

Recommendations Regarding Mooring Tackle Pilot Test

1. The Working Group recommends that a Standard be established for the mooring technology currently 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. In view of the results from the pull test (Ref: Working group feedback) the Working Group recommends a precautionary approach in modifying the mooring technology in Tomales bay by delaying the use of helical anchor and other new technologies at this time and permitting the current mooring that meet or that upgrade to the standard established in recommendation 1.
3. The Working Group recommends that the sanctuary pursues long term assessment 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
4. The working group recommends that new technologies only be implemented for new and replacement mooring.

Recommendations Regarding Acceptance Of The Permitting Process

1. The Working Group recommends introducing permitting over a set time frame (e.g. from May to October) to assure adequate time for adjustment
2. The Working Group 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 Working Group recommends introducing the permitting process to the community through public presentations or workshops, focusing on the criteria restricting mooring and on the designation of historical mooring areas.
4. The Working Group 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

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5. The Working Group recommends that the permit application be available both through mailing and interactively.

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