GULF OF THE FARALLONES NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY 3rd Quarter FY2011

SUPERINTENDENT'S MEDIA REPORT

July through September ~ 2011



News Clippings and Coverage of Sanctuary Topics

Featured Article: September 6, San Francisco Chronicle [front page story], "Ships in blue whales' feeding grounds pose threat" by Peter Fimrite, Chronicle Staff Writer. "John Calambokidis stood on the bow of the Salty Lady like an old sea captain, his long white hair and beard blowing in the wind, and pointed out two blue whales surfacing on the starboard side. ... Sightings of blue whales, the largest creature to ever live, are rare despite the fact that the biggest concentration in the world feeds along the California coast. Marine biologists are now worried that the giant cetaceans will be driven even closer to extinction by large ships steaming over their feeding grounds. ... The most popular shipping route leading to San Francisco Bay skirts the Farallones sanctuary. Just to get there, though, ships must steam over whale feeding grounds along the continental shelf, Calambokidis said. Story at: http://www.sfgate.com/cgibin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/09/05/MNUN1KTBJR.DTL#ixzz1b9kuH1G3

July-September Issue, Bay Nature Magazine, "Safe Harbor" by William Keener. "... a team of biologists hired to conduct a census of harbor porpoises in the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary ... collaborators include ... Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary ..." See article at http://baynature.org/articles/jul-sep-2011/safe-harbor

July 3, San Francisco Chronicle, 'Demon Fish,' by Juliet Eilperin. Book Review by David McGuire. "... Bay Area residents get sharks more than most people. Whether we're tracking our resident white shark population in the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary or debating how to keep the predator off dinner plates, sharks are often in the news here. ..."



July 8, Marin Independent Journal, "Learn about mammals of the coast at talk. Local author and scientist Sarah Allen will discuss her new book, "A Field Guide to Marine Mammals of the Pacific Coast," ... Allen and co-authors Joe Mortenson and Sophie Webb have studied marine birds and mammals from the Gulf of the Farallones to Antarctica, and have produced a comprehensive guide based on their research ..."

July 10, AES 2011 Day 4 "... Kevin Weng has been tracking great whites in Southern California in conjunction with the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Eastern Pacific white sharks seem to be one population genetically, but separate off into two "ecological" populations; the sharks around Guadalupe in Mexican waters and those that group around the Farallones. By tagging juveniles found along southern California and Baja California, Kevin and his colleagues have found that the two white shark populations in the eastern Pacific may share the same nursery area, which would help explain their continued genetic similarity. ..."

July 12, Berkeley Daily Planet, "Leftover Whales" by Joe Eaton This behavioral flexibility intrigued Pyenson and Lindberg. It occurred to them that the nearshore foraging habitat used by contemporary gray whales might not have been available to their ancestors during the Pleistocene glacial maxima, when a huge amount of water was locked up in ice and you could have walked from Berkeley to the Farallones ..."

July 13, Marinscope Newspapers, "Grant helps county protect marine habitat" by Chris Rooney. "Duxbury Reef off Bolinas is one of two sensitive habitat areas targeted by a \$1.4 million grant from the State Water Resources Control Board. ... The Duxbury Reef State Marine Conservation Area was established in 1971 as an Area of Special Biological Significance within the Farallones National Marine Conservation Area. This reef was the site of seven major shipwrecks between 1853 and 1914. Duxbury Reef is home to many marine mammals, seabirds and fish, including white sharks. The reefs also host diverse marine invertebrate and algae populations ..."

July 13, KGO TV "Environmentalists Worry Ship Noise May Impact Whales" ... The ocean is becoming an even more dangerous place for whales. ... ABC7 went along with Dragon on a San Francisco whale watching tour boat to listen to the shipping noise first hand. In the Gulf of Farallones Sanctuary, a protected area outside the Golden Gate, whales are often spotted. A major shipping lane runs right through the sanctuary ... With so many ships in the ocean coming and going, it's created a tremendous amount of noise and it's a particular noise in that same frequency range that is utilized by baleen whales, those are the whales we have in San Francisco and off the coast of California, humpbacks, greys, blues, fins, many of which are highly endangered," Dragon said. Full coverage at http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/assignment 7&id=8249352

July 15, KQED "Why Do Gulls Always Appear During the 8th or 9th Inning of Giants Games, Regardless of Time? Posted by Lauren Sommer" ... Gulls have an advantage - they're total generalists. They're smart and they're tough. They can eat just about anything too. They go after fish, garbage, and other birds. Some of our work on the Farallon Islands has shown that gulls can actually recognize certain individual people as well. ..."

