

Moss Landing Harbor District

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Board of Harbor Commissioners
Jack Compton ~ Dennis Garmany
Russ Jeffries ~ Peggy Shirrel ~ Tom Villa

General Manager
James Stilwell

June 29, 2001

JUL 16 2001

The Honorable Sam Farr
The United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Subject: Sanctuary Management Plan

Dear Congressman Farr:

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Management Plan Review has begun and the Moss Landing Harbor District Board of Commissioners wishes to ensure that the updated Management Plan for the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary honors the commitments that were made to various parts of our community during the original Sanctuary authorization process. Those commitments and core values created the foundation of public support that was necessary for the Sanctuary to come into existence. If the early commitments were to be abandoned, it would likely dramatically erode public support and confidence in the Sanctuary and could lead to outright opposition. This, in my opinion, must be well articulated to the Program during the Plan Review.

The Moss Landing Harbor District Board specifically requests that you, in your role as Co-Chair of the California Caucus, call together a hearing on the Monterey Peninsula. The subject of this hearing would be to provide you and other Members of Congress from California who have a stake in the Sanctuary Management Plan, the opportunity to hear directly from the public their concerns, expectations and hopes for the new Sanctuary Management Plan. Such a hearing is also needed because the revised Management Plan will not be subject to Congressional approval—yet many in the community are concerned about non-elected Sanctuary Program Administrators having complete control over the outcome of the Plan Review.

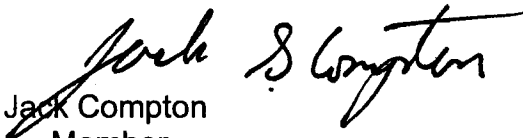
This hearing should be held early enough during the Plan Review Process so that the Sanctuary Program Administrators can benefit from your guidance. Without such a hearing Congress might not be aware of information that could be necessary to offer quality guidance and appropriate funding on the management of this Sanctuary Program.

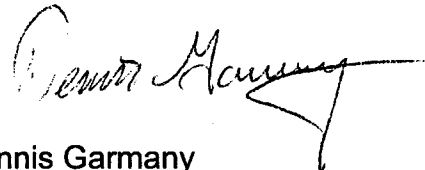
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The Moss Landing Harbor District would be happy to host such a hearing and provide you with staff assistance in its planning and execution.

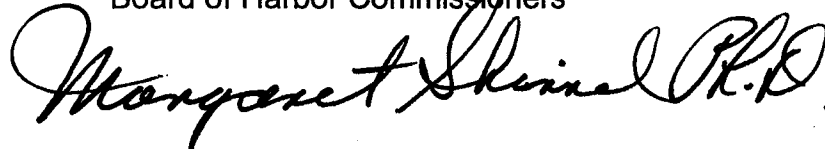
Sincerely,

MOSS LANDING HARBOR DISTRICT

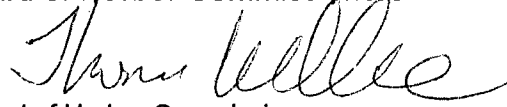

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Cc: Board of Harbor Commissioners
Stephanie Harlan, Chair, Sanctuary Advisory Council, MBNMS, 299 Foam Street Monterey
Bill Douros, MBNMS Superintendent, 299 Foam Street, Monterey
Dan Basta, Director, NMS Program
Margaret Davidson, Acting Administrator, National Ocean Service