNMS

- Federal waters
- West to approximately the 10,000-foot depth contour
- Slightly north to protect important subsea features such as Bodega Canyon
- Total area 1,286 sq. miles



Proposed Action: Regulations



- **Carry over existing CBNMS and GFNMS regulations into the expansion area**
 - prohibit oil and gas exploration and development
 - prohibit seabed disturbance
 - prohibit untreated sewage discharge



Proposed Action: Regulations



- **Amend current regulations for CBNMS and GFNMS and apply to existing and proposed boundaries**
 - add exception to allow for discharge of clean gray water to help fishermen and recreational boaters given large area
 - add exception to allow MPWC use in four restricted zones. MPWC are currently allowed throughout expansion area, including state marine protected areas.
 - remove the exception for the construction of pipelines for hydrocarbon operations

Proposed Action: Regulations



Add New Regulations

- Wildlife Protection Zones to protect wildlife hotspots from disturbance (overflight, cargo vessel and white shark).
- Authorization to approve other agencies permits. If projects do not meet sanctuaries terms and conditions they are rejected. Examples of projects authorized by Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary:
 - Mavericks Surf Contest (USCG Marine Events Permit)
 - CalTrans rip rap placement along Hwy 1 (CCC Emergency Permit)
 - Scripps Institute / ATOC Cable (CCC Federal Consistency Determination)

No Fishing Regulations



- The current sanctuary regulations and proposed regulations for the expanded area do not include any regulations to manage recreational or commercial fishing.
- Fishing within the existing and proposed boundaries of GFNMS and CBNMS will continue to be managed by California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and NOAA Fisheries with advice from the Pacific Fishery Management Council.
- Some of the state's most productive commercial and recreational fisheries for salmon and crab occur in national marine sanctuaries

Revised CBNMS and GFNMS Management Plan: Changes to Action Plans



Summary of edits and changes to all action plans:

- Updated all jurisdictional settings to cover proposed expansion areas.
- Updated strategies, activities and performance measures where appropriate to reflect proposed boundary expansion.
- Deleted activities that have been completed since the 2008 management plan.
- Added new strategies for activities and programs that have emerged since the 2008 management plan.

All goals and objectives for each action plan have remained the same. New strategies were only added if they met the goals and objectives of the action plan.



Public Comment Period



Public Comment Period Open Until June 30, 2014

How to comment:

- At one of 4 public comment meetings
- U.S. Mail:
Maria Brown, Sanctuary Superintendent
Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary
991 Marine Drive, The Presidio
San Francisco, CA94129
- Through the Federal eRulemaking Portal docket number
NOAA-NOS-2012-0228 at <http://www.regulations.gov>