July 18, Half Moon Bay Patch, "New Signs at Harbor to Highlight Local Fisheries, Charter Boats, Marine Sanctuaries - Unveiling to take place in public ceremony next month at Pillar Point. Next month, visitors to Pillar Point Harbor just outside Half Moon Bay will be able to enjoy a series of six new educational signs highlighting local fisheries, Bay Area marine sanctuaries and the charter boat/water recreation industries. ... One sign is has been dedicated to each of the following subjects: ... Marine Sanctuaries (focus on a research vessel conducting expeditions in the Cordell Bank, Gulf of the Farallones and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuaries) ..."

July 19, Bay Nature Magazine, Decision Time at Lawson's Landing. July 13 Hearing May Resolve 50 Year Campground Fight" by Garrett McAuliffe. "...For nearly five decades, the campground at Lawson's Landing has existed in a sort of legal limbo, never acquiring the necessary permits to make camping legitimate. Now, after a half-century of unauthorized expansion, the campground finally looks set to resolve its long-standing rift with the law. ... Critics, who have long charged the campground with leaking sewage into Tomales Bay [GFNMS], argue that camping in wetland areas violates county law. ..."

Jul 19, KPIX TV"A whale of a sight" ... http://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/category/watch-listen/video-on-demand/?autoStart=true&topVideoCatNo=default&clipId=6066107

July 20, King salmon and whales returning to rule local waterways
By Peter Ottesen " ... The Oceanic Society also offers whale watching trips to the Farallon
Islands to take advantage of the krill and the unusual numbers of the giant sea mammals. Last
week we spotted 60 humpbacks, 21 blues and one grey whale, just outside the islands," said
skipper Roger Thomas of the Salty Lady. "Sightings like that just don't happen, but they did."

July 24, KTVU Fox 2 News, "Man Seeks Permit To Aggressively Tag Great Whites Special Report: Researcher Has Controversial Plan To Study Great White Sharks". John Fowler reports. "Most fear them, others find them awe-inspiring – great white sharks – and the creatures are headed back to California's coast. The endangered predators are more rare than tigers. In two decades, something has killed off 90 percent of the great whites. One scientist is asking the government to let him catch sharks with a hook, drag them for an hour, then haul them out to study them. Video at http://www.ktvu.com/news/28652544/detail.html

July 27, Half Moon Bay Review, "Harbor district unveils overdue interpretive signs "By Lily Bixler. "A long time in the making, Pillar Point Harbor officials are almost ready to unveil six signs conveying life at the docks and information about local fisheries. ... Harbor commissioners breathed fresh air into the project several years ago when they voted to approve \$35,000 toward the signs. Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary chipped in \$20,000, and one of the six signs is devoted to that agency."

August 2, Marin Independent Journal, "New state 'whale tail' license plates will help Marin enviro programs" by Mark Prado." The California Coastal Commission unveiled its new whale tail license plate Tuesday, proceeds of which will continue to help finance Marin environmental programs. ... A Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary program that has students

conduct research along the coastal rocky habitat areas such as Duxbury Reef as well as at Stinson, Rodeo, Muir and Limantour beaches has also been funded by the plates. "The whale tail funding ensures that over 1,500 students from all over the Bay Area have the opportunity to experience the challenges and satisfactions of working as scientists at the seashore," said Mary Jane Schramm, spokeswoman for the sanctuary. ..."

August 2, Santa Rosa Press Democrat "Search on for distressed boat in Tomales Bay" by Kerry Benefield. "A reported emergency flare sighting sparked a search of the waters of Tomales Bay [GFNMS] for a pleasure boat in distress late Monday. The Coast Guard is preparing to send a 25-foot boat to the area. "It's a particularly dangerous stretch of water," Bretz said of the passage between Bodega Bay and Tomales Bay."

