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Dominique Richard/George Clyde

At-Large San Francisco/San Mateo

Kellyx Nelson/Christy Walker

California Resources Agency

Vacant/ Jennifer Phillips

Conservation

Richard Charter/Bruce Bowser

Conservation

Jackie Dragon/Francesca Koe

Education

Elizabeth Babcock/ Bibit Traut

Maritime Activities/Commercial

Barbara Emley/John Berge

Maritime Activities/Recreational

Joshua Russo/Abby Mohan

Youth

Caleb Rosen/Oliver York

National Park Service

Cicely Muldoon/Chris Lehnertz

Research

John Largier/ Jaime Jahncke

United States Coast Guard

LT Joseph Giammanco/LT Shannon Anthony

National Marine Fisheries Service

Pat Rutten/ Lisa Van Atta

United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Anne Morkill/ Gerry McChesney

National Marine Sanctuary Representatives:

Channel Islands

Chris Mobley/ Mike Murray

Cordell Bank

Dan Howard/ Michael Carver

Greater Farallones Superintendent

Maria Brown

Monterey Bay

Paul Michel/ Dawn Hayes

Officers:

Chair

John Largier

Vice Chair

Kellyx Nelson

Secretary

Barbara Emley

**Sanctuary Advisory Council
Greater Farallones
National Marine Sanctuary**

**FINAL RESOLUTION
5/25/16**

**Resolution of the Greater
Farallones National Marine
Sanctuary Advisory Council on
the Pending Preparation by NOAA
of an Environmental Assessment
on Certain Proposed Coast Guard
Discharges within GFNMS
Sanctuary Waters**

Whereas, NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries has requested public comment on the scope of issues to be considered in an Environmental Assessment (EA) evaluating the potential discharge of sewage, ammunition, and flare debris from certain U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) vessels operating within the expanded geographic boundaries of the Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary (GFNMS), as noticed in the Federal Register pursuant to NOAA-NOS-2016-0043, and this is deemed a relevant topic of concern by the Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council (GFSAC); and

Whereas, the USCG is a valued partner with GFNMS for monitoring, oversight, search and rescue, emergency spill response, and enforcement of certain existing regulations within the GFNMS; and

Whereas, it is the understanding of the GFSAC that this proposal for anticipated discharge activities of the very limited number of subject USCG

vessels being contemplated in the NOAA EA now in preparation can be accommodated by the issuance by NOAA of a site-specific general permit or regulation delineating only the particular necessary activities by specific vessels, and in so doing to carefully preclude any unwarranted and unintentional broader precedents that might otherwise be misconstrued to imply the right to conduct similar USCG activities within other National Marine Sanctuary sites, while ensuring that no other agency or private or commercial entity derives any similar implied benefits from the site-specific NOAA general permit or regulation applying only to USCG operations within GFNMS; and

Whereas, the EA now being prepared by NOAA should also consider the following, but not limited to:

- The use of geospatial zoning with relation to biological, recreational and cultural resources and discharge transport/mixing;
- Adaptive management;
- Best practices for any USCG activities allowable under such NOAA general permit or regulation to ensure full protection of sensitive GFNMS biological (marine, avian, and benthic), recreational and cultural resources;
- Impacts to marine protected areas;
- Coast Guard operational considerations and needs, with differentiation between emergency and non-emergency operations; and
- Fates and effects of materials discharged, and an estimated range of quantities and timing of materials discharged (including acoustic impacts).

Therefore be it resolved, that the GFSAC hereby adopts this resolution of comment on NOAA-NOS-2016-0043; and

Further be it resolved, that the GFSAC requests that the GFNMS Superintendent duly submit this resolution of comment in timely response to the aforementioned Federal Register notice on NOAA-NOS-2016-0043 and to also forward a copy of this resolution to the Acting Director of the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries and to other relevant officials as deemed appropriate by the GFNMS Superintendent.