

RESOLUTION NO. 15-01

UPDATING THE CITY'S POSITION ON
NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES

THE CITY COUNCIL
City of Morro Bay, California

WHEREAS, the National Marine Sanctuary Act was reauthorized by Congress in 2000; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Morro Bay is supportive of creating an effective management structure for the National Marine Sanctuary Act; provided it includes support of existing small craft harbors and public facilities within and adjacent to Marine Sanctuaries; and,

WHEREAS, National Marine Sanctuaries and operational harbors/municipal services have only recently shared boundaries; and,

WHEREAS, the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS) is currently revising its management plan and is considering expansion of the CINMS to Pt. Sal; and,

WHEREAS, the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) is embarking on revision of its management plan this year which most likely will consider some potential boundary expansion proposals; and,

WHEREAS, a group of harbor managers, fishermen and marine dependent businesses has formed as "The Alliance of Communities for Sustainable Fisheries" to constructively work with the MBNMS management plan update process; and,

WHEREAS, Conflicts have arisen and the City desires to insure an equitable and balanced decision making process that will be efficient and recognize the importance of existing public facilities; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Morro Bay is a member of the California Marine Affairs and Navigation Conference (CMANC), and;

WHEREAS, CMANC has received input from harbors within and near the existing Channel Islands and Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuaries and has adopted a position regarding the Marine Sanctuary Program; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Morro Bay hereby endorses the attached "California Marine Affairs and Navigation Legislative Policy Statement: Marine Sanctuaries"; items one through six.

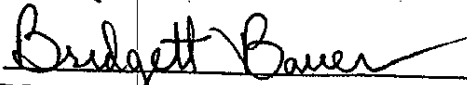
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Morro Bay supports the creation of a separate Central California Marine Sanctuary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to correspond with the appropriate agencies regarding this position and City staff is authorized to participate in the Alliance of Communities for Sustainable Fisheries under the guidelines of this policy.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Morro Bay at a regular meeting held thereof on the 12th day of March 2001, by the following vote:

AYES: Anderson, Crotzer, Elliott, Peirce, Peters
NOES: None
ABSENT: None


ROGER ANDERSON, MAYOR


BRIDGETT BAUER, CITY CLERK

CALIFORNIA MARINE AFFAIRS AND NAVIGATION CONFERENCE
Legislative Policy Statement

Marine Sanctuaries

1. Support the preservation of the Nation's oceans through Congressionally established Marine Sanctuaries.
2. Sanctuary status should not reduce the ability to transport dredged material to designated deposition sites.
 - Sanctuaries should not add additional requirements or obstacles to the existing rigorous State and Federal review process for dredge material disposition.
3. Sanctuary status should not restrict vessel traffic nor require alterations to shipping lanes that are not supported by that industry.
4. Sanctuaries or their managers should not regulate fisheries or cause Fishery Management agencies to issue new fishing restrictions on behalf of the Sanctuary Program.
5. Sanctuaries should not restrict the ability of Ports and Harbors to perform general maintenance, or construct improvements, required for operations;
 - consider keeping Sanctuary boundaries away from Ports and Harbors.
6. Sanctuary Advisory councils should be strengthened to create a well represented local voice in partnership with Sanctuaries and their managers in decision-making for issues that affect local interests. The Program needs to be accountable to the communities that it neighbors.