August 2, DreadCentral.com, "Shark Night 3D: Relativity Media Has Your Chance to Become Chum!" by Uncle Creepy. "Think you have what it takes to face off against the deadliest predator alive? Relativity invites you to enter for your chance to win a trip to dive with the Great Whites of the Farallon Islands in waters off San Francisco. The promotion, built by PromoJam, enters fans into the contest! In exchange for a post on either Facebook or Twitter - allowing fans to share the promotion virally to their friends on the social networks. ..."

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August 3, Examiner.com, "'Shark Night 3D' gives fans a chance to swim with great whites Continue reading on Examiner.com 'Shark Night 3D' gives fans a chance to swim with great whites - http://www.examiner.com/fanboys-in-national/shark-night-3d-gives-fans-a-chance-to-swim-with-great-whites#ixzz1Tz1cSmwA

August 3, patch.com, "Coast Guard Suspends Search in Tomales Bay for Possible Distressed ... Patch.com "US Coast Guard The US Coast Guard this morning suspended a search for a boater in distress in Tomales Bay. A man called 911 from the Lawson's Landing area ..."

August 3, cinemaspy.com, "Relativity Releases Another Bite Out of Shark Night 3D. To have a chance of winning a dive with the Great Whites of the Farallon Islands off San Francisco you have to enter a sweepstakes by posting ..."

August 3, Half Moon Bay Review, "Crew dislodges acoustic device from ocean - Vessel comes to coastal waters to retrieve microphones" by Lily Bixler. "On Monday, a University of Washington vessel called the Thompson settled 60 miles off the coast of Half Moon Bay to bring up a series of inactive underwater microphones from the ocean's depths. ... The project ended up being controversial due to concerns about the impact of the sound on marine life within the national marine sanctuary. An unusual sponge was even found growing up from the buried cable.

More at http://www.hmbreview.com/news/crew-dislodges-acoustic-device-from-ocean/article_d8347dae-be21-11e0-9b32-001cc4c002e0.html

August 3, patch.com, "Coast Guard Suspends Search in Tomales Bay for Possible Distressed ... Patch.com "US Coast Guard The US Coast Guard this morning suspended a search for a boater in distress in Tomales Bay. A man called 911 from the Lawson's Landing area ..."

August 3, Examiner.com, "'Shark Night 3D' gives fans a chance to swim with great whites Continue reading on Examiner.com 'Shark Night 3D' gives fans a chance to swim with great whites - http://www.examiner.com/fanboys-in-national/shark-night-3d-gives-fans-a-chance-to-swim-with-great-whites#ixzz1Tz1cSmwA

August 3, cinemaspy.com, "Relativity Releases Another Bite Out of Shark Night 3D. To have a chance of winning a dive with the Great Whites of the Farallon Islands off San Francisco you have to enter a sweepstakes by posting ..."

August 3, Horror Yearbook, "Shark Night 3D: Win A Chance To Swim With The Sharks. Relativity Media is holding a sweepstakes for a chance to dive with the Great Whites of the Farallon Islands in waters off San Francisco. ..."

August 5, San Francisco Chronicle, "Energy-efficiency program offer rebates" by David R. Baker." "Brian and Kelley Johnson could tell their new home wasn't airtight. ... Johnson, who is deputy superintendent of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. "It's a no-brainer. Why wouldn't everyone do this?" ..." Read more: http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/08/04/BUK91KJEEE.DTL#ixzz1UThdBhGC

August 8, The Bay Citizen, Surfline.com, "Mavericks Accidents Trigger Rethink on Jet Ski Ban" In the wake of two dramatic accidents this year at the Mavericks surf break near Half Moon Bay, the federal government and San Mateo County are working on a plan to lift a controversial ban on Jet Skis for surfers and photographers who receive special rescue training. ... (http://s.tt/12ZVL)..."

