

Seabird Protection Network

Outreach, Monitoring & Enforcement Activities

Related to the Marine Life Protection Act of the North-Central Coast Region

May 2010 – July 2011

- **Received 2-year grant from National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (06/01/2011–06/01/2013)**
Title: Protecting Critical Wildlife Populations in Sanctuaries (CA)
Description: Conduct a comprehensive boater education program and increase coordination among resource managers to ensure compliance with wildlife disturbance laws and regulations. The Network and Sanctuary is embarking on a project that improves resource protection by:
 - 1) Providing added protection to seabirds and marine mammals by assisting with the implementation of California's Marine Life Protection Act through a boater education program that promotes compliance of marine protected areas, particularly No-Access Zones;
 - 2) Offering a comprehensive boater outreach program that promotes a stewardship ethic; and
 - 3) Providing a unique opportunity for resource managers, biologist, educators and recreational boaters to corroborate and develop mitigation techniques on matters surrounding wildlife disturbance.

The project funds the following outcomes:

 - Boater Outreach Specialist (20hr/wk)
 - Design and installation of 2 permanent way-side interpretive signs (Pillar Point Harbor, Greyhound Rock, Natural Bridges State Park, etc.)
 - 3 boater displays for marine supply and recreation stores
 - Printing and dissemination of 5,000 Boater and Kayaker Guides
 - Presentations to 5 boat clubs/association
 - Broad distribution of a Wildlife Disturbance Reporting Form
 - A Wildlife Disturbance Symposium
- **Letter to Boaters and Kayakers Informing about MPAs and Special Closures**
 - Mailing to over 350 boater/kayak groups
- **Drake's Bay Way-side Interpretive Sign – Protecting Our Marine Life (*in development*)**
- **Tide books – 2011 tide books featuring North-Central Coast MPAs**
 - 2 versions available
 - 13,000 printed with our information; 1400 distributed by SPN
- **Boater and Kayaker Guide to Marine Protected Areas (pre-print version)**

- **Informative posts for the “Explore the Oceans” layer on Google Earth** – Each post highlights a No-Entry Zone (Special Closure)

- **Press**
 - Spring 2010 – California Kayaker Magazine
 - Spring 2011 – California Kayaker Magazine
 - E-Newsletter of Seabird Protection Network (900+ recipients)

- **Presentations** – Boaters were especially interested in the 6 zones that protect breeding seabird by closing all access near the colonies
 - Western Sea Kayakers in Sunnyvale
 - Encinal Yacht Club (10); Marin Yacht Club (28); Marin Scuba Club; Adventure Sports Unlimited; Aquan Sports (San Carlos), REI San Francisco, Power & Sail Squadron
 - Golden Gate Sea Kayaker Symposium – Distributed 150 tide books

- **Store displays** (plexi-glass)
 - Installed in three West Marine stores (Alameda, Oakland and Sausalito) and the REI store in San Francisco; Spud Point Harbor (Office); Monterey Bay Harbor Office

- **Aerial vessel-use surveys within state waters** (North-Central region)
 - Vessel presence/absence within MPAs captured on the platform, NOAA Twin Otter
 - If requested, survey data is available to Department of Fish and Game for enforcement purposes.

- **Special Closures**
 - **Demarcation buoys**
 - Devil’s Slide Rock
 - 2nd Phase beginning Fall 2011 – Pt. Resistance (2); Double Pt/Stormy Stack (3)
 - **Incidents & Education** (*Incidents are observed entrance into Special Closures*)
 - 2010: 10 Special Closure incidents across 4 monitoring sites
 - 2011: 5 Special Closure incidents across 4 monitoring sites