

GULF OF THE FARALLONES
NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY
3rd Quarter FY2011

SUPERINTENDENT'S MEDIA REPORT

April through June ~ 2011



Clippings and Coverage of Sanctuary Topics

April 1, Sportfishingmag.com, monstersandcritics.com, “National Geographic Channel's Shark Men hits the water this April By National Geographic Channel / Newswire. “Science and sport fishing join forces for an unprecedented hands-on research effort to study wild great whites, when Shark Men season two kicks off with back-to-back premieres Sunday, April 10, at 9 p.m. ET/PT on the National Geographic Channel (NGC). In the first of two expeditions off the coast of California, the Shark Men are granted a rare permit to catch and release sharks in the Farallon Islands marine sanctuary off the coast of San Francisco, but jeopardize the entire project with a dramatic series of unfortunate mishaps.

April 5, Santa Cruz Weekly, Santa Cruz.com “Bungled Shark Tagging Leads to Infighting” by Alastair Bland. “What caused the wound to Junior's jaw is unknown, ... According to Mary Jane Schramm, a NOAA spokesperson, the 2010 images of Junior were submitted last October to NOAA officials along with video footage of the shark. Neumann wants this footage made public and believes that a closer look at Junior in his injured state could confirm or debunk Domeier's claim that another shark attacked Junior and damaged his jaw. More at http://news.santacruz.com/2011/04/05/bungled_shark_tagging_leads_to_infighting http://fijisharkdiving.blogspot.com/2011_04_01_archive.html

April 5, Contrast Magazine “RIP *Sion Milosky* ... Big Wave Charger *Sion Milosky* tragically drowned while surfing Mavericks yesterday. The 35-year-old, Kaua'i native is survived by his wife ... contrastmagazine.com/blog/?tag=rip-sion-milosky



April 6, Half Moon Bay Review, "Volunteer rescue troop is in the works" by Lily Bixler. "Members of the local big-wave surfing community are moving forward, however slowly, to form a volunteer safety crew that would be certified alongside public safety agencies to legally patrol Mavericks [MBNMS north] on personal watercraft. ... The idea even appeared to elicit support from Gulf of the Farallones and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuaries Joint Advisory Council Chairman Richard Charter. ...".

April 10, Del Mar Times, April 13, San Francisco Examiner, "Shark Men returns to National Geographic Channel with Murky Waters." " ... the Shark Men head to the rocky, barren Farallon Islands off the coast of San Francisco. The National Marine Sanctuary, which oversees all activity in the area, has granted the Shark Men the first-ever permit to hook a great white shark at the Farallones for research, with the caveat that a sanctuary observer be onboard. Details at <http://www.examiner.com/cable-tv-in-national/shark-men-returns-to-national-geographic-channel-with-murky-waters>

Apr 16, San Francisco Examiner, "... *Jacob Trette* was airlifted to Stanford University Medical Center after he was caught in the surf by a 20-foot wave at Mavericks at about 10 ... www.sfoxaminer.com/.../mavericks-surfer-jacob-trette-remains-critical-condition - Cached

April 21, MSNBC, Our Amazing Planet, 'Shark Man' roils waters with great white quest - Scientist stirs controversy with method of applying satellite tags to sharks" by Andrea Mustain. "...Domeier says the full video shows that Junior's head is covered with bite marks, most likely from another great white. The species is known to attack its own. ... Federal authorities and the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, where Junior was first tagged and the video was taken, are reviewing the case, and say they will issue a report in the coming months, and until then, the video is unavailable to the public. ..."
http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/42649994/ns/technology_and_science-science

April 21, ABC TV7,, "Swim group had to stop trek to GGB due to currents. Six Bay Area swimmers attempted to do something so difficult and dangerous, that it hasn't been done in more than 40 years. The group swam almost the entire way from the Farallon Islands to the Golden Gate Bridge without wetsuits. he swim will go through what's been called "The Red Triangle" due to its historically high concentration of Great White Shark attacks."

