

GULF OF THE FARALLONES NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

1st Quarter FY2012
October through December

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT



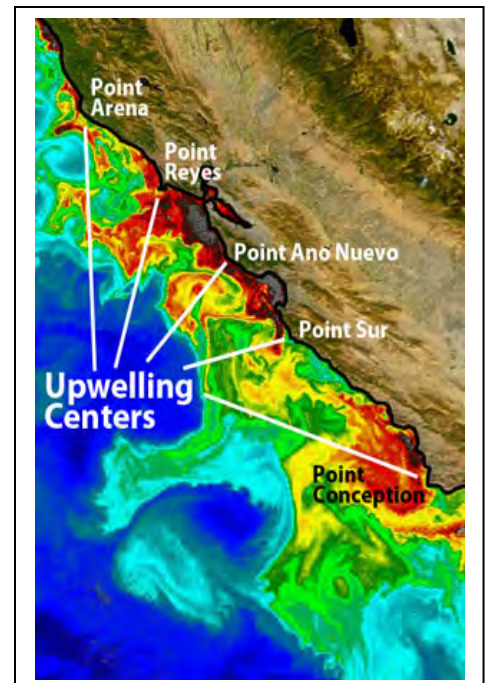
MANAGEMENT

GFNMS Advisory Council Supports Northward Boundary Expansion

In November Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council met in San Francisco. Earlier, in 2007, the council had passed a resolution supporting a bill, the Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries Boundary Modification and Protection Act co-sponsored by Congressional Representative Lynn Woolsey and Senator Barbara Boxer. The expansion would extend both sanctuaries northward, with the Farallones site's new boundary set just above Point Arena at Alder Creek.

The Point Arena upwelling center is the strongest upwelling center on the entire west coast of North America, and is considered to drive much of the ocean food web productivity of the sanctuaries to its south. The major oceanic upwelling system along the Mendocino Coastline brings to the sea surface nutrient-rich deep ocean water that provides the base of the food chain for these sites.

The council's November vote supporting the sanctuary boundary expansion passed unanimously. See the full resolution text at: http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/SanctuaryAdvisoryCouncil/11_11/BoundaryResFinal.pdf



RESEARCH

Monitoring To Understand Long-Term Trends

NOAA Sanctuaries, Estuarine Reserve, Host Regional Research Symposium

Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank national marine sanctuaries, with Point Reyes National Seashore, Bodega Marine Laboratory and San Francisco Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve staff hosted the Beyond the Golden Gate Research Symposium in the Presidio of San Francisco. This symposium helps coordinate ecological characterization of the sanctuary resources and strengthens partnerships vital to supporting management of the sanctuary. Over 160 researchers and resource managers attended this multi-disciplinary meeting. Forty oral presentations were given in rapid-fire style, providing quick synopses of current, recently completed, and planned research and monitoring projects throughout the region. Over 25 project posters were also presented. A broad range of disciplines was represented: geography and mapping, ecology of various habitats, oceanographic processes and influences on productivity, sediment and marine debris transport, coastal erosion, predator-prey relationships, planning for climate change impacts, and resource management issues, pressures, status and trends. Farallones sanctuary staff and contractors were co-authored on seven abstracts. The Proceedings and PDFs of the presentations and posters can be found at <http://www.sfbaynerr.org/ctp/beyondthegoldengate/>.

SEAS - ACCESS CRUISES

ACCESS Research Cruise Documents Faunal and Plankton Anomalies

Scientists with Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank sanctuaries and PRBO Conservation Science completed the final Applied California Current Ecosystem Studies (ACCESS) cruise for 2011. They documented a large phytoplankton bloom throughout the region, and sent samples to the California Department of Public Health Services for analysis. Normally abundant humpback whales, dolphins and seabirds at the shelf break were unusually scarce, with only 14 whales seen all week versus over 200 on July's survey.