August 9, KCBS Radio, "San Mateo May Lift Jet Ski Ban At Mavericks - San Mateo County officials may be close to doing away with a controversial ban on jet skis at the Mavericks surfing spot. ... Mary Jane Schramm, spokeswoman for the Gulf of the Farallones, which manages the Monterey Sanctuary, said that they're not concerned about pollution from the jet skis, they're worried about the impact on wildlife when jet skis are driven through rafts of otters. ..." http://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2011/08/09/san-mateo-may-lift-jet-ski-ban-at-mavericks/

August 10, abclocal.com, "Officials to consider Mavericks jet ski patrol proposal. The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office on Thursday will present a plan to federal officials that could provide for a voluntary Jet Ski patrol for the safety of surfers at the famous Mavericks break. Privately operated Jet Skis are prohibited at Mavericks, which lies within the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. ... However, personal watercrafts that are used by a public agency to protect public safety or property are allowable, marine sanctuary spokeswoman Mary Jane Schramm said. "We have never prohibited a public agency from using Jet Skis when

it comes to public safety," Schramm said. More at http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/local/peninsula&id=8301159&rss=rss-kgo-article-8301159

August 11 coverage Jet Ski/MPWC:

- San Mateo Daily Journal, "Feds to consider proposal for Jet Ski patrols at Mavericks. The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office on Thursday will present a plan to federal officials that could provide for a voluntary Jet Ski patrol for the safety of surfers at the famous Mavericks break. Privately operated Jet Skis are prohibited at Mavericks, which lies within the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. However, personal watercrafts that are used by a public agency to protect public safety or property are allowable, marine sanctuary spokeswoman Mary Jane Schramm said.

 ...http://www.smdailyjournal.com/article_preview.php?type=lnews&title=Feds%20to%20consider%20proposal%20for%20Jet%20Ski%20patrols%20at%20Mavericks&id=1649
- Patch.com, "Mavericks: Sheriff's Patrol Force Would Increase Access to Jet Ski ... by Kristine Wong "An idea to develop a volunteer jet ski patrol force certified to perform search and rescue at the Mavericks surf break was presented yesterday by the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office in front of an audience of marine sanctuary advisors and Coastside surfers. ... Barberini said that the Sheriff's Office was approached by marine sanctuary officials with the idea that the Sheriff could administer the volunteer patrol force, given the Sheriff's status as a public safety agency with the authority to conduct search and rescue in sanctuary waters whenever necessary. ..."
- Bay Citizen, "New Surf Rescue Plan for Mavericks on the Horizon by John Upton . A proposal to allow trained and certified volunteers to use jet skis to perform rescues at the famous Mavericks surf break was widely lauded Thursday by officials who oversee a national marine sanctuary -- but the proposal comes with a catch. While many surfers and surf photographers want to be allowed to patrol the towering offshore break using personal watercraft in case somebody is wiped out and needs to be rescued, a senior federal official said the vehicles would need to remain out of the water until after an accident occurs. ..." [NOTE: Statement is entirely incorrect, retraction was requested.]
- Half Moon Bay Review"Sheriff may begin training for Jet Ski rescue
 At a Gulf of the Farallones *National Marine Sanctuary* meeting held in Pacifica Thursday, Sheriff's Sgt. Joe Sheridan spoke about the Sheriff's response …"
- NBC San Diego, "County Trying to Make Surfing at Mavericks Safer. The sheriff's office will attend a Gulf of the Farallones *National Marine Sanctuary* Advisory Council Meeting on Thursday to present plans for a "San Mateo ..."
- Global Surf News, "Plan in the works to legalize PWCs at Mavericks" by Chris Bertish, Art Gimbel. Privately operated Jet Skis are prohibited at Mavericks, which lies within the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. ..."
- Patch.com, "San Mateo Argues With Feds for Jet Skis to Save Surfers' Lives" Privately operated Jet Skis are prohibited at Mavericks, which lies within the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. ..."
- NBC Bay Area, "County Trying to Make Surfing at Mavericks Safer. The sheriff's office
 will attend a Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council
 Meeting on Thursday to present plans for a "San Mateo ..."

