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Monterey Bay NMS

Sanctuary Advisory Council
Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
99 Pacific Street, Bldg 455E
Monterey, CA 93940
(831) 647-4201

April 19, 2012

The Honorable John Bryson
Secretary of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dr. Jane Lubchenco
Undersecretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and NOAA Administrator
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dan Basta, Director
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
1325 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3282

RE: Reactivation of the National Marine Sanctuaries Site Evaluation List

Dear Secretary Bryson, Dr. Lubchenco, and Director Basta,

We are writing to support the reactivation of the sanctuary Site Evaluation List (SEL), which is a vital part of the process to create national marine sanctuaries. The SEL is an important process by which local communities can start a conversation with their communities about whether they support a national marine sanctuary off their coast. The SEL will open up a process for communities across the country, not just those near Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, to engage in this process and make their voices known.

We believe that each community must decide for itself whether a national marine sanctuary is right for their area. But without the reactivation of the SEL, local communities' ability to engage in this process is limited.

Sincerely,

Chris Harrold

Dr. Chris Harrold
Chair, Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

The Advisory Council is composed of 20 federally appointed representatives from government agencies, local institutions, and user groups concerned with the resources of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. The Council advises the Sanctuary Superintendent on matters of policy and provides a link between the community and Sanctuary management.