ACCESS supports marine wildlife conservation and healthy marine ecosystems in north-central California by conducting ocean research to inform resource managers, policy makers and conservation partners. Data documents ecosystem health and integrates data on oceanographic conditions, zooplankton abundance, seabird and marine mammal distribution, to identify foraging hotspots in relationship to vessel activities, and applications as a rapid assessment of water column resources in the event of an oil spill. For images and more information visit ACCESS on Facebook, <http://www.accessoceans.org>.

CONSERVATION

Minimizing Risk from Oil Spills and Vessels

Grounded Vessel and Debris Removed from High-Use Beach, Sensitive Habitat

The sanctuary successfully partnered with Marin County, California to remove the 48' *F/V Tasu* from the sanctuary near Stinson Beach and Bolinas Lagoon. The vessel grounded on October 14 and was removed by Global Diving and Salvage from October 21 - 26, 2011. By pooling financial and personnel resources, Marin County and the sanctuary were able to remove the vessel and keep debris including fishing gear, toxic-laden

wood, boxes of hypodermic needles, and other ship-board hazards from washing up on a popular visitor use beach and into the internationally significant Bolinas Lagoon Estuary.

REDUCING WILDLIFE DISTURBANCE

Farallones Briefs Coast Guard on Sanctuary Patrol Guide

Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary presented an overview of sanctuaries, regulations and the Boat Patrol Guide for Cordell Bank, Gulf of the Farallones and Monterey Bay to the US Coast Guard Sector San Francisco, the crew of the vessel *Tern* out of San Francisco and the vessel *Sockeye* out of Bodega Bay during an annual training for patrol vessels. The US Coast Guard is one of the main partner agencies for enforcement of sanctuary regulations and is currently one of only two federal enforcement entities that conduct water patrols within Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. Training US Coast Guard vessel patrol crews to spot potential violations of sanctuary regulations helps protect sanctuary natural and cultural resources.

Protecting Breeding Seabird Colonies

Sanctuary Succeeds In Preventing “Blue Angels” Wildlife Disturbance at Fleet Week

The Blue Angels – the U.S. Navy’s flight demonstration squadron which performs regularly during San Francisco’s Fleet Week in October – conducted aerobatics over and around San Francisco, but for the first time in several years, did not cause any disturbance to the sensitive pinnipeds (seals or sea lions), whales and seabirds on and around the Farallon Islands. Seabird Protection Network staff communicated over the past few months with Blue Angels representatives about past disturbances and the sensitivity of the wildlife on the Farallon Islands. Blue Angel pilots received the GPS locations of the areas to avoid, especially the islands. The Seabird Protection Network is a program of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary that works to reduce human disturbance to sensitive seabird breeding colonies along the central California coast. In previous years, the noise and low altitude of Blue Angel flights have caused severe disturbances to sensitive marine life on the Farallones and along the coast, staff communication efforts were able to avert the problem this year and hopefully for future Fleet Week events.

Seabird Protection Network Trains Point Reyes National Seashore Docents

Staff from Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary’s Seabird Protection Network (SPN), Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation and Point Reyes National Seashore joined together to prepare a training for docents of Point Reyes National Seashore. The training focused on marine protected areas. Meeting highlights included: 1) An overview of the Marine Life Protection Act and how local Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) were developed; and 2) Steps the Seabird Protection Network is taking to help inform boaters about MPAs, such as dissemination of an informative letter when vessels are observed fishing in marine protected areas near Point Reyes National Seashore; and the distribution of a Boater and Kayaker Guide to Special Closures in California’s Marine Protected Areas.

Protecting Whales, Other Marine Mammals

West Coast Sanctuaries Collaborate Internationally to Protect Marine Mammals

In November Farallones sanctuary staff attended the International Conference for Marine Mammal Protected Areas. The conference was a unique opportunity for scientists and policy-makers around the world to discuss marine mammal protection and the potential for marine spatial planning to contribute to that goal. Particularly,

the creation of marine mammal protected areas was viewed as one effective tool for protecting critical habitat hotspots, or areas where threat to marine mammals may be high (ex: shipping or fishing activities). The voluntary whale advisory zone in Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary and the Port Access Route Study process in GFNMS were highlighted. Large cetaceans know no boundaries. They move freely across political lines and encounter anthropogenic threats in state and federal waters, foreign waters and the high seas. In order to truly protect these animals, and to ensure the recovery of their stocks, the global community needs to collaborate and work at the scale of each species range. This conference facilitated these connections and fostered international relationships that will enhance global marine mammal protection.

