

Advisory Council Recommendations to Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Regarding Mooring Tackle Pilot Test

1. The Advisory Council recommends that a standard be established within a predetermined timeframe for the mooring technology to be used in Tomales Bay. This standard should review the engineering specifications of accepted mooring technologies and outline the key elements of mandatory inspection programs that these technologies entail.
2. The Advisory Council recommends permitting the current moorings that meet or that upgrade to the standard established in recommendation 1.
3. The Advisory Council recommends that new technologies only be implemented for new and replacement mooring within a predetermined timeframe.
4. The Advisory Council recommends that the sanctuary pursue adaptive management of various mooring technologies (anchor and tackle) in Tomales Bay to select those that are (a) the least damaging to the environment, (b) appropriate for Tomales Bay hydrodynamic conditions, and (c) affordable.

Advisory Council Recommendations to Gulf of the Farallones National Marine to forward to the State Lands Commission Regarding Permitting

1. The Advisory Council recommends introducing permitting over a set time frame (e.g. from May to October) to assure adequate time for adjustment.
2. The Advisory Council recommends to establish priority in the initial permitting batches by first processing existing mooring used by local residents, then processing all other existing mooring and finally opening the permitting process to new moorings.
3. The Advisory Council recommends introducing the permitting process to the community through public presentations or workshops, focusing on the criteria restricting mooring, the designation of historical mooring areas, and the standards for mooring.
4. The Advisory Council recommends consolidating information about the mooring permit process on a single web site that can be linked to all interested agencies. This web site should, at minimum, include
 - a. The decision tree that control the process,
 - b. The interactive map showing historical mooring area, restricted area and existing mooring,
 - c. A list of FAQ,
 - d. Recommendations on mooring options and associated maintenance requirements and
 - e. Links to appropriate forms required for permit application
5. The Advisory Council recommends that the permit application be available both through mailing and interactively.