- KTVU Fox 2 TV, "Sheriff's Office Proposes Volunteer Jet Ski Unit For Mavericks. "The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Thursday presented federal officials the framework for a proposal that will allow volunteers on Jet Skis to patrol the surf break at Mavericks. ... The unit could be expanded to encompass a fleet of volunteers on Jet Skis who would eventually patrol all the ocean waters off the San Mateo County coast, including Mavericks and coastal zones further south that lie outside the 1,282-square-mile Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. Video at http://www.ktvu.com/news/28841877/detail.html
- San Mateo Daily Journal, "Feds to consider proposal for Jet Ski patrols at Mavericks
- The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office on Thursday will present a plan to federal officials that could provide for a voluntary Jet Ski patrol for the safety of surfers at the famous Mayericks break.
- Almanac News, http://www.almanacnews.com/news/show_story.php?id=9452
- Jet Ski patrols proposed for Mavericks. The goal: Provide safety net for surfers
- The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office on Thursday will present a plan to federal officials that could provide for a voluntary Jet Ski patrol for the safety of surfers at the famous Mavericks break. Privately operated Jet Skis are prohibited at Mavericks, which lies within the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. ..."

August 14, KWMR Radio, "Tomales Bay Oyster Leases Renewed, Finally" by George Clyde. "Fish and Game Commission Renews Tomales Bay [GFNMS] Oyster Leases on Favorable Terms It took nearly two years, but Hog Island Oyster Company, Point Reyes Oyster Company and Marin Oyster Company have successfully negotiated long-term leases for up to 25 years, with acceptable increases in rental rates. George Clyde interviews John Finger of Hog Island Oyster Company about the leases and the obstacles he faces in expanding his lease areas. ..." More at http://kwmr.org/blog/show/137

August 14, redding.com, "Bon Voyage: See the lesser-known side of San Francisco" by Jessica Skropanic." Rudyard Kipling once said San Francisco has one disadvantage. " ...'tis hard to leave." Those who don't leave often know best what the city offers, so I asked recently transplanted residents their favorite things to do in San Francisco. Here are five excursions you've probably never heard of, each worth a day or weekend trip. ..."The Steinhart Aquarium's California Coast tank re-creates the habitats of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary ..."

August 18, Half Moon Bay Review, "Sheriff dips toe into surf Jet Ski debate" by Julia Reis. "... the Coastside surfing community is viewing the approaching peak of the surf season with some unease. Although these towering swells are enticing, surfers are well aware they can also be lethal. The San Mateo County Sheriff's Office is exploring the possibility of creating a volunteer search and rescue team to patrol coastal beaches on personal watercraft, but surfers fear that the crew will not be prepared in time for the coming winter. "I would love to have that work, but with budget and time constraints, winter will be here in three months," said Mavericks surf contest founder Jeff Clark at a Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary meeting on Thursday. ..."

August 22, Los Angeles Times, "Diver debunks Diver debunks sharks' bad reputation

'Shark Publicist' William Winram tags great whites for scientists and captures images of them that confound us. He wants to show that humans' natural fear of the so-called man-eater has been blown way out of proportion. ..."Most of the time they're pretty wary," said Ron Elliott, a seaurchin diver who harvested the cold, rough waters of the Farallon Islands, 27 miles outside the Golden Gate Bridge, for 15 years. ..."

August 23, Bay City News Service, Imperial Valley News, "Two from Bay Area among Brown appointees. Gov. Jerry Brown announced five appointments for state positions, two of which were filled by Bay Area residents, the governor's office said Tuesday. ... Brown appointed San Francisco's Barbara Emley, 69, to the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission. Emley has fished commercially for more than 20 years and has served as the strategy team leader for the Pacific Coast Federation of Fisherman's Associations since 1995. From 2002 to 2007, Emley chaired the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council. ..."

August 23, SF Appeal, Bay City News Service, Imperial Valley News, "SF Woman Named To Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission. Gov. Jerry Brown announced five appointments for state positions, two of which were filled by Bay Area residents, ... Brown appointed San Francisco's Barbara Emley, 69, to the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission. Emley has fished commercially for more than 20 years and has served as the strategy team leader for the Pacific Coast Federation of Fisherman's Associations since 1995. From 2002 to 2007, Emley chaired the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council. ..."