Sanctuary Staff participate in International Conference on Marine Mammals

Science, Communications and Resource Protection staff attended the Society for Marine Mammalogy's 19th Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals. Staff participated in workshops on distance sampling, resources at risk from oil pollution, response measures, ship strikes, vessel noise, and presented a poster on the protection of large cetaceans from vessel strikes and acoustic impacts. This is an international conference, at which over 1,900 marine mammalogists from 42 countries attended and presented over 300 oral and over 600 poster presentations. Staff developed collaborations on funding sources for core management issues to identify ecological hotspots, whale responses to ships, education and outreach opportunities, potential damages and restoration projects for spills and dispersant use. Staff also judged professional oral and student poster presentations for the Folkens Excellence in Science Communication Award. They fielded a proposal to co-host this international conference in San Francisco in November 2015. Society membership will vote on the 2015 venue in March 2012. Attending this level of conference allows for training, education, and increasing partnerships and collaborations for sanctuary program issues.

DEVELOPING SOLUTIONS TO RESPOND TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Farallones Sanctuary Developing Linked Indicators for Collaborative Climate Change Monitoring

This fall Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary in partnership with the U.S. Geological Survey engaged a fellow with the Postdocs Applying Climate Expertise program to work on a two-year project to create a set of linked environmental and biological climate change indicators and a subsequent collaborative climate change monitoring plan for the GFNMS region. Phase I will be a review of existing literature and indicator reports for other regions, determine the regional climate models available for use for the area, and define the indicator selection criteria. Phases II and III will utilize workshops with regional experts, data analysis, and climate modeling to reduce a set of candidate climate indicators to final indicators. In Phase IV, a working group will assist with defining monitoring goals for the region and integrating the final climate change indicators into a collaborative monitoring plan. This first of its kind effort within the National Marine Sanctuary System will produce a regionally-specific set of indicators to ultimately help inform management decisions.

Our Coast-Our Future project awarded \$900,000 over three years by the NERRS Science Collaborative

Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, San Francisco Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, US Geological Survey, and PRBO Conservation Science were awarded funding through the [National Estuarine Research Reserve System Science Collaborative](#) to extend the scope of the current outer coast [Our Coast-Our Future](#) project into San Francisco Bay, as well as provide increased technical assistance to the decision support tool users, both along the North-central coast and within the Bay. "Our Coast-Our Future: Planning for Sea Level Rise and Storm Hazards In the San Francisco Bay Area," is funded from November 2011 through August 2014, and will now include the nine county San Francisco Bay Area region in developing the information, tools, training and technical assistance necessary to help shoreline resource managers and planners develop

restoration, adaptation, and management plans to minimize impacts of sea level rise and storm hazards on ecosystems and built infrastructure.

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Increasing Awareness of the Sanctuary

Sanctuary Staff Co-presents at Climate Change Communication Workshop

Fifty San Francisco Bay Area Museum and Aquarium interpreters attended the two day workshop on how to communicate climate change to various audiences. The workshop was held at the California Academy of Sciences and at the Aquarium of the Bay. Sanctuary education staff presented climate change impacts to marine life that are happening now, and on those that are anticipated in the future along the west coast. Real life stories about marine life in the three contiguous west coast sanctuaries were imparted. Working with professional education colleagues and scientists is critical to develop the best practices for delivering climate change messages in such a way as to encourage carbon footprint reduction. Working as a regional collective group increases the effectiveness and reach of the effort exponentially.

