

ENFORCEMENT CONSULTANTS REPORT ON
CORDELL BANK, GULF OF FARALONES, AND MONTEREY BAY
NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES

The Enforcement Consultants (EC) have reviewed the information relating to the above sanctuaries.

The EC have no position on the designation documents. The EC would like the opportunity to review any fishing regulations in the future for consistency and enforceability. The EC also feels the Council process provides this opportunity. If the Council wishes to consider fishing regulations for these areas, we make the following recommendations:

The Cordell Bank needs to be identified by latitudinal and longitudinal coordinates representing the 50 fathom isobath. This would be consistent with past line enforcement strategies.

In speaking with the National Marine Sanctuary (NMS) staff, we proposed the following:

In order to eliminate confusion, the EC suggests identifying the specific kinds of gear to be excluded or included within the NMS boundary. We believe the NMS should utilize the definitions currently used in the 50 CFR Part 660. We believe their intent is to prohibit the use of bottom trawl and fixed gear with the exception of vertical hook-and-line.

For the Davidson Seamount within the Monterey Bay NMS, our recommendation is the exclusion of bottom trawl and fixed gear as defined by 50 CFR Part 660. Preferred option one would be a challenge to enforce, due to the restriction of fishing activity below 3,000 ft. In order to eliminate confusion, the EC suggests identifying the specific kinds of gear to be excluded or included within the NMS boundary. We believe the NMS should utilize the definitions currently used in the 50 CFR Part 660

It would be the EC's preference in the future to work with the NMS people to identify their goals and objectives and then use the current regulatory process to create a regulation package that would accomplish this.

PFMC
04/07/05