

Ship Strikes in California Sanctuaries



Joint Advisory Council
Meeting
August 21, 2013



The Sanctuary Advisory Councils formed a Joint Working Group



Co-Chairs

Lance Morgan; CBNMS SAC
Jackie Dragon; GFNMS SAC

Working Group Members

John Berge, Pacific Merchant Shipping Association
John Calambokidis, Cascadia Research Collective
Frances Gulland, The Marine Mammal Center
Michael Jasny, Natural Resources Defense Council
Carol Keiper, Oikonos Ecosystem Knowledge
Captain Bill Mahoney, APL Ltd.
Kathy Metcalf, Chamber of Shipping of America

Working Group Staff

Leslie Abramson, GFNMS
Michael Carver, CBNMS

Technical Experts

Monica DeAngelis, NOAA NMFS
Leila Hatch, Stellwagen Bank NMS
John Hildebrand, Scripps
Jaime Jahncke, PRBO Conservation Science
Kevin Krick, APL Ltd.
LT Lucas Mancini, U.S.Coast Guard, D.11
Megan McKenna, Marine Mammal
Commission
Chris Miller, Naval Post Graduate School
Ingrid Overgard, Int. Ocean Noise Coalition
Elizabeth Petras, , NOAA NMFS
CDR Kiley Ross, U.S. Coast Guard District 11
Brandon Southall, Southall Associates
Mike VanHouten, U.S. Coast Guard, D.11

The Joint Working Group produced this report of recommendations



VESSEL STRIKES AND ACOUSTIC IMPACTS



GULF OF THE FARALLONES AND CORDELL BANK NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARIES

*Report of a Joint Working Group of the Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank
National Marine Sanctuaries Advisory Councils*

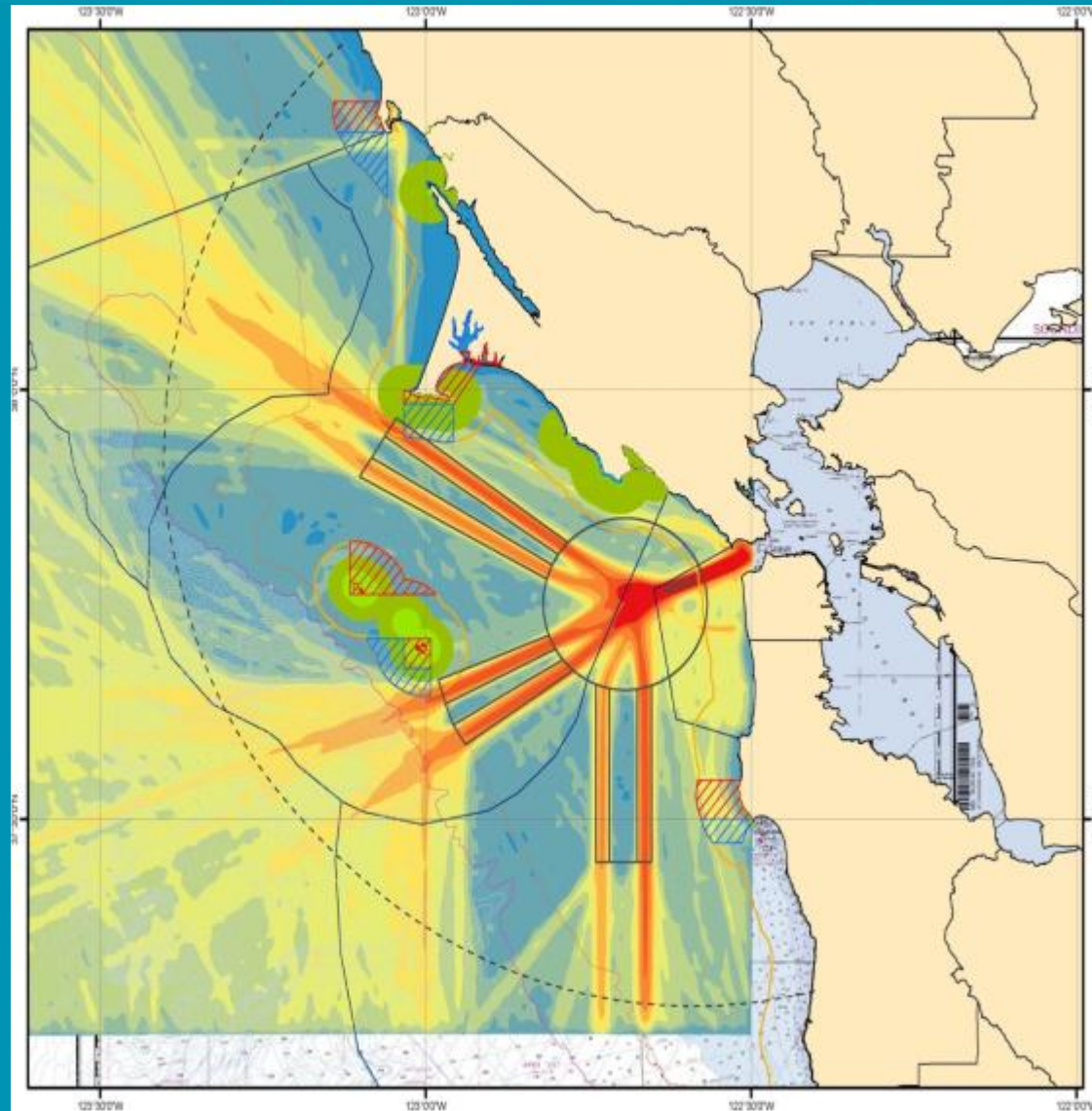
[http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/
sac/12_06/jwg_strikes.pdf](http://farallones.noaa.gov/manage/pdf/sac/12_06/jwg_strikes.pdf)

