

**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

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Reply in Reference to: **NOAA_2013_0125_001**

February 08, 2013

Robert Schwemmer - West Coast Maritime Heritage Coordinator
United States Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - National Ocean Service
Office of National Marine Sanctuaries - West Coast Regional Office
99 Pacific Street, Building 100F
Monterey, CA 93940

RE: Section 106 consultation for the *Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary Boundary Expansion: San Francisco-Pacific Exclusion Area (Donut Hole)*

Dear Mr. Schwemmer:

Thank you for your letter of 24 January 2013 initiating consultation regarding the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) efforts to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 470f), as amended, and its implementing regulation found at 36 CFR Part 800. You are requesting my comments on your Area of Potential Effect (APE), historic property identification efforts, and your proposed finding of "No Adverse Effect."

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS), a marine area administrated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), has proposed incorporating the (comparatively smaller) San Francisco-Pacific Exclusion Area (SFPEA) within its existing boundary. Also known as the "Donut Hole", the SFPEA is adjacent the Golden Gate of San Francisco Bay and is encompassed by the MBNMS. As I understand, the proposed undertaking represents a change in administrative boundaries for the marine sanctuaries.

Encompassing 6,094-square miles of ocean and 276-square miles of shoreline between Marin County and Cambria, the MBNMS and SFPEA contain numerous vessel wrecks extending back to 1595. They both also contain other cultural resources such as historic wharves; light houses; whaling and life-saving stations; and, prehistoric sites located along the Pacific coastline. Many of the resources and the APE are documented in the following study you provided as evidence of historic property identification and evaluation efforts:

- *Gulf of the Farallones/Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuaries San Francisco - Pacific Exclusionary Area (Donut Hole) Expansion* (NOAA n.d.)

The above study summarizes the results of on-going historic research and side-scan radar surveys completed by the National Park Service (NPS), U.S. Geologic Survey (USGS), NOAA, and other maritime archaeological studies.

Based on a review of submitted materials, I have the following comments:

1. Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.4(a)(1), I have no objections to your APE delineation.
2. Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.4(b)(1), the *Level of Effort* identifying historic properties is appropriate for the APE.

3. Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800.5(b), I **concur** with a “*No Adverse Effect*” finding as the proposed undertaking only represents a change in administrative boundaries.

Be aware you may have additional future responsibilities for Section 106 should the undertaking involve (or promote) any activity that disturbs the existing conditions of cultural resources or if there are any changes in project scope. Thank you for including historic properties and my comments as part of your project planning. Please direct questions to Jeff Brooke of my staff at (916) 445-7003/Jeff.Brooke@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Carol Roland-Nawi, Ph.D.
State Historic Preservation Officer