April 22, The Hill's Congress Blog, "Protecting the California Coast" by Rep. Lynn Woolsey. "... My bill, The Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries Modification and Protection Act (H.R. 192), would extend our existing sanctuary boundaries further and deeper into the Pacific. And it would also branch northward, to shield the entire Sonoma County coast. ... The only meaningful opposition comes from national oil interests and their allies in Congress, outsiders who want to drill at any cost. ..." More details at <http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/energy-a-environment/157357-protecting-the-california-coast>

April 22, Pacific Sun, "Going Green: Pinniped serenade - Seal experts to Marin: Be kind to our fin-footed friends!" by Jordan Rosenfeld. "... Mary Jane Schramm, media and public outreach specialist for the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, says ... "Our oceans are

changing. Ocean acidification is going up." She describes gray whales from the Gulf of Alaska making their way down to the Farallon Islands, and even Pacifica, in search of food, where they are also in danger of ship strikes and other human interference. Her suggestions for helping the 71 percent of our planet that is water: "We can maintain a much smaller carbon footprint. Our office is taking a leadership role in addressing climate change impacts." ..."

April 27, MarinScope, "Season marks egrets' return to preserve" by Jessica Mullins. "For those involved with West Marin's Audubon Canyon Ranch, spring means the return of the herons and egrets. The majestic great blue herons, great egrets and smaller snowy egrets, which can be found throughout Marin year round, have returned to the Audubon's Martin Griffin Preserve in West Marin for annual mating and nesting rituals, which take place more than 150 feet off the ground in redwood trees overlooking the Bolinas Lagoon [GFNMS] ..."

April 27, All Voices, Northern California Excursion: Great Blue Heron and Egret Rookeries ... There is continuous activity at the nesting areas as the birds fly to feed in nearby Bolinas Lagoon [GFNMS], and as they return others rise and circle the nests on their way to the feeding grounds. ..."

April 28, San Francisco Bay National Parks Science and Learning, "Science on the SPOT: Marine Sanctuary Patrol Flight. The Channel Islands, Monterey Bay, Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine sanctuaries cover more than 9,500 square miles of ocean habitat. Patrolling such an immense area by boat would take days, but now sanctuary managers are taking to the air in a rugged de Havilland DHC-6 Twin Otter bush plane to get a bird's eye view. ..." Details at <http://www.sfnpa.org/marine/multimedia>

April 30, ESPN, "Matters of size - The 2011 Billabong XXL Big Wave Awards results ... With the world's most preeminent big-wave riders gathered in Anaheim, Calif., for the yearly awards show, Milosky, who tragically drowned while surfing Maverick's [MBNMS north] on Mar. 17, 2011, was the focus of most every acceptance speech. ..."

May 2, San Francisco Appeal, "Bay Area Beachgoers Urged Not To Disturb Seabirds" by April Siese. "... the Seabird Protection Network urges all of you who are seeking fun on the coasts to please, please leave the birds alone: they're just not fans of guests. ... Seabirds will neglect their young if disturbed repeatedly, and may abandon a colony altogether, Mary Jane Schramm, spokesperson for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Office of National Marine Sanctuaries says. ... The sanctuary has information and tips for seabird dos and don'ts available."

May 2, Public News Service, "CA's North Coast Underwater State Parks Celebrate One-Year Anniversary. "May marks the one-year anniversary for northern California's newest underwater state parks, the Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). These ocean parks include tourism hotspots such as Point Reyes, Bodega Head and the Farallon Islands. ..."

May 2, Marin Independent Journal, "Hérons, egrets are nesting at Audubon Canyon Ranch" by Tracy Dunham. "It's nesting time for great blue herons, great egrets and snowy egrets at Audubon Canyon Ranch's Martin Griffin Preserve ... When walking on the Rawlings Trail, you

pass an overlook of the Bolinas Lagoon [GFNMS]. Dozens of egrets are often visible wading in the shallow water catching fish and crustaceans for themselves and to feed their chicks. This convenient food source in proximity to the tall, sheltered redwood trees creates conditions that make the preserve one of the largest egret and heron rookeries on the West Coast. ...”

May 5, MSNBC.com, LiveScience.com, “Shark, Not Man, Attacked Shark, Video Shows by Andrea Mustain. ‘A climactic chapter in the saga of Junior, an injured great white shark whose gruesome photograph touched off a firestorm of accusations among shark enthusiasts and site commenters on shark blogs in recent months, has come to a close thanks to a video released for the first time this week. ...The video was first posted on the marine science blog SouthernFriedScience.com, and is now also posted on the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary (GFNMS) website, the institution that holds the only known copy of the video. ...”

May 6, Marin Independent Journal, Researchers focus on salmon leaving Marin creeks to solve diminishing number of fish” by Mark Prado. “ ... For the past several weeks, researchers have come to a fish trap each day to collect and count the number of coho salmon smolt making their way to Tomales Bay [GFNMS] and then to the open sea. The endangered coho are on the brink of extinction in the southern part of their range and researchers are seeking answers to address the problem. ...”

