

**Member/Alternate**

**Tourism**

Lauri Baker / Monica Baker

**Business**

William Spicer / William Agosta

**Non-Consumptive Recreation**

Warren Glaser / W. Scott Dunn

**Commercial Fishing**

Chris Hoeflinger / Jim Marshall

**Recreational Fishing**

Merit McCrea / Stephen Roberson

**Education**

Craig Taylor / Barbara LaCorte

**Research**

Dr. Robert Warner / Dr. Daniel Brumbaugh

**Conservation**

Linda Krop / Greg Helms

**Public At-Large 1**

Jim Knowlton / Phyllis Grifman

**Public At-Large 2**

Eric Kett / Matthew Lum

**Chumash Community**

/ Paulette Cabugos

**National Marine Fisheries Service**

Mark Helvey / Lyle Enriquez

**National Park Service**

Russell Galipeau / Gary Davis

**U.S. Coast Guard**

CWO Ronald Fien / MSTC John Luzader

**Minerals Management Service**

Dr. Fred Piltz / Dr. Ann Bull

**U.S. Department of Defense**

Alex Stone / Walter Schobel

**California Department of Fish and Game**

Marija Vojkovich / Kristine Barsky

**California Resources Agency**

Brian Baird / Leah Akins

**California Coastal Commission**

Rebecca Roth / Gary Timm

**County of Santa Barbara**

Dianne Meester /

**County of Ventura**

Lyn Krieger / Jack Peveler

**Channel Islands Nat'l Marine Sanctuary**

Chris Mobley

**Monterey Bay Nat'l Marine Sanctuary**

William Douros / Sean Morton

**Gulf of the Farallones Nat'l Marine Sanctuary**

Maria Brown

**Chair**

Dianne Meester

**Vice Chair**

Linda Krop

**Secretary**

Eric Kett

## Sanctuary Advisory Council

CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

August 17, 2005

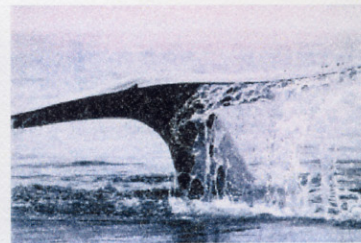
Vice Admiral Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr.  
Undersecretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
Bldg HCHB, Room 5128  
14th & Constitution Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20230-0001

### Re: NOAA's statutory determination on implementing marine reserves in the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary

Dear Admiral Lautenbacher:

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council is a 21-member body of community members and government agencies that advise the Sanctuary Manager and NOAA on management of the Sanctuary. At our May 20, 2005 Sanctuary Advisory Council (Council) meeting, Sanctuary staff announced that NOAA leadership is conducting an analysis as to the most suitable statutory pathway to implement the federal waters phase of marine reserves in the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS or Sanctuary). We received your July 19 letter to the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) regarding proceeding until September or October 2005 with parallel Magnuson Stevens Act (MSA) and National Marine Sanctuaries Act (NMSA) processes to achieve the Sanctuary's goals and objectives, at which point NOAA will make a final determination on which statute to use. We also learned of the June 2005 actions of the PFMC to recommend that proposed marine reserve areas be established under the Groundfish Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) process. We wish to apprise you of Council input on these recent actions.

As you are aware, since 1999 this Council has invested a great deal of time and effort in crafting and implementing a balanced, scientifically based and inclusive community process to consider marine reserves in response to community-identified resource concerns at CINMS. Through the Channel Islands Marine Reserves process, the Council, CINMS and National Marine Sanctuary Program (NMSP) have generated widespread community interest, engagement and support for Sanctuary programs.





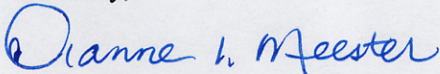
Sanctuary staff and the Council have engaged thousands of community members in an open and clear process in which the goals for marine reserves and the vision of the community were developed and shared. The NMSP has invested nearly \$2 million in this process to date. It has also been our understanding from NOAA correspondence, Sanctuary staff presentations and a Federal Register notice that NOAA was considering establishing marine reserves under the NMSA. The Channel Islands marine reserves process has created a unique state-federal partnership based on shared resources, mandates and management perspectives.

In light of this history and as you deliberate on which statute or combination of statutes to apply in this case we have the following questions and comments:

- We appreciate the PFMC EFH recommendations for the CINMS region. We would appreciate clarity on the goal(s) of resource management under the MSA for EFH designation and to what extent this action will achieve the CINMS goals.
- How would CINMS goals factor into the periodic reviews and monitoring of the EFH designation?
- If EFH areas are to be designated within the Sanctuary, what would be the role of the Sanctuary Advisory Council and local community in advising on management? Would the EFH process provide for workshops, forums or hearings in the local area?
- We understand that the PFMC and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) focus on fisheries management and manage these resources on a much larger geographic scale than CINMS (i.e. the West Coast). We are concerned that this may dilute the investment and coordination required to properly administer and manage the Channel Islands marine reserves network. If authority resides under the MSA and the NMFS, who is responsible for implementing marine reserve enforcement, monitoring, evaluation, education and adaptive management recommendations developed by and unanimously supported by the Council?

We appreciate your consideration of our comments and stand ready to continue to work with NOAA on evaluation of the Sanctuary's Draft Environmental Impact Statement to consider establishing marine reserves and conservation areas within the Sanctuary.

Sincerely,



Dianne Meester

Chair, Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council

cc: Dr. Richard Spinrad, Assistant Administrator, NOAA Ocean Services  
Daniel J. Basta, Director, NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program  
Chris Mobley, Manager, Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary

Enclosure: Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council voting record of July 22, 2005 supporting approval of a letter to Vice Admiral Lautenbacher regarding NOAA's statutory determination on implementing marine reserves in the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary



## ENCLOSURE

### **Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council voting record of July 22, 2005 supporting approval of a letter to Vice Admiral Lautenbacher regarding NOAA's statutory determination on implementing marine reserves in the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary**

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<b>Voting Seat</b>	<b>Voting Record</b>
Tourism	<not present>
Non-Consumptive Recreation member	Yes
Business alternate	Abstain
Conservation member	Yes
Commercial Fishing member	No
Recreational Fishing member	No
Education alternate	Yes
Research	<not present>
Public At-Large #1 member	Yes
Public At-Large #2 member	No
Chumash Community	Yes
National Marine Fisheries Service	<not present>
National Park Service member	Yes
US Coast Guard alternate	Abstain
Minerals Management Service member	Abstain
Department of Defense member	Yes
California Department of Fish and Game member	No
California Resources Agency	<not present>
California Coastal Commission member	Yes
County of Santa Barbara member	Yes
Ventura County	<not present>

Totals: 9-yes, 3-abstain, 4-no