

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary is undergoing a management plan review. The revised management plan will be informed by current issues and knowledge, and will help the sanctuary continue to protect natural and cultural resources.

JULY 6

NOAA published the draft management plan, environmental assessment, and proposed rule kicking off a 60-day public review.

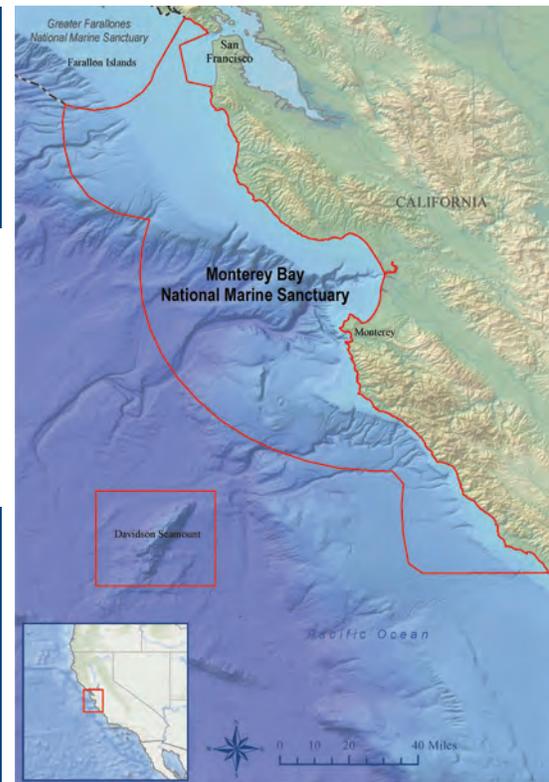
SEPTEMBER 4

Sanctuary management welcomes your input about the proposal during a 60-day public comment period, ending September 4, 2020.

We invite you to submit comments in one of several ways:

- Submit online comments at www.regulations.gov, using docket number NOAA-NOS-2020-0094.
- Provide comments at “virtual” public meetings (details at montereybay.noaa.gov)
 - July 23: Management plan review public meeting
 - Aug. 21: Monterey Bay Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting
 - Aug. 24: Greater Farallones Sanctuary Advisory Council meeting
- Mail written comments to:
 - Public Comment
 - Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
 - 99 Pacific Street, Building 455
 - Monterey, CA 93940

NOAA will consider public comments, then prepare a final management plan, regulations, and environmental assessment.



Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary was designated in 1992 by Congress to protect special marine areas off California's central coast, stretching 276 miles of shoreline from Marin to Cambria. It encompasses 6,094 square statute miles of ocean, including Davidson Seamount.

For more information on the management plan review process and to access the full documents, visit montereybay.noaa.gov

PROPOSED ACTION PLANS & REGULATORY CHANGES

The draft management plan is comprised of 14 action plans:

Issue-based action plans:

- Climate Change
- Coastal Erosion and Sediment Management
- Davidson Seamount Management Zone and Sur Ridge
- Emerging Issues
- Introduced Species
- Marine Debris
- Water Quality Protection
- Wildlife Disturbance

Program-based action plans:

- Education, Outreach, and Communication
- Marine Spatial Planning
- Maritime Heritage
- Operations and Administration
- Research and Monitoring
- Resource Protection

Action plans detail specific strategies, activities and resources needed by the sanctuary to address priority conservation and management issues over the coming decade.



Proposed modifications to existing sanctuary regulations:

- Clarify that the beneficial use of clean and suitable dredged material is permitted for habitat restoration purposes.
- Modify regulations for the Mavericks operating zone to potentially increase the number of days motorized personal watercraft could access the area.
- Modify regulations to motorized personal watercraft year-round zones for safety.
- Correct an error omitting a list of Department of Defense-exempted activities in the 2008 Final Environmental Impact Statement.



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