Gulf of the Farallones Education Staff Train Whale Watch Naturalists

Staff from San Francisco Whale tours are attending a series of naturalist trainings led by sanctuary education staff. The fifth class also included instructors from PRBO Conservation Science and Island Conservation as the topic was on the proposed mouse eradication project for the Farallon Islands and Island Ecosystem Management. Sanctuary volunteers and staff are also attending and benefitting from many of these trainings. Sanctuary messages are imparted by partner naturalists thus exponentially increasing our outreach efforts, as well as ensuring proper wildlife viewing etiquette takes place on sanctuary waters.

Public Outreach, Public Programs

Sharktober NightLife at Academy of Sciences Profiles Farallones' Iconic White Sharks

Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary took part in the California Academy of Sciences' adults-only Sharktober NightLife event. Thousands of participants filed past the sanctuary's Shark Van, which features various types of sharks, skates and rays found in local waters, and invites schools to book Shark Mobile programs. Inside at the sanctuary's exhibit, a life-size replica of a white shark's head drew attention to the Farallones sanctuary's "biological system of checks and balances – with teeth!" that the iconic white shark represents. Many attendees were engaged in learning about the sanctuary and its programs to protect these apex predators. The academy's NightLife events draw from demographics not normally found at environmental fairs. Participation in these events also strengthens the collaboration between the sanctuary and the academy of sciences, who are partners in education and in research.

Farallones HQ Family-friendly SharktoberFest 2011 Creates a Bayside Splash!

On October 15, the Farallones sanctuary, in partnership with Sea Stewards, co-sponsored SharktoberFest 2011 – a family-friendly celebration of the annual return of white sharks to the Gulf of the Farallones. Approximately 125 people enjoyed live music, family-friendly films, and fun at the sanctuary Visitor Center on San Francisco Bay. The Cordell Bank Marine Sanctuary Foundation, Sea Turtle Restoration Project and other conservation groups disseminated information to visitors. Activities included face painting, shark "mural" painting, and SharkMobile exhibits and artifacts. "Shark-itecture 101" participants learned how sharks are "design/built" by

helping assemble a 15-foot white shark, from its outside streamlined design, to its internal anatomy. At the event, Sea Stewards honored California State Assemblyman Paul Fong for co-sponsoring Assembly Bill 376 banning the sale or possession of shark fins, which has resulted in severe impacts in shark populations. The Assemblyman toured the sanctuary Visitor Center and spoke with staff.

Squid Expert Enthralls Standing Room Only Audience at Farallones “Squid Soiree”

Dr. William Gilly of the Gilly Lab at Stanford University's Hopkins Marine Station attracted a sold-out audience of over 150 attendees for the Farallones' Squid Soiree. The evening began with dissection of a three-foot jumbo, or Humboldt, squid in which some of the audience participated. Others made art-prints using actual squid ink. Then then adjourned for talks by Dr. Gilly and his research assistant, who used video and other devices to show capture and tagging techniques and unusual squid features: showing the squid's rapid-fire chromatophores flashing, causing color changes, which may be a form of squid 'language.' Gilly updated the audience on this voracious and aggressive species' range expansion from southern to North-central California waters, and possible ecosystem implications. The event drew a diverse audience from a broad range of demographics, which enhances public support for the marine sanctuary.

Farallon Sanctuary and Islands Spotlights at California Academy of Sciences

As part of the Rocky Shore Partnership between the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and the California Academy of Sciences, six public floor lectures entitled, 'Life on the Farallon Islands' were delivered. These public programs were part of extended special members' programming focusing on White Sharks and California marine environments. Academy members learned about sanctuary wildlife and research that occurs around the Farallon Islands, as well as about historic exploitation and current protection of the islands by the sanctuary and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The response was overwhelmingly positive. The Farallon Islands exhibit at the academy, as well as the film, “Sanctuary in the Sea, A Gulf of the Farallones Experience, were open for viewing. Over seventy members of California Academy of Sciences learned about the sanctuary's work to protect wildlife that rely on the Farallon islands and surrounding sanctuary waters for survival and breeding.