May 6, Mother Nature Network, “Shark, not man, attacked shark - New video reveals that injured shark was attacked by another shark, not a scientist ...”.

<http://www.mnn.com/earth-matters/animals/stories/shark-not-man-attacked-shark>

May 6, Marin Independent Journal Marin Researchers focus on salmon leaving Marin creeks to solve diminishing number of fish” by Mark Prado. “ ... For the past several weeks, researchers have come to a fish trap each day to collect and count the number of coho salmon smolt making their way to Tomales Bay and then to the open sea [both GFNMS]. The endangered coho are on the brink of extinction in the southern part of their range, and researchers are seeking answers to address the problem ...”

May 7, Los Angeles Times, “Irrigation districts seek closure of commercial salmon season off California, Oregon - The suit filed in U.S. District Court by the San Joaquin River Group Authority is bound to further inflame relations between farmers and fishermen” by Bettina Boxall. “A group of San Joaquin Valley irrigation districts is demanding that the federal government close the just-revived commercial salmon season off the Oregon and California coasts, a move bound to further inflame relations between farmers and salmon fishermen. In a U.S. District Court lawsuit filed Thursday, the San Joaquin River Group Authority contends that federal fishery managers acted improperly when they recently reopened the commercial salmon season after two years of unprecedented closures. Instead, they are concerned that if Central Valley salmon numbers don't rebound, they will be forced to release more water to sustain runs in the lower San Joaquin River and its tributaries.”

May 9, Santa Rosa Press Democrat, “GOP bill could open up Sonoma coast to oil wells” by Guy Kovern. “A Republican move to expedite offshore oil drilling in response to \$4-a-gallon gasoline includes a bill, scheduled for a House vote this week, that could bring oil wells to the Sonoma

and Mendocino coast. ... Lynn Woolsey, D-Petaluma, and Mike Thompson, D-St. Helena, both said they will vote against Hastings' bills. Woolsey said she was "vehemently opposed to any drilling" and will pursue her effort to win permanent protection for the Sonoma Coast by doubling the size of two national marine sanctuaries.

May 9, San Francisco Chronicle, KMPH-Fox 26, Associated Press, "Feds mull plan to rid Farallones of house mice." "Federal wildlife managers are considering putting rodenticide pellets on the Farallon Islands to rid the wildlife refuge of non-native house mice. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service says the mice eat Ashy Storm-petrel eggs and chicks, a species whose numbers have declined to the point where it is listed as a "species of concern."

May 10, Berkeley Daily Planet, "Wild Neighbors: Collateral Damage in the Rodent Wars" By Joe Eaton. "Ashy storm-petrel in the hand: victim of killer mice? South Farallon Island, that great seabird metropolis 32 miles west of San Francisco, is infested with house mice. ... Now the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the agency that manages the Farallones National Wildlife Refuge, is going after the mice. Their plan is to air-drop the potent rodenticide brodifacoum in pelletized form all over South Farallon. FWS says this is necessary to protect the island's population of ashy storm-petrels, a California Species of Special Concern ..."

May 10, PracticalFishkeeping.com, "Junior' was victim of shark attacks ... The video was uncovered by David Shiffman – a shark researcher and writer for the SouthernFriedScience blog-who submitted a Freedom of Information Act to the NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries who were holding the video pending an investigation. ..."

May 10, San Jose Mercury News, The Marin Independent Journal, "Marin wildlife group blasts plan to kill non-native mice on Farallon Islands" by Mark Prado, , "A Marin wildlife group is opposing a possible federal plan to spread a rodenticide on the Islands to eliminate non-native house mice that officials say are harming native species. ...House mice are predators of Ashy Storm-petrel eggs and chicks, sea birds that are a "species of concern" in the state. There are only 15,000 worldwide, half of which breed and nest on the islands ..."

May 10, KSRO Radio, "Mice Threatening Birds On Farallones Islands - Federal wildlife managers are debating whether to use poison pellets to get rid of non-native mice which are causing big problems on the Farallones Islands about 25 miles west of the Golden Gate Bridge. Experts say the mice are eating bird eggs and if the problem gets worse some of the sea birds on the islands may become endangered. ..."