June 2012

Modification to the shipping lanes:



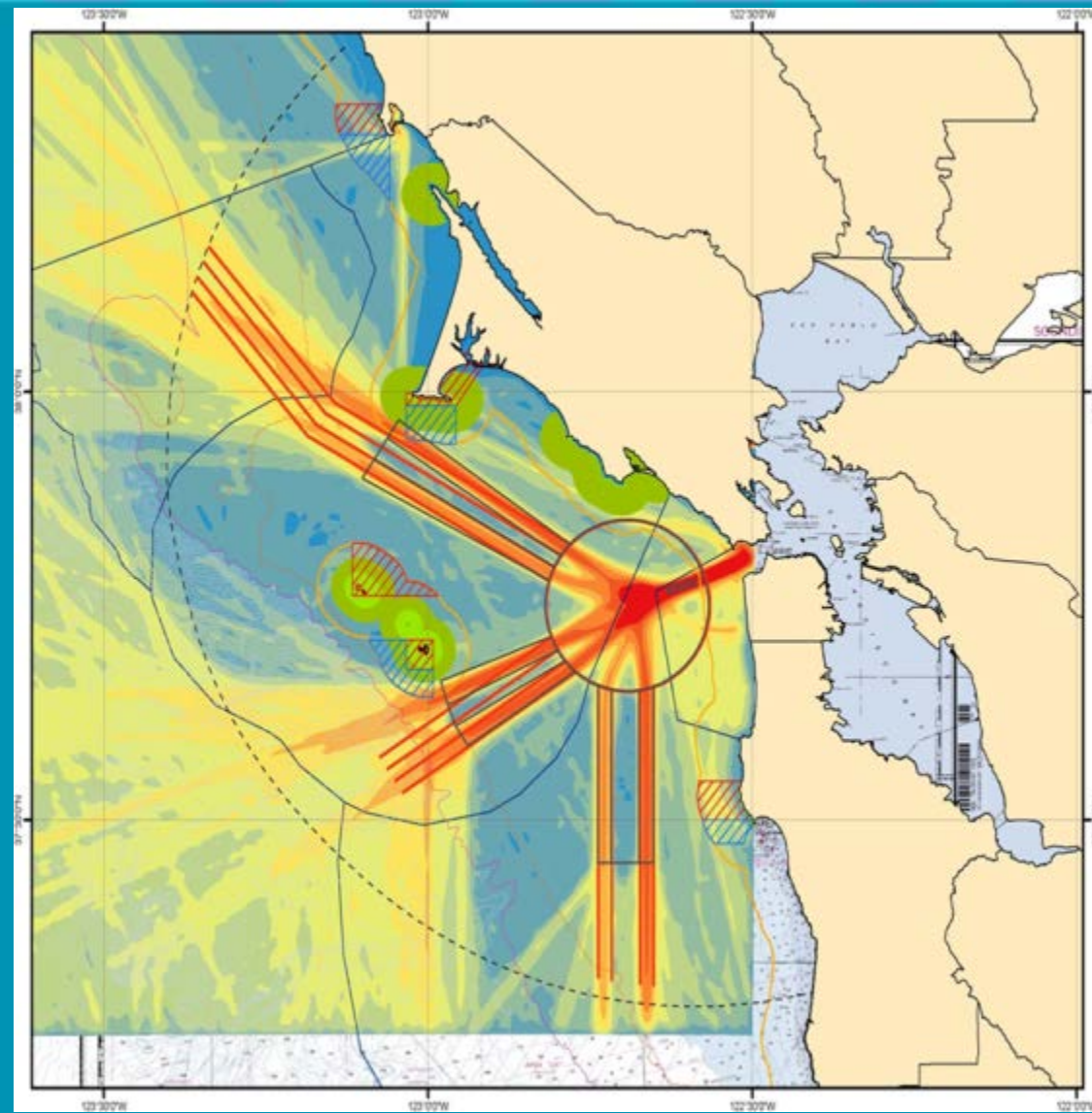
Management
Recommendation #1



