

#### October 2009 - December 2009

- The NOAA Twin Otter Crew is relocated to Monterey
- GFNMS is informed that flight hours are forthcoming
- GFNMS attends a Twin Otter Capabilities workshop
- GFNMS is informed that 35 flight hours are available from January - May 2010. These hours are to be shared with Cordell Bank
- GFNMS conducts a needs assessment and requests funds

### Getting Started: The Needs Assessment

- Determine compliance with jet ski regulations
- Determine compliance with cargo restriction regulations
- Determine compliance with no anchoring zones
- Assess vessel use within all sanctuary waters
- Determine compliance with white shark regulations
- Identify and determine the extent of marine debris caused by derelict crab pots (buoy survey)
- Determine vessel (>300 GT) compliance with volunteer shipping lanes.

#### The Needs Assessment

 Coordinate with Cal Fish and Game to enforce protected area and special closures (no access) regulations.

 Determine whale abundance in and near shipping lanes.

•Coordinate with at-sea regional monitoring surveys of seabirds and marine mammals.

Identify Harmful algal blooms and red tide events.

•Coordinate with California Coast Survey.

Coordinate with US Fish and Wildlife Service.

# January 2010

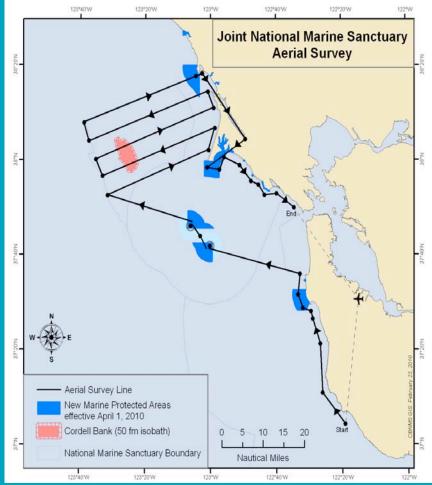
- Staff take several training classes in order to use the Twin Otter.
- GFNMS does not receive funds for a new project, but based on the needs assessment is able to utilize current Resource Protection and Seabird Protection Network staff to create a pilot program for conducting vessel surveys and aerial enforcement.

## January 2010 - May 2010 Pilot Project: Vessel Surveys

# The Plan

Conduct 5 Vessel Surveys

- ALL boats under 300 GRT are documented by GPS and photo. Boat name and/or CF number is recorded.
- ALL state waters are covered during each flight.



#### January 2010 - May 2010 Pilot Project: Aerial Enforcement

# The Plan:



#### Coordinate with NOAA Office of Law Enforcement

- •Determine compliance with zonal-based Sanctuary regulations.
- •NOAA Law Enforcement onboard also uses aircraft to determine compliance with fishery regulations.

Coordinate with California Department of Fish and Game and US Coast Guard

•Flight crew communications with state and Coast Guard Vessels

# January 2010 - May 2010 Pilot Project: The Reality

• State Marine Protected Area Regulations were delayed until May.

• GFNMS "backloaded" 3 missions to late April and May.

• Aircraft was diverted to the Deepwater Horizon Spill in late April.

•GFNMS only conducted 3 vessel surveys.





# The Future: Plans for 2010-2011



- November April: The aircraft will be stationed in Monterey
- Project Focus: Vessel Surveys
- Emergency response is still a priority

# The Future: Emergency Response





- Twin Otter available for response:
  - Oil spills
  - Vessel groundings
  - Marine mammal strandings
- Should be able to respond within 24 hrs



# The Future: Building Partnerships for Aerial Patrols



USCG HelicopterUSCG C-130



Maximize utilization of state and federal assets

 Increase opportunities for joint operations

 Increase Cooperation and Communications while maintaining Confidentiality Security issues

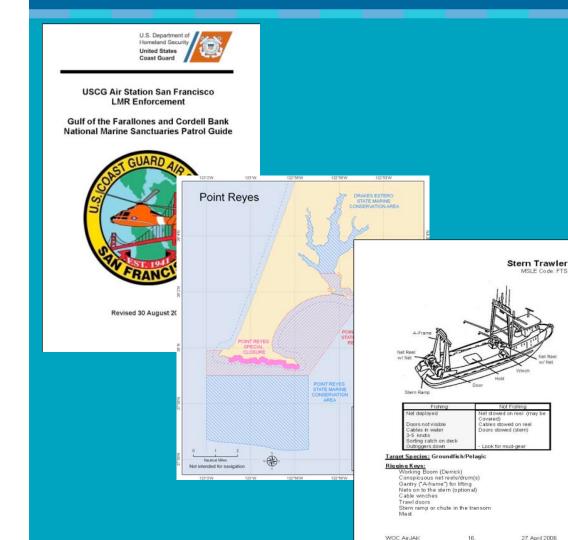
# The Future: Challenges

- At this time the aircraft is still scheduled to go to Alaska for the summer.
- "Soft" funding which creates a challenge for planning a long term monitoring program.
- Funding for the aircraft doesn't equal funding for staff.
- Staffing a more robust monitoring program remains a challenge.

# Next Steps (2011): **Updating the Aerial Patrol Guide**

MSLE Code: FT

27 April 2006



- **MLPA Maps**  $\bigcirc$
- Fishing Vessel ID  $\bigcirc$
- **Communications**  $\bigcirc$
- **Points of Contacts**  $\bigcirc$

# Questions?

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