May 13, San Francisco Chronicle, "Pesticide bombing of Farallones mice spurs debate" by Kelly Zito. "Federal wildlife regulators are considering carpet-bombing the Farallon Islands in the fall with a potent pesticide to eradicate non-native house mice, an invasive population grown so large officials say it has radically altered the islands' ecology and now threatens rare seabirds But animal welfare groups contend the lethal chemicals could ruin the prized sanctuary and drift throughout the food web, killing not just the rodents, but birds, reptiles and even microscopic crustaceans. ... Read more: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/05/12/BALN1JFI64.DTL#ixzz1MdidB9Xt>

May 17, KGO TV 7, “Controversial shark researcher seeks permit renewal.” By Dan Noyes. “Managers of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary are grappling with a controversial issue. Should they renew a permit for a researcher to hook and land great white sharks near the Farallon Islands, 28 miles off the Golden Gate? ...” More at <http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/iteam&id=8136819>

May 18, KGO ABC TV 7, “Researchers spot rare white porpoise in SF Bay” by Dan Ashley. “...Researchers believe one reason the animals are thriving is what is happening under water. Along the Northern California coast there are three marine sanctuaries protected by the federal government. “All of the animals, including the corals on the bottom, the worms in the mud, as well as the porpoises, it all cascades into being more positive for a healthier environment for all the animals,” Gulf of Farallones Marine Sanctuary spokesperson Jan Roletto said. ...” More at http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/assignment_7&id=8139356

May 20, Sacramento Bee/ Associated Press “Feds consider use of mouse poison in CA sanctuary. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is studying a plan to kill off non-native house mice with poison on the Farallon Islands, a federal marine sanctuary off the coast of Northern California. ... At risk is the Ashy Storm-petrel, a seabird with a global population estimated at no more than 10,000. The Farallons are one of its two major nesting sites. The mice draw the attention of hungry migratory burrowing owls, which also feed on Storm-petrel eggs ...”

May 18, KGO ABC TV 7, “Researchers spot rare white porpoise in SF Bay” by Dan Ashley. “...Researchers believe one reason the animals are thriving is what is happening under water. Along the Northern California coast there are three marine sanctuaries protected by the federal government. “All of the animals, including the corals on the bottom, the worms in the mud, as well as the porpoises, it all cascades into being more positive for a healthier environment for all the animals,” Gulf of Farallones Marine Sanctuary spokesperson Jan Roletto said. More at http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/assignment_7&id=8139356

May 21, San Francisco Chronicle, “Submarine to explore mysteries of sea life” by David Perlman, Chronicle Science Editor. “Fresh from exploring the shifting sands of Morro Bay, an unmanned submarine named the Beagle will soon head for the rocky seabed off the Farallon Islands in the next chapter of a survey of ocean life along Northern California's coast. ... Krill are the principal food for many whales, and last year unusual numbers of migrating whales were reported throughout the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary as well as in the Monterey Bay sanctuary ... Read more: bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/05/20/MNUA1JHC3G.DTL#ixzz1NBjnlbc

May 25, San Francisco Chronicle, “6 tough athletes brave swim to Farallon Islands” by Tom FitzGerald. “It's about 30 miles from the Golden Gate Bridge to the Farallon Islands, a span where swimmers fear to tread. Water temperatures can dip below 50 degrees, the tide can be tough, and the winds can be tougher. It's the kind of trip that's best left to animals with dorsal fins. Yet six fairly normal people have conquered the bridge-to-Farallones swim and lived to crow about it. As far as anybody knows, Friday's swim was the first time the feat has been accomplished. ...” Read more: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/05/24/SPH01JKDRD.DTL#ixzz1NNiznxWp>

May 31, Bay Nature Magazine, Bay Citizen , “Plans to Poison Mice on Farallon Islands Meet with Fierce Resistance - Mice are threatening birds' nests but critics say the poison could harm animals up the food chain” by Juliet Grable. “In its effort to restore the native wildlife on the South Farallon Islands, a series of small rocky islands about 30 miles west of San Francisco, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service finds itself in a pickle. The government agency says it needs to kill the nonnative mice that are over-running the island and threatening nesting seabirds. To do this, they propose air dropping highly toxic rodent poison but critics charge the effort could actually endanger birds on the island. ...

June 2, GO competitor finds SylvanSport and \$15K in gear near Golden Gate Bridge” by Julian Gothard. “SylvanSport’s Find the GO event came to a breathtaking conclusion last week in San Francisco when Neil Sonerholm of Pahrump, NV traveled for more than 9 hours – and covered more than 570 miles - to claim the first place gear package that included the SylvanSport GO ... The SylvanSport GO and the \$15,000 in gear was hidden in an 80 year-old storage shed behind the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, near the base of the Golden Gate Bridge.