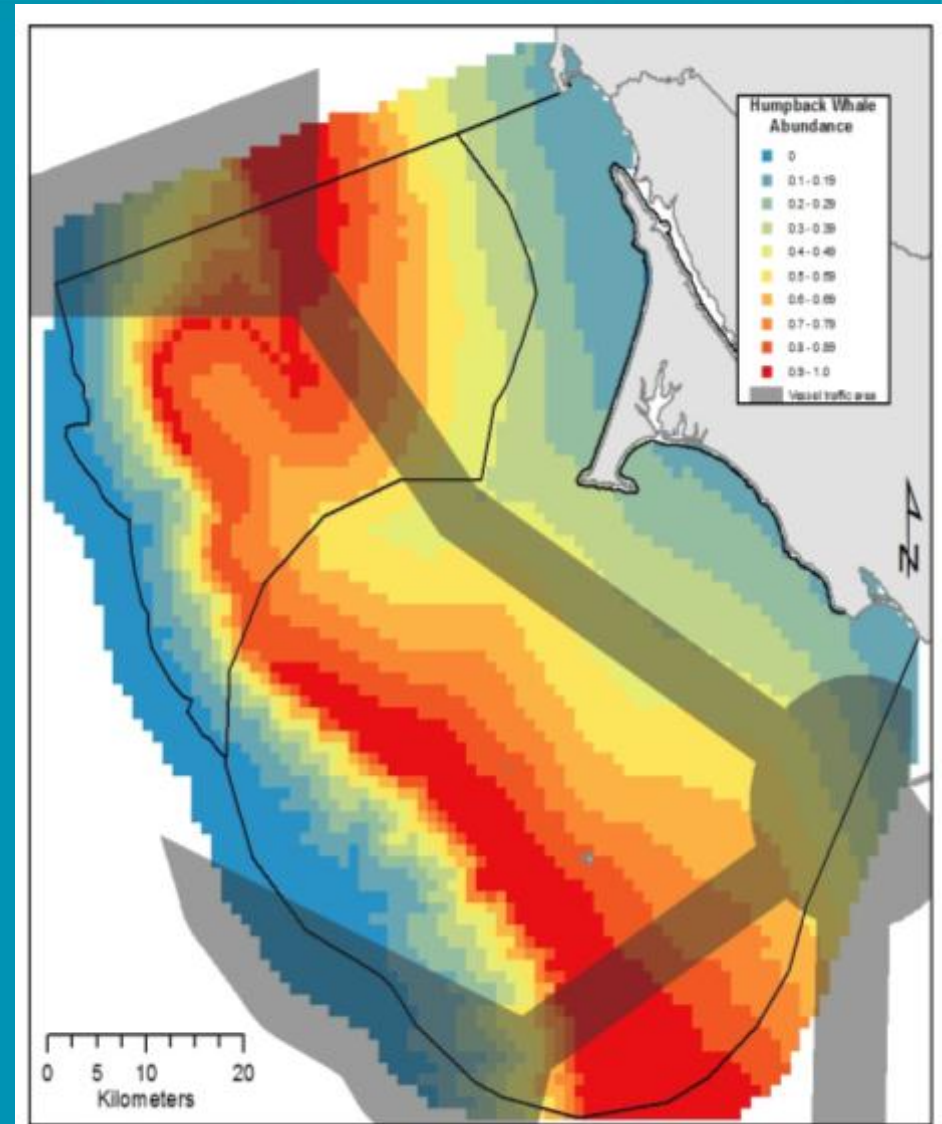
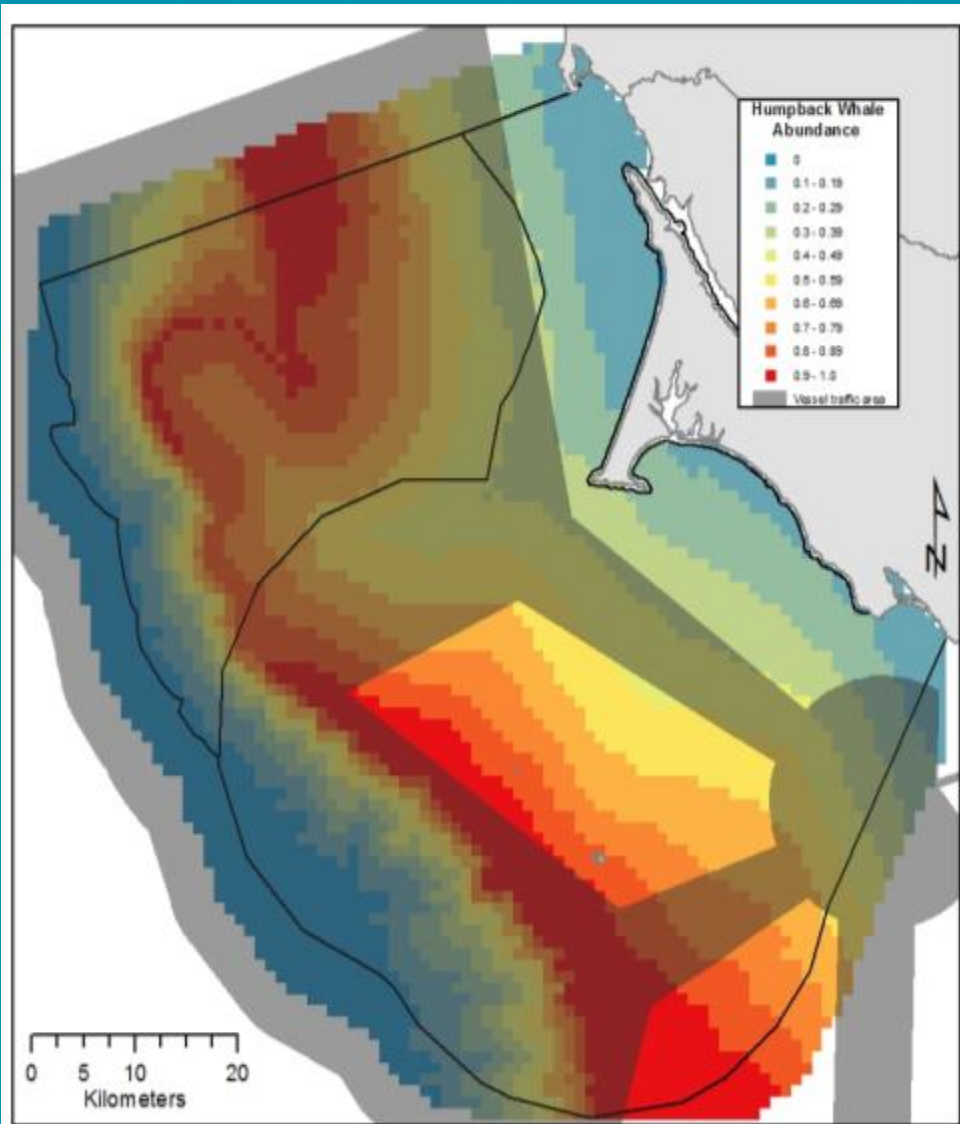
Modification to the shipping lanes:



Management Recommendation #1



Reduce conflict between vessels and preferred whale habitat



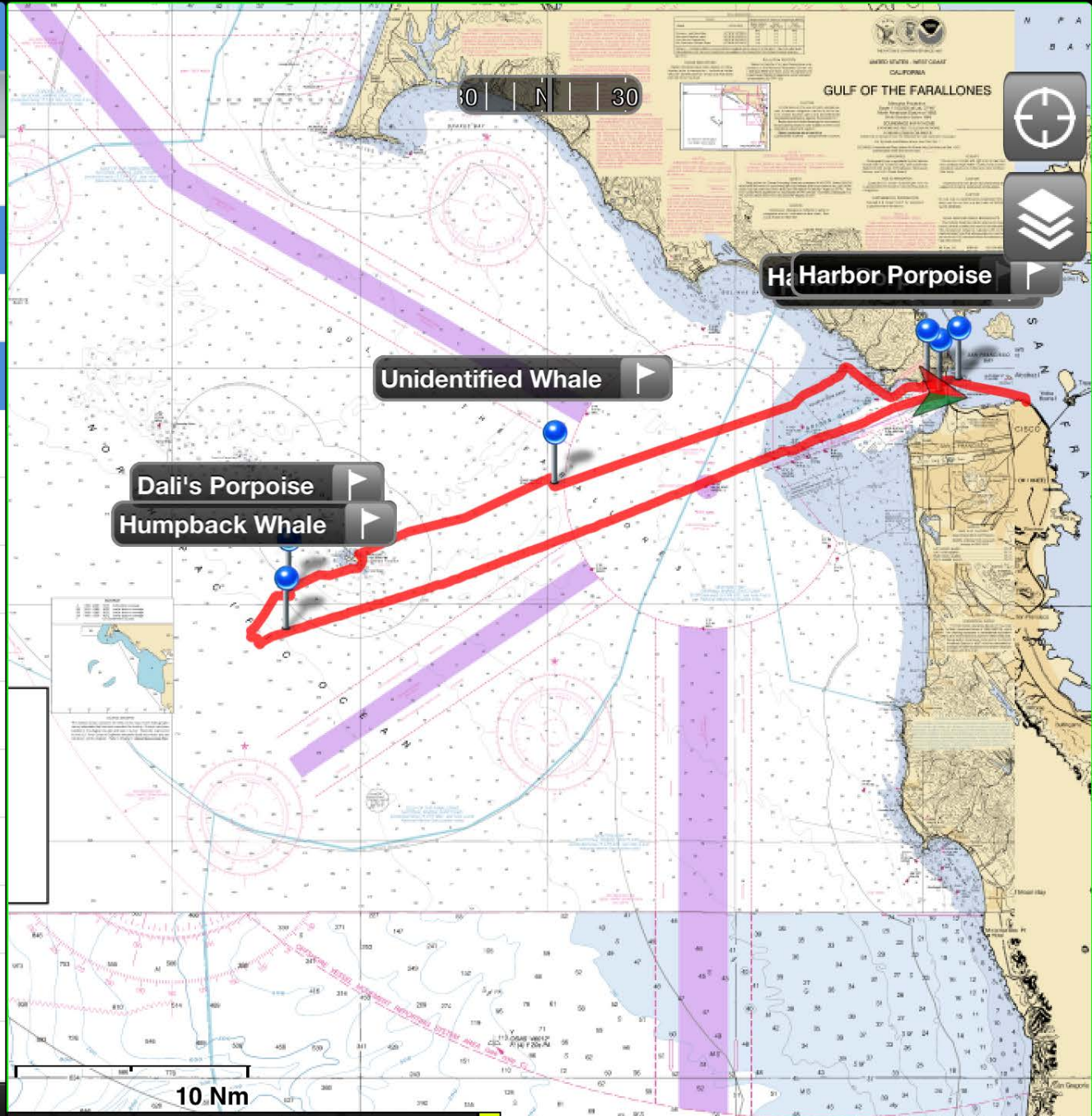
Real-time whale sighting and monitoring network:



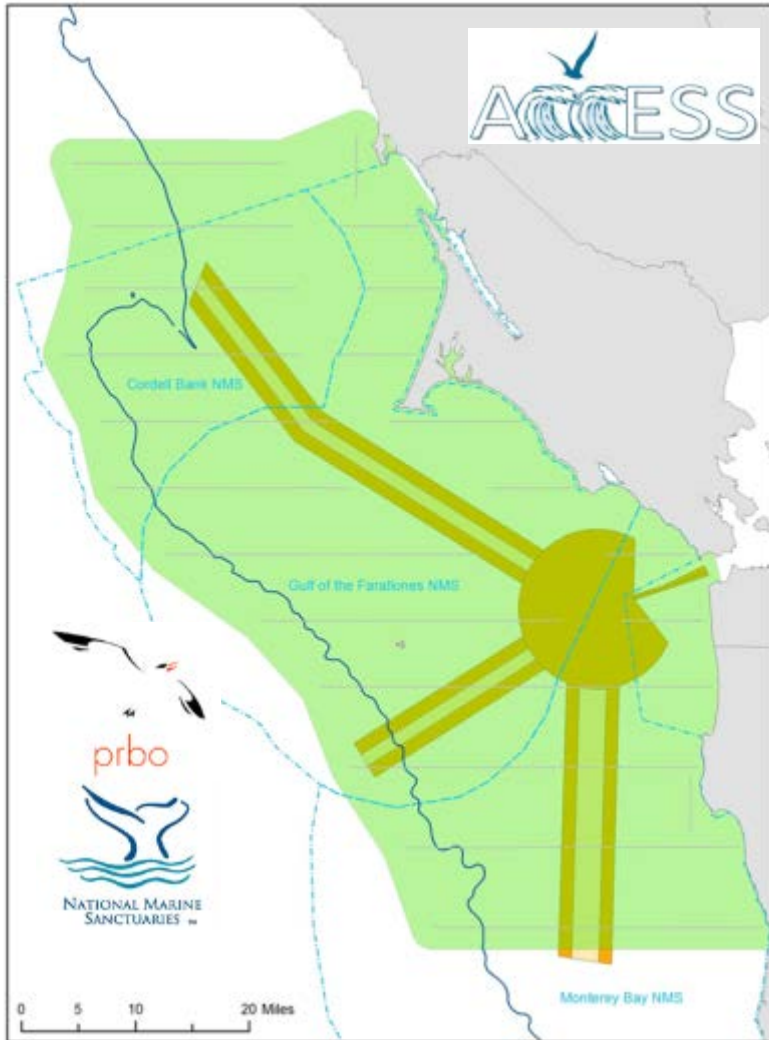
Management Recommendation #2



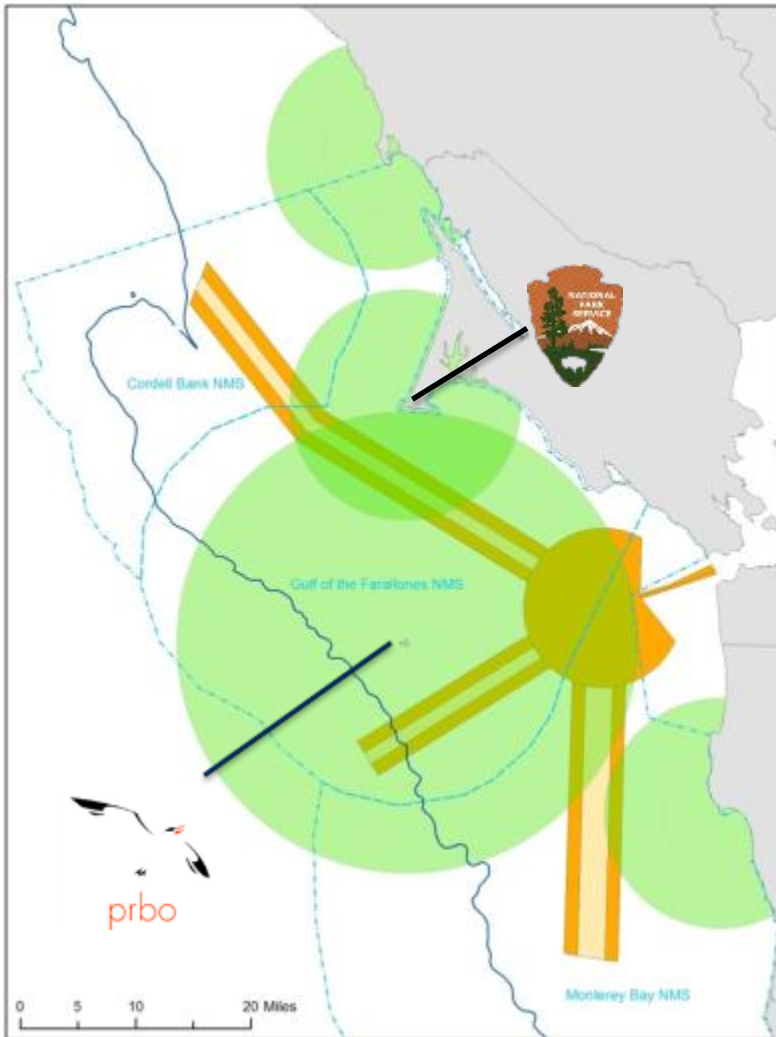
- Sightings **Sighting**
- Harbor Porpoise 02:53:29 PM
- Sighting Details >
- Behaviors +
- Photo Logs +