August 25, perishablenews.com, "Pacific Shellfish Sustainability Practices Earn New Food Alliance Certification" by Food Alliance. "... Two shellfish producers, Hog Island Oyster Company of Tomales Bay [GFNMS], California and Taylor Shellfish Farms of Shelton, Washington, are the first to qualify under the new standards,"

August 25, Orange County Weekly, "VIDEO: Great White Shark Illegally Caught and Killed in Huntington Beach" ... SharkLab has tagged "hundreds" of young great white sharks between the Farallon Islands off the coast of San Francisco, down to the Guadalupe Islands, which are 150 statute miles off the coast of Baja California. ..."

August 26, Marin Independent Journal, In Your Town" "... A consultant will be paid \$113,000 for project management in connection with plans to restore Kent Island in Bolinas Lagoon by removing invasive plants, planting native plants and making related improvements. .."

August 26, Sublegals. "Bonham Named CDFG Director, Emley Appointed PSMFC Commisioner: ...Governor Brown announced the appointment of San Francisco fisherwoman Barbara Emley as one of California's three Commissioners to the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC). Emley is an Institute for Fisheries Resources Board member and former Chair of the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary's Advisory Committee.

September 2, Marin Independent Journal, "Deep sea expedition off Marin coast reveals sea's hidden world" by Mark Prado. "Researchers spent this week scouring a previously unexplored deep-sea canyon about 30 miles northwest of Point Reyes looking for corals and associated marine life. The Bodega Canyon, north of Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary off the

Marin coast, is 6,000 feet deep at the edge of the continental shelf. The federally designated Cordell Bank sanctuary sits beyond the Gulf of the Farallones ..."

September 2, Marin Independent Journal, "Red tide along Sonoma coast prompts caution" by Rob Rogers. "State health officials are closely monitoring an unusual red tide along the Sonoma coast. Officials say the concentrated algae bloom has not drifted into Marin County waters, and that no one has so far reported becoming ill as a result of eating shellfish harvested in the area. "At this point, we don't know where it will go or if it will spread," said Carrie Wilson, a spokeswoman for the California Department of Fish and Game. "It currently ranges from Fisk Mill Cove (at Salt Point State Park) to below Bodega Bay [GFNMS]." Because the phenomenon has already been responsible for the death of abalone, sea stars and other invertebrates in Sonoma waters, it's being closely watched by health and game officials — particularly in the oyster-rich waters of Tomales Bay. ..."

September 6, San Francisco Chronicle [front page story!], "Ships in blue whales' feeding grounds pose threat" by Peter Fimrite, Chronicle Staff Writer. "John Calambokidis stood on the bow of the Salty Lady like an old sea captain, his long white hair and beard blowing in the wind, and pointed out two blue whales surfacing on the starboard side. ... Sightings of blue whales, the largest creature to ever live, are rare despite the fact that the biggest concentration in the world feeds along the California coast. Marine biologists are now worried that the giant cetaceans will be driven even closer to extinction by large ships steaming over their feeding grounds. ..." Read more: http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-

bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/09/05/MNUN1KTBJR.DTL#ixzz1ZTsKJcoB http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/09/05/MNUN1KTBJR.DTL

September 9, San Francisco Business Times, "The business of adventure. Whether it's shark diving near the Farallon Islands or a day of grilling, whiskey tasting and clay shooting in Sonoma, there is a new adventure to be had ... "

Saturday, September 10, "Surfline.com Surf News. 'Goliaths of the Pacific -Big Wave Hunters'... Featured arenas are Mavericks, the Cortes Bank, ..."

September 20, "GGNRA lays out plan for the next two decades" by Mark Prado. "...The park [Golden Gate National Recreation Area] has developed its preliminary general management plan, which shows how the GGNRA could look over the next two decades, and has begun soliciting public comments. The final plan is expected to receive approval late next year. ... Bolinas Lagoon [GFNMS], one of Marin County's most significant natural areas, is also proposed to be included in the park's authorized boundary in the plan. The balance of GGNRA lands are in San Francisco and San Mateo counties. ..."

