

GROUND FISH ADVISORY SUBPANEL REPORT ON NATIONAL MARINE
SANCTUARIES REPORT

The Groundfish Advisory Subpanel (GAP) received a presentation by Laura Ingulsrud, policy analyst for the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (ONMS) on recent and ongoing efforts undertaken by ONMS and West Coast Sanctuaries and offers the following comments and suggestions.

The GAP continues to encourage Sanctuaries to consider wind farm operations in the same vein and with concern similar to that with which they might bring to bear on any other industrial operation at the same scale and in similar proximity to their waters.

We quote from our [Sept. 2022 statement](#): “GAP members also note there is opportunity for protection of Sanctuary resources within many sanctuaries from potential negative impacts of industrial development by offshore wind developments. Furthermore, sanctuaries have the opportunity to promote studies of offshore wind development effects on the California Current Large Marine Ecosystem. We encourage the Sanctuary program to consider potential impacts and take steps to assure Sanctuary resources do not come under risk. In particular, we are concerned about the unknown impact to local ecosystem function via the potential for substantially reduced upwelling dynamics and knock-on effects. This potential needs to be assessed and quantified, as well as the potential impacts of power cables through Sanctuary waters.”

PFMC
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