### Office of National Marine Sanctuaries National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration





### National Marine Sanctuaries Coordination Report







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March 8, 2017

## Keeping PFMC Informed of Activities/Programs in WC National Marine Sanctuaries



### NMFS/ONMS/PFMC Communication and Coordination Continuously Improving

#### **ONMS Written Report Addresses:**

- Nominations
- Management
- Climate change
- Habitat
- Research/monitoring
- Recreational fishing

#### What are National Marine Sanctuaries?





Areas of the marine environment with special conservation, recreational, ecological, historical, cultural, archaeological, or esthetic qualities..."

**National Marine Sanctuaries Act (Sec. 301)** 

- Raising public awareness and understanding through education and outreach
- Improving management through research (e.g., historical, conservation science, social science)
- Helping coastal economies by promoting and protecting healthy resources
- Facilitating public use compatible with resource protection







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#### NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY SYSTEM



Scale varies in this perspective. Adapted from National Geographic Maps.

National Marine Sanctuary

A Marine National Monument

Proposed National Marine Sanctuary

#### Status of Nominations To Date



#### In Inventory and Undergoing Designation Process

- Mallows Bay, Potomac River (MD)
- Lake Michigan Wisconsin (WI)

#### In Inventory of Candidate Sites

- Chumash Heritage (CA)
- Lake Erie Quadrangle (PA)
- St. George Unangan Heritage (AK)

#### **Nominations Under Review**

- SoCal Offshore Banks (CA)
- Lake Ontario (NY)
- Mariana Trench (NMI)

- Baltimore Canyon (MD) since withdrawn
- Hudson Canyon (NY)

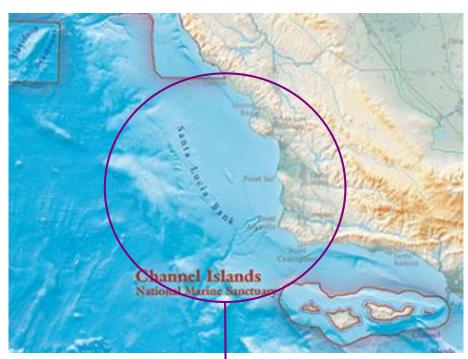
#### **Declined by NOAA**

- Aleutian Islands (AK)
- Eubalaena Oculina (FL)

## Two Sanctuary Nominations Within the West Coast EEZ

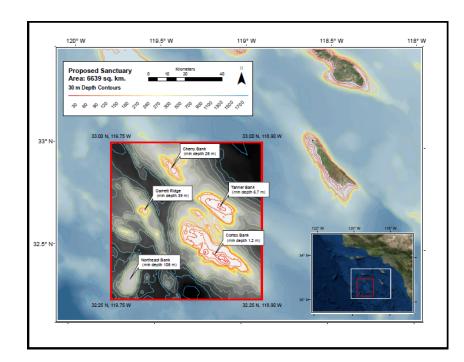






Area Proposed for Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary

- Added to the inventory October '15
- Has not advanced to designation



Area Proposed for So Calif. Offshore Banks National Marine Sanctuary

- Nomination found complete
- Nomination currently being evaluated against nomination criteria

# Many Steps and Opportunity for Public Involvement in Designation Process





#### **Public Scoping Process**

- > App 60 days for public to comment
- > App. 90 days for NOAA to assess comments

#### Preparation of Key Proposed Documents

- Public consultation and meetings to assess options
- Inter-agency consultations
- > App. 8-10 month period
- Management Plan, Proposed Rule (w/regulations), EIS

#### **Public Review**

- > App. 90 days for review
- Would include public hearings

## Public Involvement in Designation Process (continued)





#### Preparation of Key Final Documents

- > App. 8-10 month period
- > Final agency consultations
- Respond to public comments
- Produce Final Management Plan, Proposed Rule (w/regulations), EIS
- Congress has opportunity to review
- > Governor also reviews to concur or object for portions in state waters
- Key issues decided regulations, non-regulatory plans, seats for advisory council, location of office, boundaries for sanctuary, various programs, etc

Overall Process Takes app. 2 to 2-1/2 years

#### California Current

Proposed World Heritage Nomination for US Tentative List

#### **Includes**:

Three National Marine Sanctuaries
Two National Parks
One Wildlife Refuge
One Coastal Monument
Numerous State Parks, and
state-designated MPAs

#### CALIFORNIA CURRENT CONSERVATION COMPLEX



# CINMS Condition Report Update and MBNMS Management Plan Review



- Condition reports and management plans periodically updated and reviewed (5 – 10 year time line)
- CINMS Condition Report (2009) update is a precursor to the 2018 management plan review
- MBNMS Condition Report (2015) preceded the current management plan review; high priority issues being addressed include:
  - Wildlife disturbance
  - Desalination