Sixty Retired CEO's and Executives Learn About Sanctuary Marine Life

Sanctuary education staff presented a two hour program on the marine life in the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. The retired executives were especially interested in the conservation of marine life and how the education and research programs are funded. This awareness-building program reached some of the most influential business people on the Peninsula. They are potential sanctuary financial advisors and supporters.

“Sanctuary Exploration Series” Launched – Literally!

In December Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary simultaneously celebrated the culmination of its 30th Anniversary year, and launched the first in its new Sanctuary Exploration Series with a sunset-moonrise kayaking trip at the Pillar Point Harbor. The event quickly sold out, and during the excursion, participants enjoyed the harbor's nature, and interacted with the Dungeness crab fishing fleet community, the commercial fishing fleet sporting festive holiday lights for their annual boat-lighting competition. Nature put on a special display with sunset and full-moonrise occurring within a half-hour, as paddlers plied the calm waters of the harbor in the company of harbor seals and seabirds. Sanctuary education staff provided an educational component to the folks just learning to experience their aquatic backyard. These monthly excursions will provide venues for the public to connect with the sanctuary, and provide the sanctuary with a stronger public constituency.

Visitor Center

The Farallones sanctuary Visitor Center educates diverse audiences of the general public along an environmental literacy continuum including developing awareness, building a knowledge base, changing behavior, and building stewardship. Drop-in visitors come from the Bay Area and all over the world. School programs include netting plankton for view under the microscope, searching for shore crabs and activities in the Visitor Center to learn about animal adaptations. Students take part in indoor as well as outdoor activities on Crissy Field Beach.

Students Learn the Culture and Challenges of Local Fishing Industry

This quarter local fisherman Mike Hudson conducted Farallones marine sanctuary's Fisherman in the Classroom Programs in Bay Area schools. He delighted the class with big fish tales, a real industrial crab trap, and some Chinook salmon specimens. He went into the complex life of The Central Californian Fisherman (an endangered species), gave a presentation on salmon fishing in the sanctuary, and showed students how industrial crab pot gear operates, while talking about the local sustainable Dungeness crab fishery.

Crissy Field Visitor Center Special Programs include – Plankton and Pastries: Visitor Center staff offer this hands-on public program to promote ocean literacy where participants net their own plankton for study in the tide station pier house. Participants collect their own samples and create their own slides of phytoplankton and zooplankton for a hands-on microscopic exploration of the weird and wonderful world of plankton. The popular weekend program Creature Feature is presented to people of all ages. In the Salmon Public Program, participants help the sanctuary naturalist with a salmon dissection, learned about its seagoing and river-going life cycle, and its conservation challenges. The White Shark Public Program instructs people on shark biology and conservation of this apex predator for which the sanctuary is famous. Fisherman in the Classroom reaches middle-school students and teachers at the visitor center. This program highlights the maritime heritage of the San Francisco and Pillar Point fishing communities. Local fishing folk participate in the development of curriculum, and deliver the programs.

Total Visitor Center Drop-in Visitors: 4,080

Total Served, Plankton and Pastries: 62 attendees

Fisherman in The Classroom - 192 students served

Visitor Center on site K-6th grade programs - 210 students served

At-Your-School (AYS) Programs

AYS Sharkmobile, Seabird Shuttle and Crab Cab Hit the Road for Eighth School Year

This fall *At Your School (AYS)* launched its eighth year of serving schools throughout the San Francisco Bay area. The AYS program has reached over 22,000 bay area students in the past seven years with programs such as the Crab Cab, Seabird Shuttle and Sharkmobile. AYS is an outreach program of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary designed to promote environmental literacy and increase students' awareness and knowledge of coastal and marine life. It includes standards-based interactive classroom programs for kindergarten through twelfth grades.

At Your School is an outreach program of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary designed to promote environmental literacy and increase students' awareness and knowledge of coastal and marine life. It includes standards-based interactive classroom programs for kindergarten through high school students.

