



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE
National Marine Sanctuary Program

March 10, 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR: Daniel J. Basta
Director, ONMS

FROM: Maria Brown
Gulf of the Farallones NMS Superintendent

Paul Michel
Monterey Bay NMS Superintendent

SUBJECT: Monterey Bay and Gulf of the Farallones Sanctuary Advisory Council's joint resolution on staff and volunteer involvement with the *Cosco Busan* oil spill.

On February 15, 2008 the Monterey Bay Sanctuary and Gulf of the Farallones Sanctuary Advisory Councils passed a resolution commending all Gulf of the Farallones, Monterey Bay, and Cordell Bank personnel and volunteers who worked as a unit for countless hours throughout the *Cosco Busan* oil spill.

The Advisory Councils have requested this resolution be sent to National Marine Sanctuary Director, Daniel Basta.

cc: William Douros

Attachments

Whereas, the Gulf of the Farallones and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuaries were recently affected by the tragic oil spill resulting from the November 2007 collision of the container vessel *Cosco Busan* with a supporting abutment of the Oakland Bay Bridge. This accident and its aftermath brought into focus the critical response role that National Marine Sanctuary staff plays when public trust resources such as wildlife and marine ecosystems are threatened or damaged by spilled oil or other hazardous cargoes.

Whereas, during this recent sequence of events, those of us who are privileged to serve on the Gulf of the Farallones and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Councils had the opportunity to observe, often firsthand, the heroic work undertaken by Sanctuary staff members during the long ordeal following the *Cosco Busan* incident. The diligent efforts of each individual, collectively addressing resource protection, interagency coordination, public education, natural resource damage assessment, and the often heartbreaking tasks associated with collection, inventory, and transport of injured and dead wildlife to appropriate locations drew deeply upon the dedication of both staff and volunteers.

Therefore be it resolved, the Gulf of the Farallones and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Councils hereby commend all Gulf of the Farallones, Monterey Bay, and Cordell Bank personnel and volunteers who worked as a unit for countless hours, often day and night, throughout this traumatic event.

Be it further resolved, we rededicate ourselves to the sound stewardship of the fragile ecosystems that our nation has placed in the care of our Sanctuaries, and we thank those on the staff here and throughout the Sanctuary Program, the staff of the Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association, those who serve on the Beach Watch Program, and the many other volunteers who just appeared on our doorstep, for their tireless efforts to mitigate, as much as possible, the impacts of the *Cosco Busan* oil spill on our waters, on our wildlife and fisheries, and on the public enjoyment and use of our Sanctuary resources.