- Regional monitoring
- Sediment mgmt./ beach loss



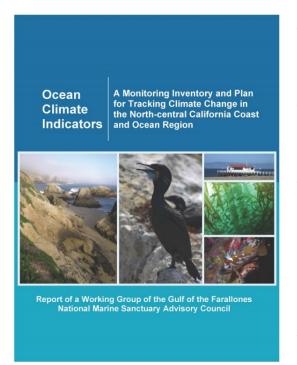


#### GFNMS and Being "Climate Smart"



 Integrating science, monitoring, adaptation, mitigation, and communication into sanctuary management.

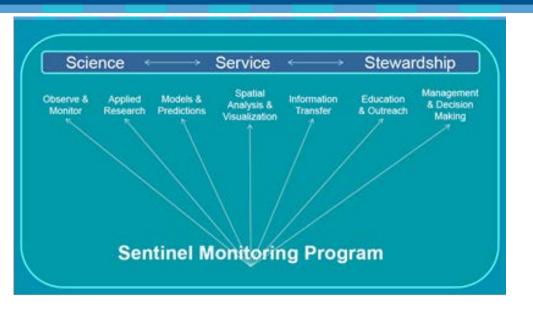




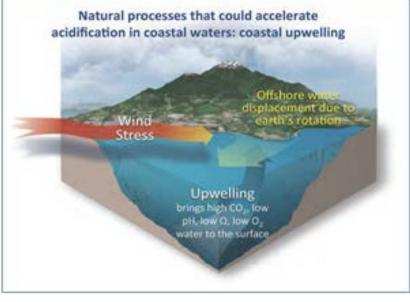
- Green operations: reducing our carbon footprint.
- Ocean climate indicators: inventory and plan for indicators of climate change.
- Climate Smart adaptation: vulnerability assessments and adaptation strategies to increase resilience of habitats and ecosystems
- Climate Action Plan: within the plan is a communication strategy

## OCNMS as a Sentinel Site for Ocean Acidification





A number of organizations are already heavily invested in OA monitoring and



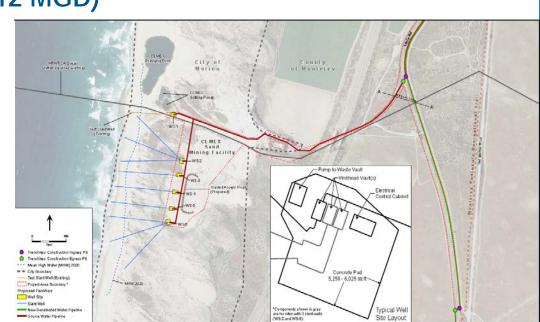
research in the OCNMS region. A sentinel site coordinates the integration of chemical and biological monitoring and research, beginning with thoughtful data analysis to determine sentinel species.

# MBNMS Reviewing Three Desalination Projects





- 1. California American Water Company (CalAm) proposes the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project (6.4 9.6 MGD)
- Deepwater Desal proposes the Monterey Bay Regional Water Project (~22 MGD)
- 3. People's of Moss Landing (12 MGD)
- CalAm project follows ONMS/NMFS guidelines
- Subsurface slant wells for seawater/groundwater intake
- Brine discharge through existing outfall using diffusers



## Benthic Habitat Conservation – Active Research and EFH Process



- Sanctuaries goals: to improve understanding of benthic habitat function in ecosystems:
  - seafloor mapping
  - visual surveys to characterize habitat
  - engage in habitat processes to protect sensitive habitat and open up productive fishing grounds
- 2013 EFH proposals: MBNMS, GFNMS and OCNMS
- 2014: OCNMS (with state) withdraws EFH proposal and initiates the Habitat Framework process with Coastal Treaty Tribes
- 2015 2017: Continue to engage with PFMC EFH process
- No position on alternatives at this time; do prefer to see sanctuary proposals adopted in final Council action

## Collaborating with NMFS on White Abalone Restoration



- Important partnership with NMFS
- 1st listed marine invertebrate; a NOAA 'Species in the Spotlight'
- Use of sanctuary vessels, divers, researchers

CINMS has suitable habitat for out-planting of juveniles, monitoring

and protections





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#### More information at:

www.olympiccoast.noaa.gov

<u>www.farallones.noaa.gov</u>

www.cordellbank.noaa.gov

www.channelislands.noaa.gov

www.montereybay.noaa.gov

www.sanctuaries.noaa.gov/about/westcoast.html