During the quarter, over a thousand students and their teachers from several Bay Area schools participated in At Your School Programs (AYS). AYS staff travel throughout the San Francisco Bay area to bring ocean education to schools in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Mateo, Marin, Santa Clara and San Francisco counties. Programs include the Sharkmobile, Crab Cab, and Webs Under Waves with curricula tailored to various grade levels.

Total All Programs: 230
Sharkmobile: 178
Crab Cab: 52

In Planktronica! participants enjoyed an evening exploring the prolific world of plankton amid a relaxed ambiance at the stunning sanctuary Pier Classroom perched above San Francisco Bay. They learned about diatoms, dinoflagellates and copepods, and discovered bizarre larvae from barnacles, crabs, and mussels. D.J. "Euphonic" provided background musical ambience in the intertidal lounge with laid-back reef beats. Attendees learned to use microscopes and do print-making with plankton.

Oceans After School: Using the endless appeal of our local marine wildlife and habitats, the Sanctuary Education Team offers 16 hours of fun, hands-on, lively marine science programs for after-school programs on topics such as sharks, salmon, seabirds, whales, squid, and plankton. These enrichment programs are dynamic, interactive, and integrated into state standards. Our marine science educators deliver the programs during an 8-12 week window. The curriculum is best-suited for grades 3rd through 5th.

Exhibits

Scenic Coastal Interpretive Trail Collaboration

Sanctuary education staff met with the Coastal Commission, US Fish & Wildlife Service and San Mateo County Park staff to discuss the development of a coastal bluff trail at Devils Slide in San Mateo County. The trail would be where the current road is, which is being rerouted. The trail will provide a unique recreational opportunity to experience a dramatic coastal cliff environment. The collaboration is investigating ways to install a 200-foot bird blind to protect the seabirds from human disturbance while simultaneously providing the hikers with an enhanced viewing opportunity of the nesting Common Murres, Pigeon Guillemots, Peregrine Falcons and other sea life. Through a multi-agency collaboration one of the most scenic old highways will be transformed into an exciting wildlife viewing destination that will inspire marine stewardship.

Development of CO² Heat Trapping Science Demonstration Underway

Sanctuary education staff worked with fellow educators, scientists, engineers and exhibit designers to develop a demonstration of heat trapping properties of carbon dioxide, using ordinary materials so that teachers, museums and/or science centers could replicate the demonstration. This project is a work in progress. Pooling expertise to develop carbon dioxide heat trapping science demonstration for schools and the public will help in teaching about global warming and our changing ocean climate.

LiMPETS – Long-term Monitoring Program & Experiential Training for Students

LiMPETS Regional Student Programs

The (Long-term Monitoring Program and Experiential Training for Students)- LiMPETS - program trains

middle school, high school, and other young groups to monitor the rocky intertidal and sandy shore along the California west coast national marine sanctuaries. This quarter, 315 students and teachers from 10 different schools and partners in five counties carried out LiMPETS shore surveys. This included in-class trainings, and individual monitoring events at different monitoring sites. Nine teachers took part in a LiMPETS Introduction to Sandy Beach Monitor professional development workshop in November 2011. For details on LiMPETS, see www.limpetsmonitoring.org

Student Citizen-Scientists Monitor Beaches at California Marine Protected Areas

Middle school, high school and college students engaged in the LiMPETS programs are busy conducting beach and rocky shore data for the baseline characterization of the North Central Coast marine protected areas (MPAs). Currently, two LiMPETS partners (Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary and the Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association) have been awarded funding to support this effort. Students and LiMPETS staff are collecting new data and analyzing historic data within these new MPAs to document key aspects of these areas as they are established.

New LiMPETS Science Advisory Panel Discusses Sand Crab Survey Methodology

The LiMPETS Science Advisory Panel held its second meeting via webinar in early November to jointly review data and advise on issues regarding LiMPETS protocols. A primary focus of this meeting was to discuss the LiMPETS sandy beach methodology and to identify limitations or bias based on our current methodology. With LiMPETS citizen scientists from Lower Lake Middle School, panelists Karina Nielsen, Jenny Dugan, Steven Morgan conducted a comparison of methods for sampling mole crab (*Emerita analoga*) abundance on local sandy beaches in May 2011. The results of this study were the basis for the panel discussion. Through collaboration with local experts in sandy beach and rocky intertidal ecology, the LiMPETS program aims to increase the value and quality of our long-term dataset and ultimately enhance the scientific credibility of the program.

