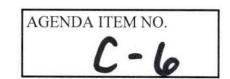


COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT



For the meeting of: July 25, 2017

Date:

July 14, 2017

To:

Board of Supervisors

From:

Supervisor Mike Wilson

Subject:

Consider Resolution in Support of the Greater Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine

Sanctuaries as Supported by Marin, Mendocino and Sonoma Counties.

<u>RECOMMENDATION(S)</u>: That the Board of Supervisors consider a resolution in support of the Greater Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries.

SOURCE OF FUNDING: N/A

<u>DISCUSSION</u>: The Greater Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries are home to some of the most diverse coastal ecosystems which support giant kelp forests, many species of marine mammals, migrating salmon and hundreds of other forms of sea life. These waters are currently protected against pollution and seabed destruction through designation in 1981 as part of the National Marine Sanctuary System. However, the recent presidential order to review National Marine Sanctuaries designated in the past ten years with the goal of opening these protected areas to offshore exploration and drilling, is of deep concern.

As a coastal county, Humboldt County has long supported the protection of vital coastal resources, tourism, fishing and mariculture cultivation industries, and stands with other coastal counties in their efforts to protect these very pristine coastal waters.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: N/A

Prepared by	Kathy Hayes		_ Signature	•	
REVIEW:			***************************************		
Auditor	County Counsel	Personnel	Risk Manager	Other	
Public Other PREVIOUS ACT	ent etmental e Hearing ————————————————————————————————————		BOARD OF SUPERVISO Upon motion of Supervisor Ayes Fennull, WI Nays Abstain Absent BOSS, Bohn	rs present, the Board hereby approves the	
			Vathe Haves Clark of the	Daniel	-

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT N/A

<u>ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS</u> Board discretion

<u>ATTACHMENTS</u> Proposed Resolution

RESOLUTION

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

WHEREAS, the coast of California is one of the treasures of the nation, with the continent's strongest upwelling system at Point Arena creating a bountiful and beautiful coastal ecosystem, whose riches include giant kelp forests, many species of marine mammals, migrating salmon and hundreds of other forms of sea life; and

WHEREAS, the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors is aware that the federal government is reviewing National Marine Sanctuaries designated in the last ten years to facilitate the opening of these waters to offshore oil exploration and drilling; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries prohibit offshore oil, gas, and mineral extraction in federal waters, all of which have the potential to negatively impact the Humboldt County coastline and economy; and

WHEREAS, many of our local fishing industry wholly depends on pollution free waters to deliver delicious and nutritious seafood, including wild salmon, Dungeness crab, and shellfish to customers around the world; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries have prioritized proactive working relationships with the commercial fishing industry, maintaining an open and transparent approach to managing their living marine resources that serves as a model for the nation; and

WHEREAS, reliance on coastal resources has been a foundation of Humboldt County's culture and economy for generations; and

WHEREAS, California coastal beaches receive millions of visitors a year and are a cornerstone for our tourist economy; and

WHEREAS, the North Coast has a long history of coastal protection, its citizens taking an active role in protecting our coast against pollution; and

WHEREAS, over fifty years of marine research at Humboldt State University's Telonicher Marine Lab is dependent on keeping these coastal waters pristine; and

WHEREAS, all of California's coastal waters are interconnected and interdependent; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt County recognizes the extensive input from citizens of Mendocino, Sonoma, and Marin Counties that demonstrated overwhelming support for the 2015 expansion of the Greater Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries; and

WHEREAS, the Mendocino, Sonoma, and Marin County Boards of Supervisors have expressed unanimous support for maintaining the existing boundaries of and legal protections for California's national marine sanctuaries.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors hereby urges all citizens of the county and state to stand with them in support of the Greater Farallones and the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries and in opposition to any new policies that weaken the benefits and protections of our coastal waters.

DATED: August 15, 2017

VIRGINIA BASS, Chair