Resolution in Support of Proposed Boundary Expansions at Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries DRAFT

Whereas, NOAA is proposing to expand the boundaries of the Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries from Bodega Bay in Sonoma County, to Alder Creek in Mendocino County, and west to the edge of the continental shelf;

Whereas this proposed action has the support of Sonoma and Mendocino County Board of Supervisors, California Governor Jerry Brown, U.S. Representatives Woolsey (former), Gilchrest, and Thompson, and Senator Boxer;

Whereas, scientific evidence clearly indicates that the major oceanic upwelling system along the Sonoma/Mendocino coastline brings to the sea surface nutrient-rich deep ocean water that provides the base of the food chain within the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary, and the northerly portion of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary;

Whereas, it is the charge of the Sanctuary Advisory Council of Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary to further sustainable ecosystem health within the waters of this Sanctuary;

Whereas, the expansion area is considered to be critical to the preservation of the living resources of the adjacent marine sanctuaries and essential to the prevention of pollution and related activities that would otherwise threaten the marine life of the Sanctuaries.

Therefore be it resolved, that this resolution is hereby adopted expressing the support of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary's Sanctuary Advisory Council for expansion of the Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries as described by NOAA and the attached map; and

Further be it resolved, that this resolution be transmitted in a timely fashion to the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Superintendent and the National Marine Sanctuary Program and to other interested parties.