Media Outreach Highlights

NBC Films Farallones Sanctuary and COOPs Staff, Advisor, for Climate Change Story

NBC TV-11 came to the Farallones sanctuary to interview staff for a program, "Climate Connections" on climate change/sea level rise, and the sanctuary's role in addressing the issue. They also filmed the historic San Francisco Tide Station, which has measured the rise and fall of tides since June 30, 1854, and is the oldest continually operating tidal observation station in the hemisphere, also obtaining footage of field technicians from National Ocean Service Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPS) who were doing dive operations on the tide gauge mechanism at the time. In addition, the film crew interviewed a biologist from the sanctuary advisory council who is a specialist in rocky intertidal habitats, and demonstrated how some southerly invertebrate species have already begun shifting their range northward. The sanctuary, which hosts biennial conferences on ocean climate change, has taken a leadership role in raising public awareness of changes in our ocean climate through information forums and the media.

Farallones Sanctuary Keeping Issues, Programs in the News

This fall communications staff worked with media: the San Francisco Chronicle on radioactive waste dump sites – "legacy toxins" - in sanctuary waters; also Chronicle, on the successful lightering (oil off-loading) operations from a 60-year old shipwreck in the sanctuary. San Francisco public television KQED Quest has

begun a documentary on the harbor porpoise range reclamation into San Francisco Bay from sanctuary waters, and a constituent initiative to expand sanctuary protections into San Francisco Bay. KQED Radio visited the study site, and taped a news story on this subject. San Francisco Examiner obtained data on harbor porpoise strandings from our Beach Watch program. The Patch requested a statement about special permit application conditions for the new head of the Maverick's Surf contest. Public awareness and accurate reporting of Farallones' jurisdiction and work in addressing problems and maintaining ecosystem health is essential to obtaining public support to ensure protection of our marine environment.

See separate Quarterly Media/News Report for Clippings and Story Links

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## ***FARALLONES SANCTUARY 2012 EVENTS CALENDAR***

### **JANUARY**

1/5/2012 Sanctuary Advisory Council Retreat, Año Nuevo  
1/20-1/22 King Tides: Take Pictures!

### **FEBRUARY**

2/6-2/8 King Tides: Take Pictures!  
2/12-2/14 International Marine Protected Areas Agency Summit, San Francisco CA  
2/12 Elephant Seal Walk, Año Nuevo, CA  
2/20 Rocky Intertidal Webcast from SE Farallon Island  
2/23/2012 Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting, Bodega, CA

### **MARCH**

3/3/2012 Sperm Whale Soiree, Sarah Mesnick, Ph.D., Randall Museum, San Francisco, CA  
3/8-3/11 San Francisco Ocean Film Festival, Bay Aquarium/Pier 39, San Francisco, CA  
3/14/2012 Beach Watch Annual Data Talk (invitational), GFNMS Headquarters  
3/15/2012 Harbor Porpoise Study, Bill Keener, Randall Museum, San Francisco, CA  
3/24/2012 Whale Watch Half Day Cruise, Half Moon Bay, CA

### **JUNE**

6/7/2012 Joint GFNMS / CBNMS Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting, Pt. Reyes

### **AUGUST**

8/23/2012 Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting; San Francisco, CA

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GFNMS Superintendent's 1st Quarterly FY2012 Report

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GET INVOLVED – AND STAY INFORMED!

Sign up for the GFNMS listserv to receive email notices about upcoming sanctuary events and public meetings.

To learn how to get involved in the sanctuary visit: <http://farallones.noaa.gov>.

To learn more about the Sanctuary Advisory Council visit: <http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/SanctuaryAdvisoryCouncil.html>

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