MEMORANDUM FOR: Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council
FROM: Paul Michel, Superintendent
SUBJECT: West Coast Sanctuaries Priorities FY13

In preparation for the October 18 SAC meeting in Cambria and the agenda item regarding the West Coast SAC Chairs meeting, I have prepared the following summary of West Coast Priorities for FY13, information that was shared with the SAC Chairs. Please consider any advice you might provide or specific interests. It is a very long list of priorities, so any comments on relative priority would be appreciated by the West Coast Regional Office.

West Coast Priorities FY13 (not in order of priority):

1. Deep Sea Coral/EFH. Improved info on the location, abundance and diversity of DSC; improved protection of DSC; improved awareness of DSC role in ecosystem dynamics.
2. Whale Ship Strikes. Coordinated preparedness; Transfer of CINMS knowledge and protocols to Central Coast; Better protection of whales.
3. Coordinating Enforcement. Increased enforcement presence in sanctuaries; Successful prosecution of sanctuary enforcement cases.
8. NMFS-ONMS Communications. Better integration and coordination
11. Introduced Species Regulation Change. Finalize rule.
12. Consider Boundary Expansion for MBNMS “donut hole”.
13. Abalone Recovery (white & black). Prevent extinction of white abalone and help recover black abalone
15. CI & MB: Recreational Fishing Tournament. Improved partnership/relationship with recreational fishing community.
16. Sentinel Sites TBD
17. Climate Change. Improved ability to identify resources at risk from climate change and develop appropriate adaptation and mitigation strategies.
18. Sustainable Fishing Communities. Improved knowledge across region of site specific projects (lessons learned, etc) that foster better relationship with fishing communities.
19. Tsunami marine debris. Improved understanding of significance of tsunami marine debris and potential impacts on sanctuary resources; development of appropriate response strategies to minimize impacts to sanctuary resources.