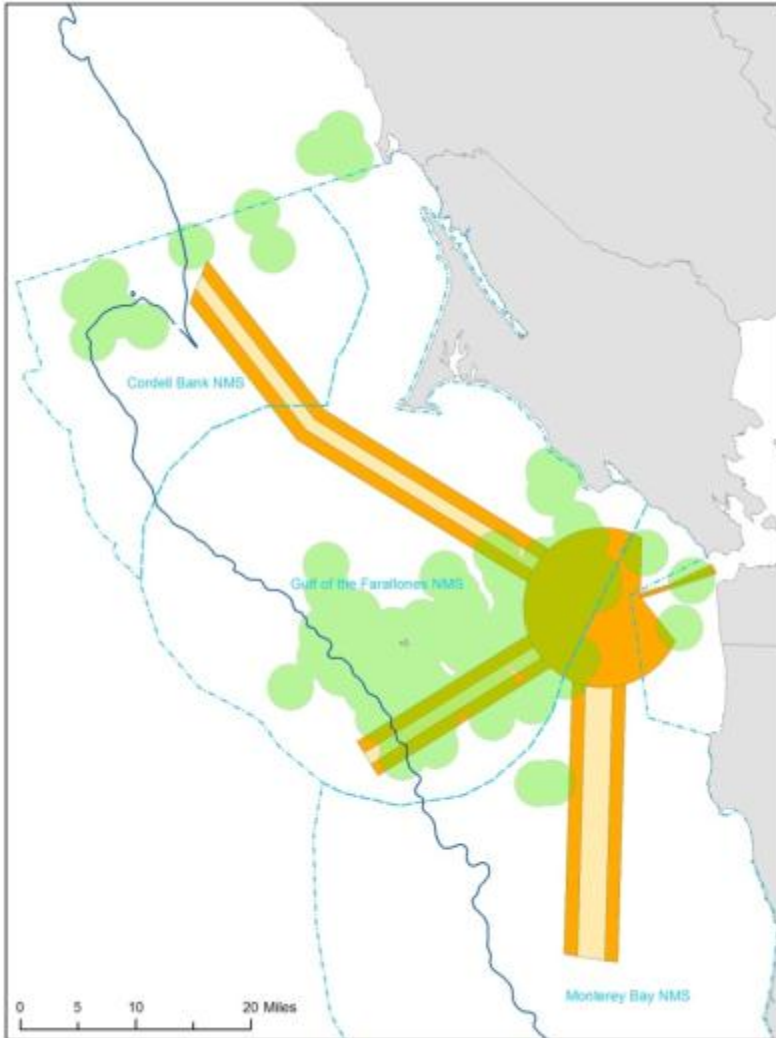
Real-time whale sighting and monitoring network:



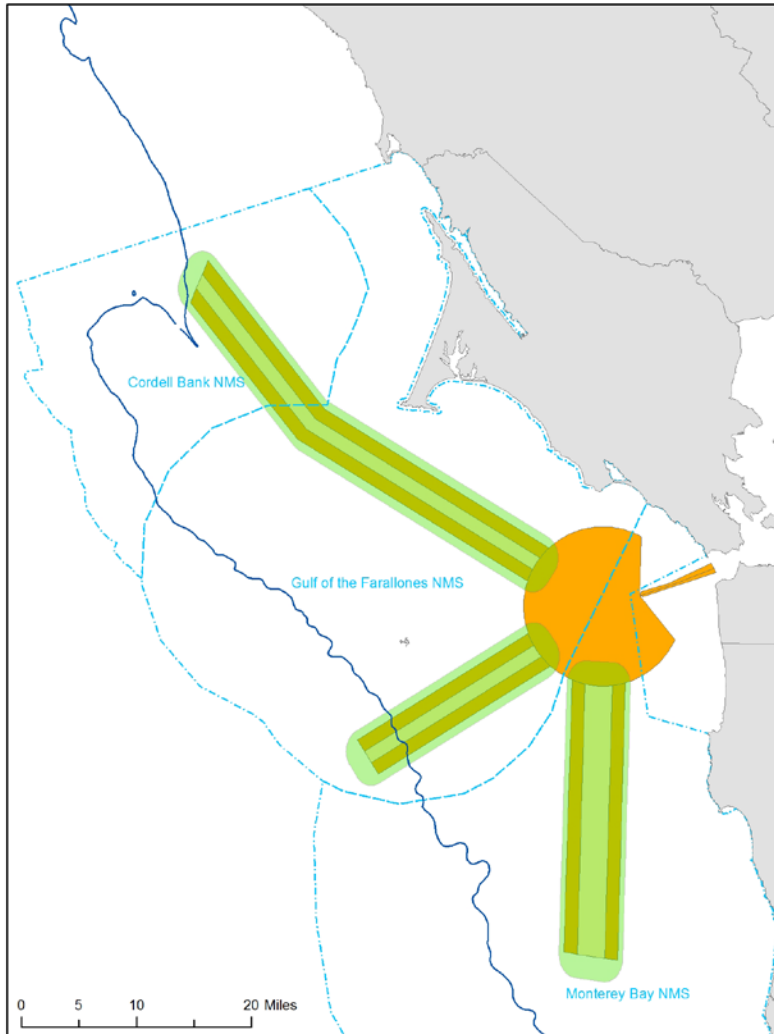
Real-time whale sighting and monitoring network:



Real-time whale sighting and monitoring network:

