On July 25, 2008 the Gulf of the Farallones Sanctuary Advisory Council passed a Resolution, recommending to the GFNMS Superintendent that the sanctuary communicate to the California Department of Fish and Game support by GFNMS and the GFNMS Advisory Council for the special closure areas as endorsed by the Blue Ribbon Task Force in the preferred Marine Life Protection Act alternative.

Attachments

cc: Bill Douros
    Dan Basta
Whereas, Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary (GFNMS) was originally established, in large part, to protect world-class concentrations of seabirds and marine mammals and their breeding habitat and food source areas located within sanctuary boundaries; and

Whereas, the California Department of Fish and Game is considering the creation of certain marine protected areas within state waters pursuant to the California Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) within GFNMS managed waters which incorporate certain special closure areas for the protection of seabird nesting sites and marine mammal rookeries in the agency’s preferred alternative; and

Whereas, these special closure areas were recommended to the California Department of Fish and Game by the Blue Ribbon Task Force (BRTF) established under the MLPA; and

Whereas, these special closure areas were recommended to the BRTF by the various Regional Stakeholder Groups established under the MLPA after substantial consultation with the public and relevant user groups; and

Whereas, special closure areas serve a necessary and important function in protecting resting, nesting and roosting seabirds and rookery and haul-out areas for marine mammals;

Therefore be it resolved, that the GFNMS Advisory Council recommends to the GFNMS Superintendent that the sanctuary communicate to the California Dept. of Fish and Game support by GFNMS and the GFNMS Advisory Council for the special closure areas as endorsed by the BRTF in the preferred MLPA alternative.