



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE  
**Office of National Marine Sanctuaries**  
1305 East-West Highway  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

October 5, 2015

Mr. Fred Collins  
Northern Chumash Tribal Council  
67 South Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Dear Mr. Collins:

Thank you for submitting the nomination for the proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary. We appreciate the interest expressed by the Chumash and all of the elected officials, businesses, user groups, community organizations and members of the public in support of the nomination.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Office of National Marine Sanctuaries has completed our significance review of the nomination and determined that this nomination meets the national significance criteria and management considerations. The nomination will be added to the inventory of areas NOAA may consider in the future for national marine sanctuary designation. We look forward to working with you and all the community organizations that are interested in long-term, comprehensive conservation of this area as we consider possible national marine sanctuary designation.

Sincerely,

John Armor  
Acting Director