June 6, PBS Newshour, “NewsHour correspondent Spencer Michels has this report, a joint project with KQED's science show, QUEST. “Ocean Sanctuaries off California's Coast - Correspondent Spencer Michels reports on the controversy over dozens of no-fishing zones off the California coast. ... Maria Brown, Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary: It's human disturbance. It's pollution. It's development along our shores, that we're encroaching on habitats. ... “

June 7, Ship Speed Limit/Whale Shipstrike Mortality Stories:

- Original articles: AP, LA Times, SJ Merc, Marin IJ, Miami Herald, Ventura County Star, Bay Citizen, McClatchy News, original press release. - 108 news stories nationwide duplicating these.
- KTVU TV 2 (Video) Environmentalists Call for Shipping Vessel Speed Limit To Save Whales – Video. Full story at <http://www.ktvu.com/video/28164372/index.html>
- Sacramento Bee - Michael Doyle - Environmental groups want stricter ship speed limits off portions of the California coast to protect marine mammals from getting slammed. Citing dangers to vulnerable whales, four environmental organizations petitioned the ...
- San Francisco Chronicle, Calif. enviros want ships to slow to save whales
Environmentalists want ships traveling through California's marine sanctuaries to slow down to avoid deadly collisions with whales. Four groups filed a petition Monday asking the federal government to establish a 10-knot speed limit for large ...
- Sacram - AP – “Environmentalists want ships to slow down. Environmentalists want ships traveling through California's marine sanctuaries to slow down to avoid deadly collisions with whales. Four groups filed a petition Monday asking the federal government to establish a 10-knot speed limit

- Environmentalists want ships to slow down - Albany Times Union /AP. Environmentalists say ships traveling through California's marine sanctuaries need to slow down to avoid deadly collisions with whales. The Los Angeles Times says four groups filed a petition Monday asking the federal government to ...
- Los Angeles Times, Environmental coalition wants to save whales by reducing ships' speed .. by Tony Barboza - A 10-knot limit off the West Coast could prevent deaths, advocates tells the US Department of Commerce. Shippers oppose the limits. A humpback whale with head and pectoral fins missing at White Point in San Pedro. (Allen J. Schaben / Los Angeles Times ... “
- Los Angeles Times, “Environmental groups want ships to slow down to avoid killing and injuring whales. A coalition of environmental groups is asking the federal government to require ships traveling through California's marine sanctuaries to slow down to avoid fatal collisions with whales, a problem that they say has climbed to “unsustainable levels. ...
- Marin Independent-Journal, “Groups want ships to slow off Marin, California coast to prevent collisions” by Mark Prado. If you are in a big boat off the coast of Marin, please slow down for the whales. That's what several conservation groups want to see happen, saying large speeding boats and ships sometimes slam into whales, injuring and killing the ...
- Ventura County Star - Zeke Barlow. “Proposal filed to put speed limits on big ships in channel. A coalition of environmental groups filed a petition asking that a mandatory speed limit be imposed on ships passing through the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary in an effort to curb the number of whales hit by ships.
- San Jose Mercury News, A speed limit for big ships? Slow them down to protect whales, say ... by Paul Rogers. A speed limit for big ships? Slow them down to protect whales, say environmental groups By Paul Rogers Alarmed by the increasing number of whales being killed in collisions with ships, four environmental groups filed a petition with the federal ...
- The Bay Citizen, Environmentalists Seek Speed Limits For Ships to Protect Whales” by John Upton. “Environmentalists launched a legal effort Monday to limit shipping speeds in national marine sanctuaries off California's coastline to protect whales from noise and deadly collisions. Cargo ships, oil tankers ...
- McClatchy Washington Bureau, “Environmentalists urge ship speed limits to protect whales” by Michael Doyle. “Environmental groups want stricter ship speed limits off portions of the California coast to protect marine mammals from getting slammed. Citing dangers to vulnerable whales, four environmental ... “

- Center for Biological Diversity Press Release, “Legal Petition Filed to Limit Ship Speeds, Protect Whales in California's ...“ Conservation groups filed a legal petition today seeking a mandatory speed limit for large ships traveling through California's marine sanctuaries. In recent years there has been a dramatic rise in whale deaths attributable to collisions ...”
- June 7, eeneews.net Whales: Ship speed limit sought in Calif. marine sanctuaries. The federal government should require ships traveling through California's marine sanctuaries to slow down to avoid fatal collisions with whales, a coalition of environmental groups said yesterday, claiming the problem has reached "unsustainable levels."
- June 7, Beaumont Enterprise, “Environmentalists want ships traveling through California's marine sanctuaries to slow down to avoid deadly collisions with whales. Four groups filed a petition Monday asking the federal government to establish a 10-knot speed limit for large commercial vessels traveling through the state's four National Marine Sanctuaries in the Channel Islands, Monterey Bay, Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank, The Los Angeles Times reported Monday.

