



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

MAR 28 2005

Daniel Basta
Director, NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program
ATTN: Elizabeth Moore
1305 East-West Highway, N/ORM-6
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3218

Subject: Review of Possible Amendments to the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary Designation Document Related to Marine Reserves, Parks, and Conservation Areas

Dear Mr. Basta:

Thank you for your February 18, 2005 letter to Diane Regas, Director of EPA's Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds, regarding the possible establishment of Marine Reserves, Marine Parks, and Marine Conservation Areas within the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. Your letter was forwarded to me since the Sanctuary is within EPA Region IX's area of coverage.

My staff has reviewed the information you provided. We know of no conflicts with EPA programs or activities that might result from the designation or management of Marine reserves, Marine Parks, or Marine Conservation Areas as described.

Thank you for giving us this early opportunity to provide input to your planning process. We look forward to reviewing your Draft Environmental Impact Statement when it is released later this year. In the meantime, should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 415-972-3572.

Sincerely,

Alexis Strauss
Alexis Strauss 28 March 2005
Director, Water Division

Cc: Diane Regas