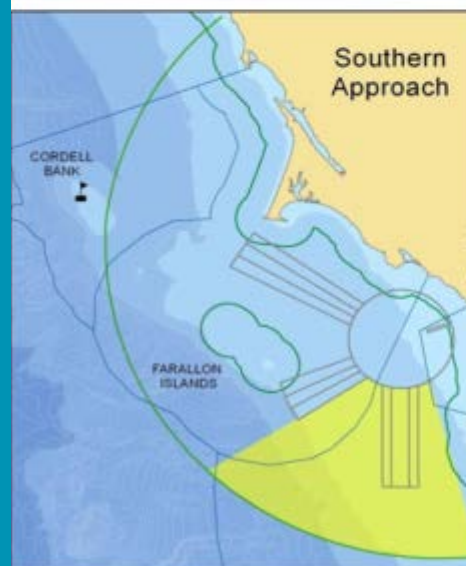
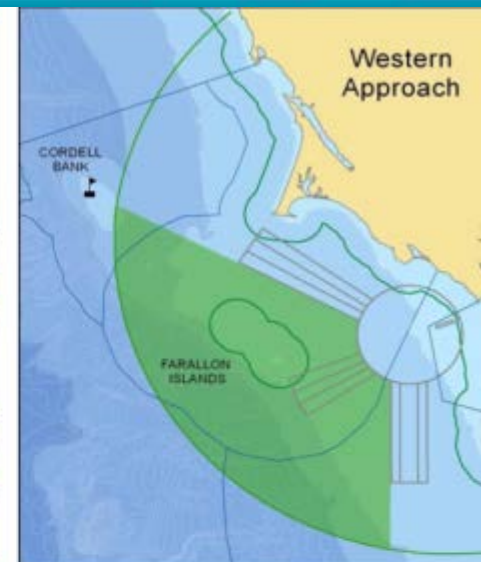
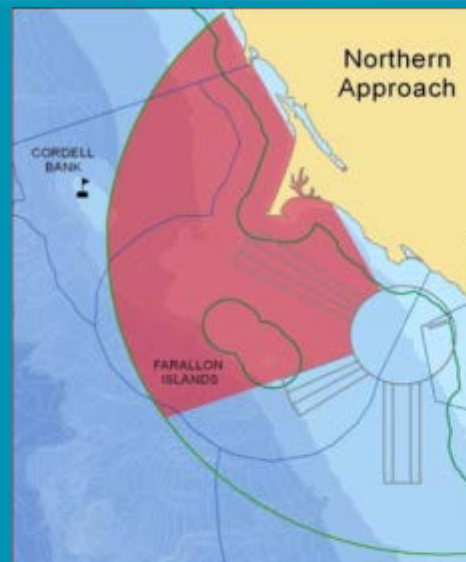
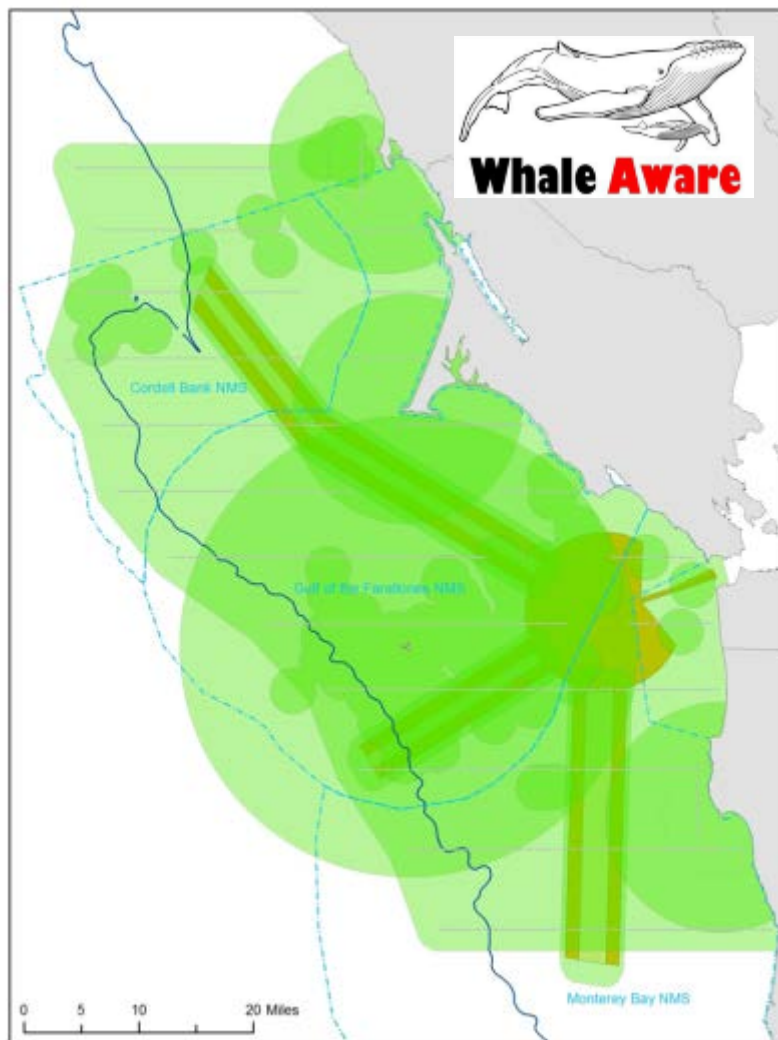


Real-time whale sighting and monitoring network:



Management Recommendation #3

Dynamic Management Area

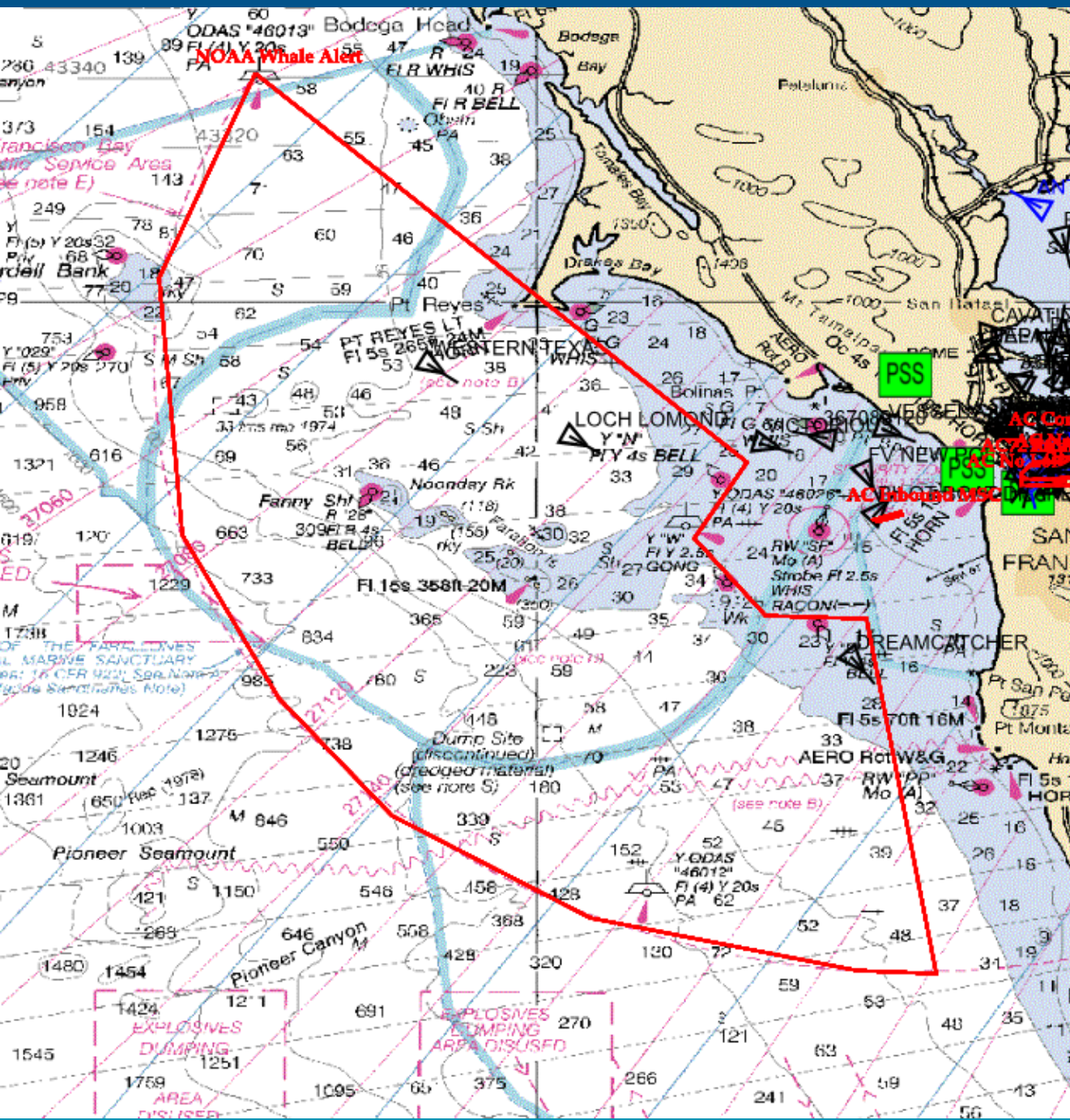


Potential Dynamic Management Areas

- Cordell Bank Buoy
- Existing TSS
- Seaward Extent of State Waters
- National Marine Sanctuary
- 0 - 30m Depth
- 30 - 100m
- 100 - 200m
- 200 - 3000m
- >3000m Depth color swatch"/> >3000m



Contour Interval 100 Meters
Not Intended for Navigation



- Local Notice to Mariners
- AIS
- NWS Radio

ATTENTION MARINERS



Keep a Sharp Lookout for Whales and Report Sightings

Large whales off the west coast of the U.S. are federally protected species. You can help in their conservation by reporting sightings.



Blue Whale

Balaenoptera musculus

- Up to 88 feet long
- Ridge along top of head
- Mottled bluish gray, often visible below surface
- Tall column blow



Fin Whale

Balaenoptera physalus

- Up to 75 feet long
- Asymmetrical jaw color, white on right, ridge along top of head
- Brownish gray to black, paler underside
- Tall column blow



Humpback Whale

Megaptera noraeangliae

- Up to 60 feet long
- Smooth knob or nodules along top of head
- Dark gray to black
- Medium slightly bushy blow



Gray Whale

Eschrichtius robustus

- Up to 45 feet long
- Head often covered in barnacles
- Mottled gray and blotchy coloration
- More heart shaped blow



- Small variable shaped dorsal fin
- Dorsal fin not visible at blow
- Occasionally shows grayish flukes on final dive



- Medium back swept dorsal fin
- Often surfaces low in water with dorsal fin not showing
- Almost never shows flukes — in fact, if you see a whale fluke, it most likely is not a fin whale



- Small dorsal fin, hump in back, especially when diving
- Vary long pectoral fin (flippers) often seen at surface
- Typically arches high and shows flukes with scalloped trailing edge on last surfacing



- No dorsal fin but slight dorsal hump and knuckles
- Ridges or knuckles near tail
- Often shows flukes on final dive



Mariner Outreach and Education

REPORT WHALE SIGHTINGS

- Mariners are being asked to report all whale sightings. This information can help with the conservation of these species.
- If you see whales, please collect the following: GPS location, number and species. Email information to: whales@noaa.gov
- For information on whales in your area and any NOAA advisories, refer to your district USCG Local Notice to Mariners (LNM) at: <http://www.navcen.uscg.gov>
- For current information on whales and ship strikes go to: <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/protect/shipstrike/>

HOW TO REPORT INJURED, DISTRESSED, ENTANGLED OR DEAD WHALE SIGHTINGS

Call: (877) SOS-WHAlE [767-9425] or U.S. Coast Guard, VHF Channel 16

SUPPLY THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- GPS location and time of sighting, condition of whale, species if known, photographs if possible
- If you witness a strike, please provide the vessel information (ID), size and speed (if known)



Thank You