June 7, Half Moon Bay Patch, “Agencies Present Initial Findings of Surfer's Beach [MBNMS north] Erosion Study - U.S. Army Corps and Harbor District discuss erosion of beach and bluffs in El Granada” by Christa Bigue. “At a public meeting held yesterday at the Half Moon Bay Yacht Club, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in partnership with San Mateo County Harbor District, presented the initial findings and study approach of the North Half Moon Bay Shoreline Improvement Project, which seeks to provide a plan and solution to alleviating the continual beach loss and bluff erosion at Surfer’s Beach in El Granada. ...”

June 8, Environmental Science & Policy News/UC Davis, “National Marine Sanctuary Foundation Honors John Largier” John Largier, Ph.D., a volunteer at Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, was honored Tuesday by the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation (NMSF) in Washington, D.C. ... The recognition is part of Capitol Hill Ocean Week, an oceans-focused annual conference coordinated by the NMSF, a private non-profit organization supporting NOAA’s Office of National Marine Sanctuaries. ...”
<http://www.des.ucdavis.edu/News.aspx>

June 8, Vessel Speed/Shipstrike Stories:

- KTVU TV 2/Fox, “Enviros Want Ships To Slow To Save Whales” by John Fowler. “Environmentalists want ships traveling through the state's marine sanctuaries to slow down to avoid deadly collisions with whales. Four groups filed a petition Monday asking the federal government to establish a 10-knot speed limit for large commercial vessels traveling through the state's four National Marine Sanctuaries in the Channel Islands, Monterey Bay, Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank, The Los Angeles Times reported Monday. ...”
- Latitude 38, Sanctuary Speed Limits ... The good news is that whale populations on the West Coast are increasing. The bad news is that there is a corresponding increase in ship

strikes. ... That's why the group filed a petition Monday — just in time for World Oceans Day, which is today — with the federal government to set a mandatory speed limit of 10 knots for large commercial vessels traveling through California's marine sanctuaries: Channel Islands, Monterey Bay, Gulf of the Farallones, and Cordell Bank. ... ”

- GreenAnswers Environmentalists Want Stricter Speed Limit For Ships To Save Whales - Merlin Miclat ... involving ships and whales, a group of four environmental groups have requested the US government to impose speed limits for ships traveling over California's National Marine Sanctuaries, where whales are prominently found breeding and migrating. ...
- Los Angeles Times, Environmentalists want slower ship speeds to protect whales off California coast In a petition filed Monday, four environmental groups asked the US Department of Commerce to establish a 10-knot limit for large commercial vessels in California's four National Marine Sanctuaries in the Channel Islands, Monterey Bay, ...
- Santa Barbara View Saving Whales in Marine Sanctuaries The EDC is one of four groups who have developed a petition advocating a mandatory speed limit of 10 knots — about 11 miles an hour — for all ships larger than 65 feet while sailing through California's four national marine sanctuaries. ...
- ABC 7 News – “Petition to protect whales off California coasts” by Rudabeh Shahbazi, ‘There's a new effort to save the whales. Four environmental groups have filed a petition in hopes of avoiding ship collisions with the marine mammals.
<http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/state&id=8179179>

June 8, California Marine Sanctuaries Expansion Bill Advances on World Oceans Day. Washington, D.C. - U.S. Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein (both D-CA) today praised the Senate Commerce Committee's passage of the Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries Boundary Modification and Protection Act. The legislation would permanently protect the coastal waters and estuaries of Sonoma County and portions of Mendocino County by extending the boundaries of existing marine sanctuaries.

June 9, Discovery News, “First All-Woman Relay Swims Across Red Triangle” by Emily Sohn | “ ... For 16 hours, 29 minutes and 30 seconds, the women swam in shifts from the coast of California near the Golden Gate Bridge to the Farallon Islands, 30 miles away. They were the first all-female relay to complete the journey, which is considered by ultra-swimmers to be one of the five toughest swims in the world ... the Red Triangle, known for its alarmingly large number of attacks by great white sharks. ... ”

June 9, Sea Turtle Restoration Project : “California Marine Sanctuaries Bill Advances on World Oceans Day ... The bill, which Senators Boxer and Feinstein introduced in January, would expand the boundaries of the two existing National Marine Sanctuaries to protect ...
www.seaturtles.org/article.php?id=2057

