Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary

Final Management Plan
And
Final Environmental Impact Statement

Gulf of the Farallones Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting
Point Reyes, CA
February 25, 2015
Final Environmental Impact Statement

- Detailed information on a range of reasonable alternatives
- Analysis of potential environmental impacts
- Analysis of potential cultural impacts
- Analysis of potential socioeconomic impacts
- Summary of public comment
- Responses to public comment
Changes from the DEIS to the FEIS

• Revised proposed action
• Analysis of the “revised proposed action”
• Intent and definition of proposed Special Wildlife Protection Zones has been clarified
• Reference to the Giacomini Wetlands in the proposed boundary description has been removed
• New Chapter 5, Responses to Comments
• Technical clarifications
• Updated Appendices
The proposed sanctuary boundaries are the same as the originally proposed boundaries except at Arena Cove, where the proposed boundary has been moved seaward to exclude all of Arena Cove.
The proposed authorizations provisions in both CBNMS and GFNMS regulations have been deleted and NOAA has proposed to undertake a separate public regulatory process upon finalization of the sanctuary expansion to consider potential authorization regulations.
The proposed certification regulation for GFNMS has been modified with regard to existing permitted uses, consistent with a mandate under the NMSA not to “terminate any valid lease, permit, license, or right of subsistence use or of access that is in existence on the date of designation of any national marine sanctuary” (16 U.S.C. 1434(c)). The amended regulation would further define the process and establish criteria to allow certification of preexisting leases, permits, licenses or rights of subsistence use or access in the sanctuary expansion area, in existence on the effective date of the sanctuary expansion.
The proposed regulations regarding MPWC use in the GFNMS expansion area have been modified. MPWC use in the existing GFNMS boundary would continue to be prohibited, but no new regulations would be extended to the GFNMS expanded area until NOAA can consider the issue in more depth through a separate public process, upon finalization of the sanctuary expansion. MPWC would be allowed in almost all of the proposed expansion area, as currently allowed.
The intent and definition of proposed SWPZs in GFNMS has been clarified, as it was for the former proposed action.
The overflight regulation for GFNMS has been modified to clarify that the exception for transporting persons or supplies to or from Southeast Farallon Island is limited to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Farallon National Wildlife Refuge, or for enforcement purposes.
Final Management Plan

Revisions Include:

• Updated activities in the Water Quality Action Plan
• Updated strategies and activities in the Wildlife Disturbance Action Plan
• Updated strategies and activities in the Education and Outreach Action Plan
• Updated strategies and actions in the Resource Protection Action Plan
Initial Steps for Management

Based on Public Comment GFNMS will propose:

SAC Working Groups

- Authorizations (CBNMS)
- MPWC Prohibition
- Including Estuaries
- Low Overflight Zones

SAC Recommendation

- Name Change
Internal Review and Approval of Final Action

Site and Region present recommended action to ONMS

Decision point: ONMS reviews recommended action and documents

General Counsel and NOS review FEIS, Final Rule, and Management Plan

Decision Point: General Counsel and NOS comment on recommended action and documents

ONMS/NOS presents recommended action to NOAA

NOAA and DOC comment/approve recommended action

NEPA office reviews, comments, and approves FEIS
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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Management Plan</td>
<td>December 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>30 day cooling off period</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Rule and Record of Decision Published</td>
<td>January 2015</td>
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<td>45 days of continuous session of Congress</td>
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<td>Final Action Effective (2015)</td>
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