

Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary



Final Management Plan And Final Environmental Impact Statement

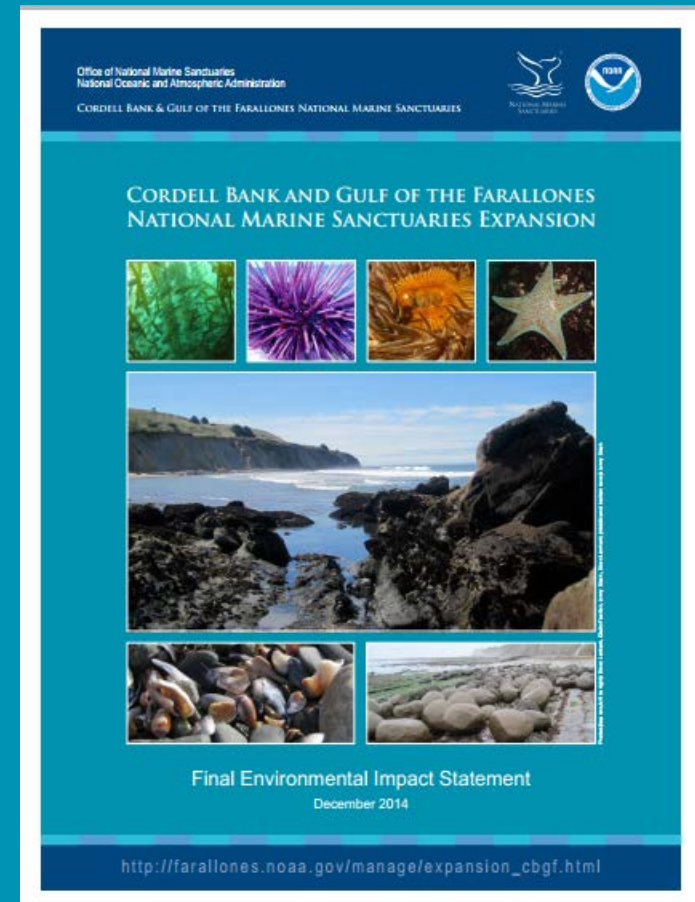
Gulf of the Farallones Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting
Point Reyes, CA
February 25, 2015



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



Final Environmental Impact Statement



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

Final Environmental Impact Statement: Summary of Revised Proposed Action (Preferred Alternative)



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.

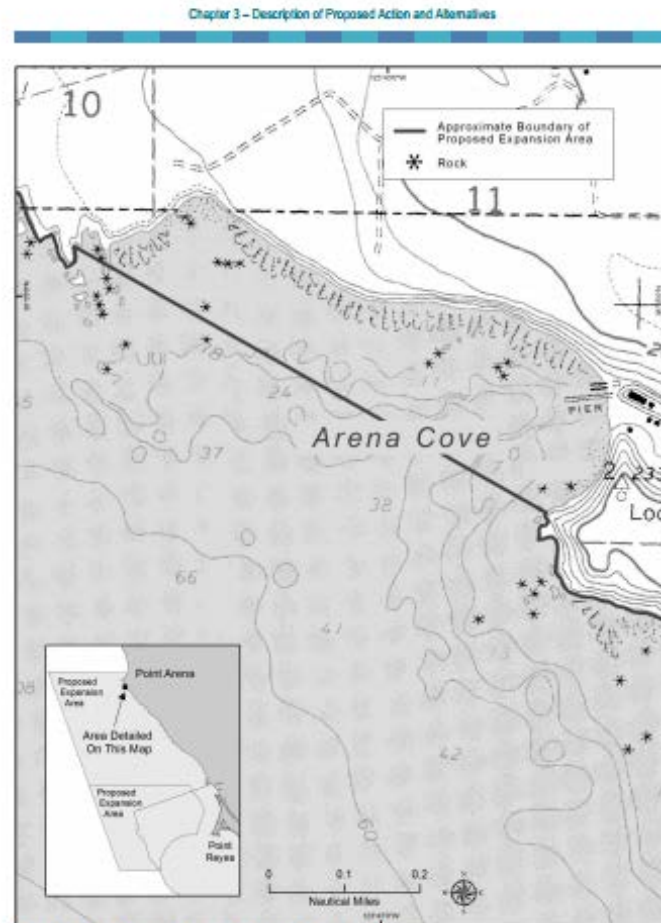


Figure 3.2-18. Revised Proposed Arena Cove Boundary (Preferred Alternative)

Final Environmental Impact Statement: Summary of Revised Proposed Action (Preferred Alternative)



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.