September 22, Marin Independent Journal, "Highway 1 project makes first step toward renewed health of Bolinas Lagoon" By Mark Prado. "Road work along Bolinas Lagoon [GFNMS] is the first step toward restoring full health to one of the world's most biologically diverse bodies of water. At an event at the worksite Wednesday, Caltrans officials, Supervisor Steve Kinsey and environmentalists ballyhooed the \$3.5 million project along two miles of Highway 1 as a key component toward reducing the amount of sediment that washes from hillsides into the lagoon.

... "Although the lagoon looks healthy and beautiful here today, it has been impacted for hundreds of years," said Maria Brown, Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary superintendent. "The watershed has been degraded and we are working to restore it. This is a first big step." More at http://www.marinij.com/westmarin/ci_18948338

September 22, KWMR Radio West Marin Report, "Federal, State and County Officials Celebrate the First Project of Many Over a decade of planning for restoration of Bolinas Lagoon is finally coming to fruition as Caltrans is restoring and replacing damaged seawalls, culverts and turnouts along the Lagoon. At a roadside ceremony, this initial phase was praised by Supervisor Steve Kinsey, Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Superintendent Maria Brown and Caltrans officials. ..."

September 22, Marin Independent Journal, "Red tide along Sonoma coast prompts caution" by Rob Rogers. "State health officials are closely monitoring an unusual red tide along the Sonoma coast. Officials say the concentrated algae bloom has not drifted into Marin County waters, and that no one has so far reported becoming ill as a result of eating shellfish harvested in the area. " ... "It currently ranges from Fisk Mill Cove (at Salt Point State Park) to below Bodega Bay [GFNMS]." Because the phenomenon has already been responsible for the death of abalone, sea stars and other invertebrates in Sonoma waters, it's being closely watched by health and game officials — particularly in the oyster-rich waters of Tomales Bay [GFNMS]. ..."

September 22, KCBS Radio, Bolinas Lagoon Plan Turns to Action. "Here's proof the people of Marin love their lagoons" by Joe Rosado Jr. "When oil from the 2007 Cosco Busan oil spill began drifting into the Bolinas Lagoon in Marin County, residents took matters into their own hands. They attempted to stretch a boom across the mouth of the lagoon, straining to try and stop the surge of oil. ... The Bolinas Lagoon restoration plan was formally adopted in 2008. The Gulf Of Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, which oversees the inlet, also plans to remove nonnative species and plants during the next phase of the project, scheduled to begin next year. "We're looking at reversing all these negative trends and restoring it back to a more healthy state," said Gulf Of Farallones director Maria Brown. ..."

September 22, KWMR Radio, "Bolinas Lagoon Restoration Begins. Federal, State and County Officials Celebrate the First Project of Many Over a decade of planning for restoration of Bolinas Lagoon is finally coming to fruition as Caltrans is restoring and replacing damaged seawalls, culverts and turnouts along the Lagoon. At a roadside ceremony, this initial phase was praised by Supervisor Steve Kinsey, Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Superintendent Maria Brown and Caltrans officials.

September 27, Bay Nature Magazine, First Day of Ocean Research Tour Finds Red Tide Rather Than Whales" by Aleta George. "... Kirsten Lindquist was the bird observer on the first day of a five-day research cruise conducted by ACCESS, a marine research collaborative formed by PRBO Conservation Science, Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary, and Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. ...Such data can help scientists, refuge managers, and policy makers protect the marine environment and support planning of Marine Protected Areas. ..." See article at http://baynature.org/articles/web-only-articles/day-1of-ocean-research-tour-finds-red-tide-rather-than-whales

Bay Nature Magazine "... the Farallon Islands off the San Francisco coast lie within the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, a rich marine ecosystem that attracts leatherback sea turtles, whales, dolphins, seals and seabirds throughout the year. ..."

September 28, 2011, San Francisco Chronicle/Associated Press, "Clean water found along California coast" by Liz Hafalia. "Baker Beach in San Francisco received a top rating from the Heal the Bay group in its end-of-summer report on water quality along the California coast. California beachgoers enjoyed another summer of clean water, according to an annual study released Tuesday. An estimated 92 percent of the 447 beaches along the state's coast that were tested for bacterial pollution from Memorial Day through Labor Day appeared clean, according to Heal the Bay. ..." Read more: http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/09/27/BA4I1LAAPP.DTL#ixzz1ZGXGtoex