June 10, WGAL.com, “Gulf Of The Farallones National Marine Sanctuary - Home To Largest Concentration Of Breeding Seabirds In U.S. [sic]. The Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary is a large expanse of Pacific Ocean along with nearshore tidal flats, rocky intertidal areas, wetlands, subtidal reefs, and coastal beaches. ...”Read more:
<http://www.wgal.com/slideshow/news/28128087/detail.html#ixzz1PILj99f4>

June 10, Half Moon Bay Patch, Half Moon Bay Fish Go High Tech” by Kristine Wong. ”Thanks to a new partnership between the Half Moon Bay Fishermen's Association, local community members, Princeton fish processor Blue Ocean Smoke House and Google, a new community supported fishery—the first in Northern California—gives Pillar Point fishermen a ready-made supply of customers who support sustainable fishing and a strong local economy.

Jun 12, collegebasketball.msg.com “ Solo Swimmer to Trek Across Shark-Infested Red Triangle ... Of the 249 unprovoked great-white attacks that happened between 1876 and 2010, 93 of them -- or 37 percent were in the Red Triangle, ...

June 12, Discovery.com, “Solo Swimmer to Trek Across Shark-Infested Red Triangle ...” Of the 249 unprovoked great-white attacks that happened between 1876 and 2010, 93 of them -- or 37 percent were in the Red Triangle, ... news.discovery.com/.../a-daring-swim-attempt-to-cross-shark-infested-re...”

June 13, Our Amazing Planet, Daily India, other outlets, “Man to Swim Shark-Infested Red Triangle. A 41-year old man will attempt to swim across the shark-infested waters of the Pacific Ocean's Red Triangle, from the California coast near the Golden Gate Bridge to the Farallon Islands. The man, Joe Locke, who swam the English Channel last year, will attempt the 30-mile (48-kilometer) swim on June 14, Discovery News reports. ... Great white sharks have killed 65 people in the Red Triangle since 1876, with the last death in 2008.”

June 13, Way Out West News, “Environmentalists petition federal government to reduce whale mortality in California” by Joseph Doolen. “Over 50 whale carcasses struck by ships have been discovered along the California coast in the past decade, including at least six last year ... Among those found in the Bay Area in 2010 were three blue whales, one of which was pregnant. ... The proposed 10-knot (11.5 mph) speed limit for vessels 65 feet or larger in National Marine Sanctuaries would cut the current limit in half ...”

June 17, halfmoonbaypatch.com, “Gray Whale on Pescadero Beach Received Trauma to Head, Thorax” by Avis Boutell. “... the Marine Mammal Center’s veterinarian found signs of hemorrhaging that indicated the 25-foot whale had suffered trauma to its head and thorax. These are physical indications that it is possible that the whale died as a result of a boat strike, but there is no way to determine conclusively whether the trauma occurred before or after the whale’s death. ...”

June 19, San Francisco Examiner, “Survival of Farallon birds hangs on eradicating rodents. A proposal to eradicate tens of thousands of mice from the Farallon Islands could involve dropping a payload of poison pellets, all in the name of preserving a fragile seabird population. ... Opponents of the idea fear it would kill seagulls that eat the pellets, or burrowing owls — also a species of concern — that eat the poisoned mice. “We want them to consider other options that

will not impact wildlife,” said Maggie Sergio, director of the San Rafael-based nonprofit Wildcare. “This will get into the water and impact aquatics, and this will impact other species.” Read more at the San Francisco Examiner: <http://www.sfexaminer.com/local/2011/06/survival-farallon-birds-hangs-eradicating-rodents#ixzz1Pk54Wmkm>

June 19, Marin Independent Journal, “Great white shark sighting at Stinson Beach closes deeper waters through Thursday” by Mark Prado. “The sighting of a great white shark off Stinson Beach [GFNMS] on Sunday has prompted the National Park Service to limit water access through Thursday. The shark was spotted just before 2 p.m. Sunday between 200 and 300 yards offshore near Seadrift Beach along the northern part of Stinson Beach by a U.S. Coast Guard helicopter.

June 20, KGO TV, “Stinson Beach shark sighting prompts warning. Beachgoers in Marin County are being warned to stay in shallow waters through Thursday after a shark was sighted near Stinson Beach. ...”

June 20, KSRO Radio, “Shark Sighting Off Marin Coast. Beach-goers in Marin are being told to stay in the shallow water today. A great white shark was spotted Sunday afternoon along the shore at Stinson Beach, one of the North Bay's most popular spots for surfers ...”