Final Environmental Impact Statement: Summary of Revised Proposed Action (Preferred Alternative)

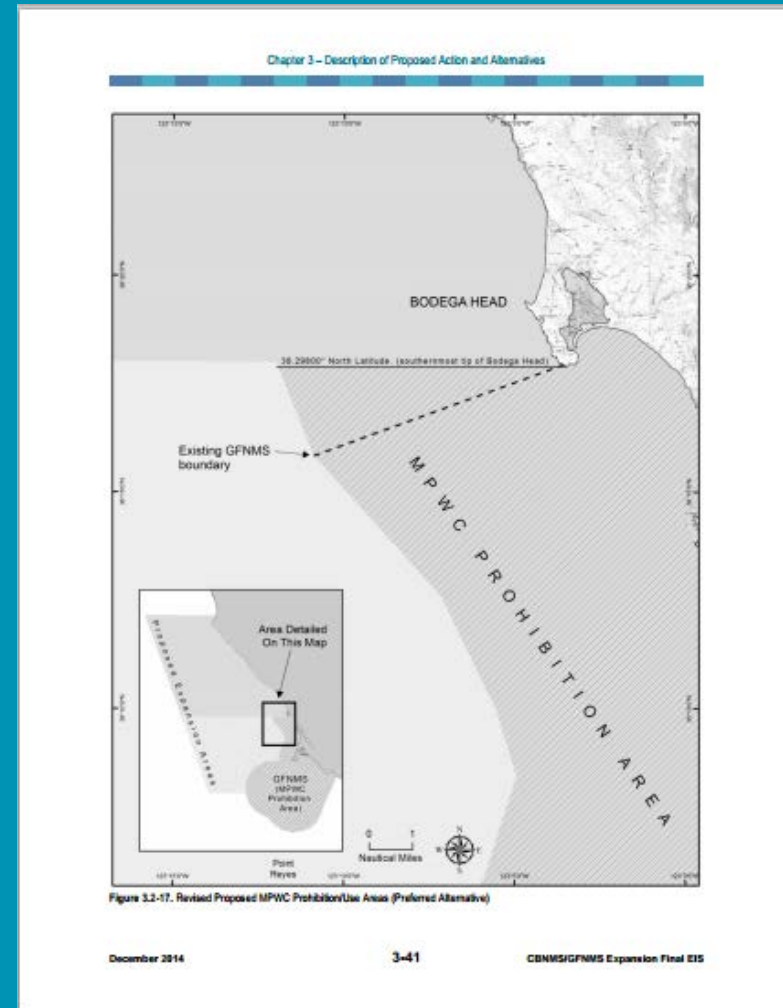


The proposed certification regulation for GFNMS has been modified with regard to existing permitted uses, consistent with a mandate under the NMSA not to “terminate any valid lease, permit, license, or right of subsistence use or of access that is in existence on the date of designation of any national 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.

Final Environmental Impact Statement: Summary of Revised Proposed Action (Preferred Alternative)



