

# Tomales Bay Vessel Management Plan and Mooring Program

*Status Update and Project Implementation Timeline*

**GFNMS Advisory Council**

**August 21, 2013**



# Project Status

- **Public process for Vessel Management Plan Review completed:**
  - A public hearing was held in Pt. Reyes.
  - Over 50 comments were received.
  - A revised Final Plan/EA-IS was released April 2013.
  - Adopted by CA State Lands Commission at a public hearing on April 26, 2013.
- **The Plan and EA/IS are currently in the final stages of the review/clearance process by NOAA. Final clearance and release of the final Plan are expected by September 2013.**

# Implementing the Vessel Management Plan and Mooring Program

The Official launch of the *Tomales Bay Mooring Program* is planned for April 2014. In the meantime, GFNMS/CSLC staff will be implementing other recommendations of the Vessel Management Plan, and preparing for the mooring program roll-out including:

- Developing required public outreach and permit application materials;
- Conducting mooring surveys; and
- Developing protocols for inter-agency coordination and permit issuance.

# Vessel Management Plan: Implementation Timeline

## AUGUST 2013 — MARCH 2014

- Seek funding for implementation of other Plan recommendations (e.g. sewage, oil and bilge services).

*A proposal has been submitted to expand the number of absorbent exchange station sites on Tomales Bay from 1 to 2.*

- Prioritize key boater education materials and resources for print and online and seek funding to implement boater education program and eegress protection outreach products.

# Vessel Management Plan: Implementation Plan

## AUGUST 2013 — MARCH 2014 *(continued)*

- GFNMS is conducting mooring surveys (any new moorings installed illegally will be immediately reported to enforcement authorities).
- Develop and distribute permit and lease application support materials (outreach materials).
- Finalize Mooring Program policies, procedures and rules.



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# TB Mooring Program: Summary Timeline

## APRIL — JUNE 2014

- Official launch of Tomales Bay Mooring Program begins the 90-day priority application window.
- Initial outreach efforts and distribution of Mooring Program materials begins.
- All existing moorings will be tagged on launch date.

# TB Mooring Program: Summary Timeline

## JUNE — SEPTEMBER 2014

- In June, CSLC begins processing initial mooring lease applications and inspections begin.
- **Priority lease application window for existing mooring owners and littoral property owners ends (90 days after Mooring Program launch date).**
- Mooring lease applications will be processed in the order received from all Tomales Bay boaters.



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# TB Mooring Program: Summary Timeline

## OCTOBER 2014

- **The time period for current mooring owners to claim and apply for a mooring officially ends. All moorings without an active lease or application for a lease or removal permit will be identified and reported to enforcement as abandoned.**
- **Follow-up mooring survey conducted to characterize abandoned moorings and determine appropriate removal methods.**



# Vessel Management Plan

## ONGOING IMPLEMENTATION HIGHLIGHTS

- Continue conducting periodic mooring surveys.
- Continue ongoing enforcement efforts including tagging and reporting illegal moorings and abandoned moorings to enforcement.
- Continue to implement other Plan recommendations (boater education, oil/sewage services, etc).



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