June 20, KTVU Fox 2, “Great White Spotted In Stinson. Father’s Day outings to the waters of Stinson Beach were interrupted Sunday when a patrolling U.S. Coast Guard helicopter spotted an 8-to-10 foot great white shark swimming toward the shore, authorities said. ...”

June 20, change.org “Reduced Ship Speeds Would Be Win-Win for California Whales and Environment ... of four environmental groups, including the CBD, sent a petition to the US Department of Commerce, asking the federal government to enforce a 10-knot speed limit for large commercial ships in California's four National Marine Sanctuaries. ... “

June 20, Los Angeles Times, “Great white shark spotted off Northern California beach.” Water access at Stinson Beach north of San Francisco was limited Monday after a great white shark was spotted ... Scientists call an offshore area encompassing Stinson Beach the “Red Triangle” because of the large amount of great white sharks that scour the waters for prey. The triangle stretches from Año Nuevo in the north out to the Farallon Islands and south to Monterey Bay, ... More at http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/local/north_bay&id=8200156

June 20, change.org, “Reduced Ship Speeds Would Be Win-Win for California Whales and Environment” by Laura Goldman “As a 50-foot humpback whale headed north to Santa Barbara feeding grounds last month, its migration was cut short by the propellers of a fast-moving ship on its way to the Port of Los Angeles. The whale’s headless carcass washed up on the rocky shore of San Pedro, Calif. ...”

June 21 NBC Bay Area, “Video Captures Shark in North Bay” - See images at <http://www.nbcbayarea.com/news/local/Shark-Sighting-off-Stinson-Beach-124183139.html>

June 22, Eureka.com, “Decade-long study of Pacific predators shows importance of biological 'hotspots'” An unprecedented decade-long study of apex predators in the Pacific Ocean found a

wider range of distribution among some species than previously thought, unknown relationships between other species, and the importance of biological "hotspots" to the survival of most of these sea creatures. ... "When the winds there died, we watched whales eat literally all of the available food in three days, and then they just took off," Mate said. "Most of them moved to the Farallon Islands near San Francisco, which is another productive feeding area. Blue whales likely know these hotspots from experience. Instead of waiting for upwelling to renew the krill population, they'll travel 400 miles in three days to find a new food source."

June 22, SantaCruz.com, "Enviros: Ban on Rat Poison A Start" by Jacob Pierce. "A recent decision by the Environmental Protection Agency could prove a small but important step in stopping a deadly epidemic in urban areas among owls, hawks and bobcats. On June 10 the EPA banned four of the most potent rat poisons for consumer use. The product can still be applied by professionals, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service is discussing a plan to dump more than 1,000 pounds of brodifacoum—one of the substances banned for consumer use—on the Farallon Islands just west of San Francisco to remove nonnative house mice whose disruptive presence threatens the endangered Ashy storm-petrel."

June 22, KQED Quest, "Color Evolution in Nudibranchs" by Kim Vincent. "... Post-doctoral researcher at the California Academy of Sciences, Dr. Rebecca Johnson studies the evolution of color patterning in these brazen beauties. ... Johnson also works with the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary to train tide pool naturalists at Duxbury Reef—a marine protected area in Marin County—and contributes to the Academy's exhibits and education programs, including a recent display on the Farallon Islands ... More at <http://www.kqed.org/quest/blog/2011/06/22/color-evolution-in-nudibranchs/>

June 22, San Francisco Chronicle, "Pacific Ocean's Corridor of Life" by David Perlman. "Two broad and unmarked ocean highways where countless sea creatures migrate, feed, mate and reproduce, have been discovered across the Pacific by scientists tuning in to thousands of radio signals. ... For example, the TOPP report noted that the radio tags show clearly how, when water temperatures are just right, leatherback turtles migrate seasonally from their nesting beaches in Papua, New Guinea, into the California current - many winding up in the waters around the Farallones of the Bay Area. Read more: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/06/22/BAMB1JVGU5.DTL#ixzz1Q2nxg7CP>

June 27, Marin Independent Journal, "Some Marin landowners wary of state plan to deal with rising sea" by Mark Prado. "Sometime over the next century, huge shoreline swaths of Marin, including Hamilton Field, Highway 37 and the Tamalpais Valley could be under water if global warming causes the bay to rise by a meter ... A 2010 report by advisory councils from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank national marine sanctuaries found if sea level rise occurs there would be an increase in ocean acidity and more frequent extreme weather events such as winds, waves and storms."