

# NOAA OFFICE OF LAW ENFORCEMENT (OLE) CORDELL BANK/GREATER FARALLONES SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL BRIEFING AUGUST 25, 2016

- ▶ Staffing
- ▶ Enforcement Priorities
- ▶ Joint Enforcement Agreements
- ▶ Law Enforcement Technical Advisory Committee
- ▶ General Counsel Enforcement Section



# WEST COAST DIVISION MERGER

## Merger of the Northwest and Southwest Divisions commenced in June 2014

- Formalized with implementation of the FY2015 Budget October 1, 2014
- Senior Agent In Charge (SAC) William Giles named Assistant Director for the West Coast Division.



# West Coast Division - Area Of Responsibility

- Primary: California, Oregon, & Washington
  - Secondary: Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming
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- 1,293 Miles of Coast Line and 7,863 Miles of Tidal Shorelines
  - 339,275 Square Miles Of Land
  - 222,471 Square Nautical Miles
  - Five National Marine Sanctuaries
  - 36 Major International Airports
  - 21 Major International Seaports
  - U.S. – Canada Border 427 Miles + 900 Miles
  - U.S. – Mexico Border 140 Miles + 372 Miles



# NEW STAFFING PLAN APPROVED SPRING 2016

- Increased Mission Support
- Increase Investigative Support
- Changes have been made to the Agent to Enforcement Officer Ratio

Investigative Functions performed by a Criminal Investigator, the Special Agent.

Patrol Functions performed by the Enforcement Officers

- Patrol activity performed by OLE Officers, CDF&W Wardens, and USCG Boarding Officers who discover violations in progress, (citations issued) and forward intelligence to the Special Agents for follow-up of more complex suspicious activity and/or alleged violations.



# WEST COAST DIVISION ORGANIZATION STAFFING

Assistant Director 1

Deputy Special Agent in Charge (DSAC) 1

Assistant Special Agent in Charge (ASAC) 1

Supervisory Enforcement Officer (SEO) 3

Supervisory Assistance Officer (SAO) 1

West Coast Enforcement Coordinator (1)

Special Agents (SA) 15

Fishery Enforcement Officers (FEO) (20)

Enforcement Technicians (8)

Administrative Assistance (6)

Total: 58

Current: 38



# NOAA Office of Law Enforcement West Coast Enforcement Division

## Commissioned Staffing for California:

Agents: 9, 3 to be advertised

Officers: 12, All vacant except  
Alameda SEO

Santa Rosa (2)\* (2Vacant)

Sacramento (1)

Alameda (1)\* (Vacant)

Monterey (1)

Long Beach (2)\*, (1Vacant)

ASAC (1)

San Diego (1)

Arcata (2)

Santa Rosa (1)\*

Sacramento (2)

Alameda (1)\*, SEO) (1)

Monterey\* (1)

Morrow Bay (1)

Ventura (1)

Long Beach\* (1)

San Diego\* (1)



\* Current recruitment

# 2012 - 2017 Enforcement Priorities

## Priority Definitions:

**High Priority**—Identifies areas of significant importance to NOAA, NMFS, OLE, stakeholders, and the public and require the utmost attention to ensure the sustainability of the identified resources or program.

**Medium Priority**—Identifies areas requiring continued attention by OLE to maintain the level of compliance desired to obtain maximum protection of the resource or program.

**Low Priority**—Designation under this category may illustrate that the program or area is receiving a high degree of compliance by industry and the public. Or perhaps the violations are minor or technical in nature and have little to no impact on the resource. Low priority should not be interpreted as “no priority” and this designation does not translate into selective enforcement or no enforcement.



# Sanctuary Enforcement Priorities

## Marine Sanctuaries Act

### HIGH PRIORITY

- Discharges
  - Discharging or depositing any material injurious to sanctuary resources
    - (e.g., pollution issues)
- Vessel groundings and sinkings
  - Vessels or tows that become grounded or sink within the boundaries of any marine sanctuary

### MEDIUM PRIORITY

- Prohibited taking or possession
  - Unlawful removal or possession of historical artifacts, or protected marine resources, from within the sanctuary boundaries





# Joint Enforcement Agreements (JEA)

State Partner:

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Cross Deputazation Agreement

Federal dollars to the state to do Federal law enforcement work

Prioritized listed in the agreement



# Law Enforcement Technical Advisory Committee (LETAC)

## ADVISORY AND OPERATIONAL FORUM

CINMS Staff

Office of Law Enforcement (OLE)

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

USCG, 11<sup>th</sup> District

National Parks Service

Meet twice a year: Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter  
Review past year enforcement activity  
Plan current year activity



# General Counsel Enforcement Section

Web Site: <http://www.gc.noaa.gov/enforce-office.html>

- Enforcement Decisions
- Enforcement Charging Information
- Penalty Policy and Schedule including Summary Settlement Schedule (SS)



# Contact Information

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