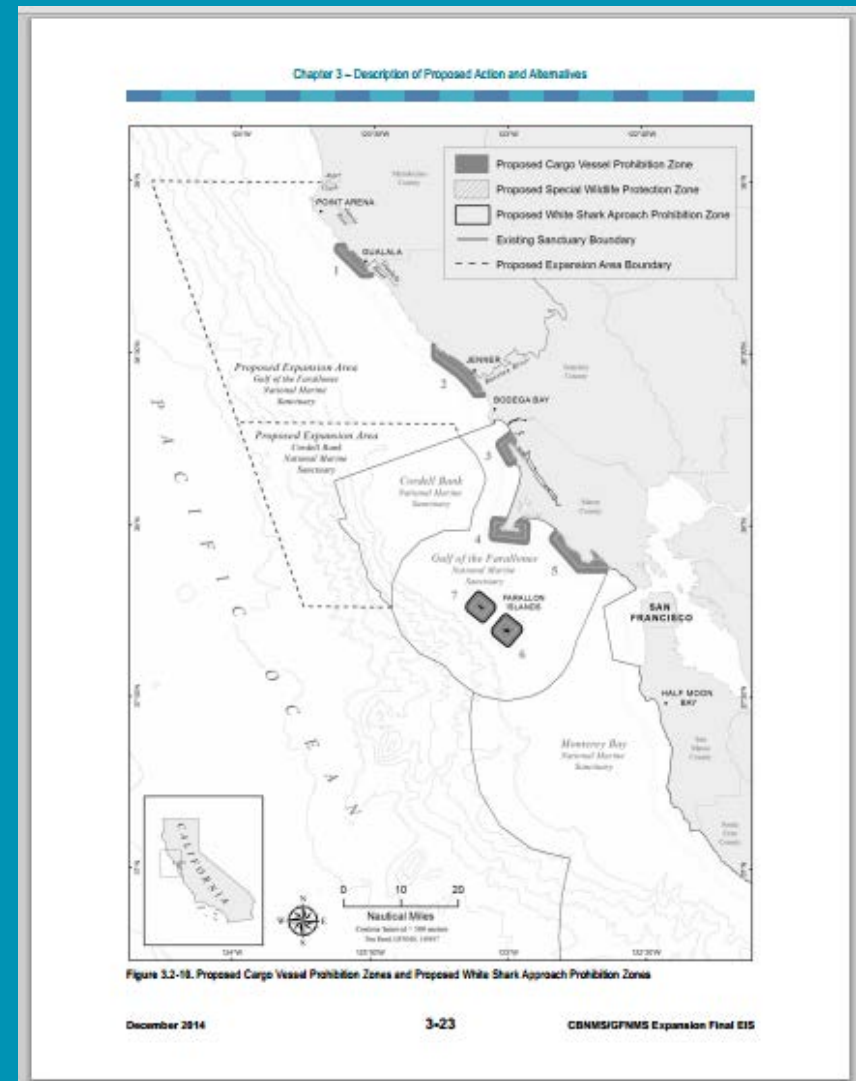
The proposed regulations regarding MPWC use in the GFNMS expansion area have been modified. MPWC use in the existing GFNMS boundary would continue to be prohibited, but no new regulations would be extended to the GFNMS expanded area until NOAA can consider the issue in more depth through a separate public process, upon finalization of the sanctuary expansion. MPWC would be allowed in almost all of the proposed expansion area, as currently allowed.



Final Environmental Impact Statement: Summary of Revised Proposed Action (Preferred Alternative)



The intent and definition of proposed SWPZs in GFNMS has been clarified, as it was for the former proposed action.



Final Environmental Impact Statement: Summary of Revised Proposed Action (Preferred Alternative)



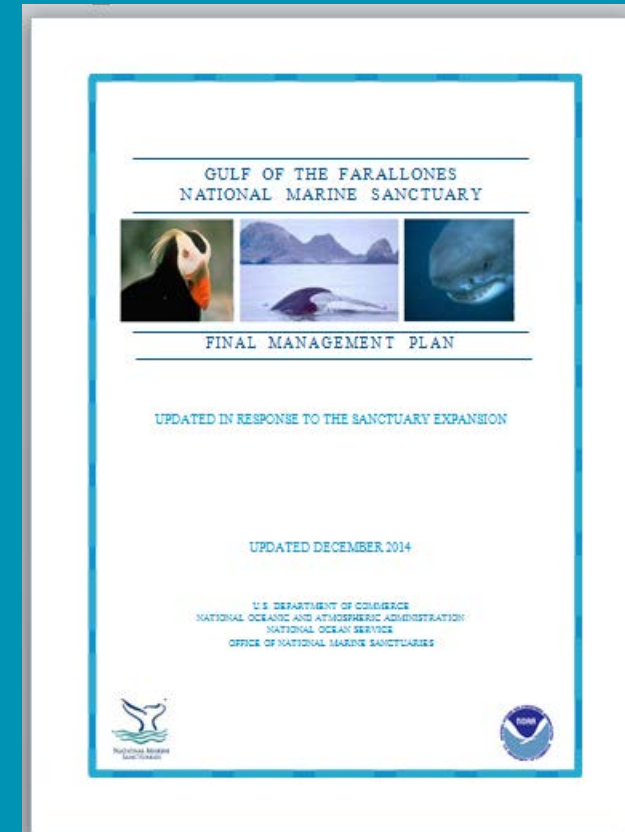
The overflight regulation for GFNMS has been modified to clarify that the exception for transporting persons or supplies to or from Southeast Farallon Island is limited to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Farallon National Wildlife Refuge, or for enforcement purposes.

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

Publication of Final Action and Record of Decision



Sanctuary Advisory Council Informational Meeting November 2014
Coastal Commission Reviews for Federal Consistency December 2014



Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and Management Plan
Published December 2014

30 day cooling off period



Final Rule and Record of Decision Published January 2015

45 days of continuous session of Congress



Final Action Effective (2015)