



# Possible Changes to Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary's Regulations For Zone 1 in the Northern Portion of MBNMS

**MBNMS Advisory Council Meeting  
October 19, 2018**

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# Background



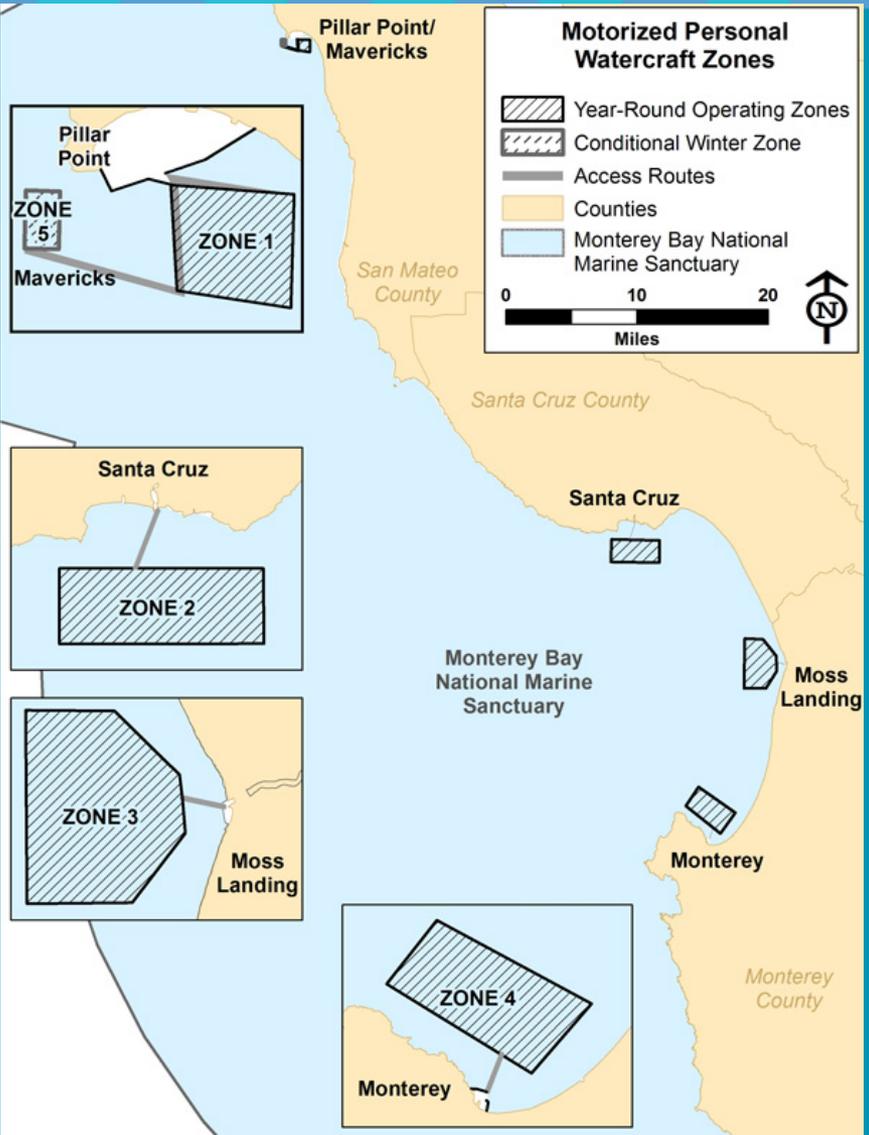
## Why MPWC regulations?

To help protect sanctuary habitats and sensitive marine life, operation of motorized personal watercraft within the MBNMS has been restricted to five designated zones and access routes

*(Title 15, CFR Section 922.132(a)(7) Zone boundaries described in detail in Appendix E).*



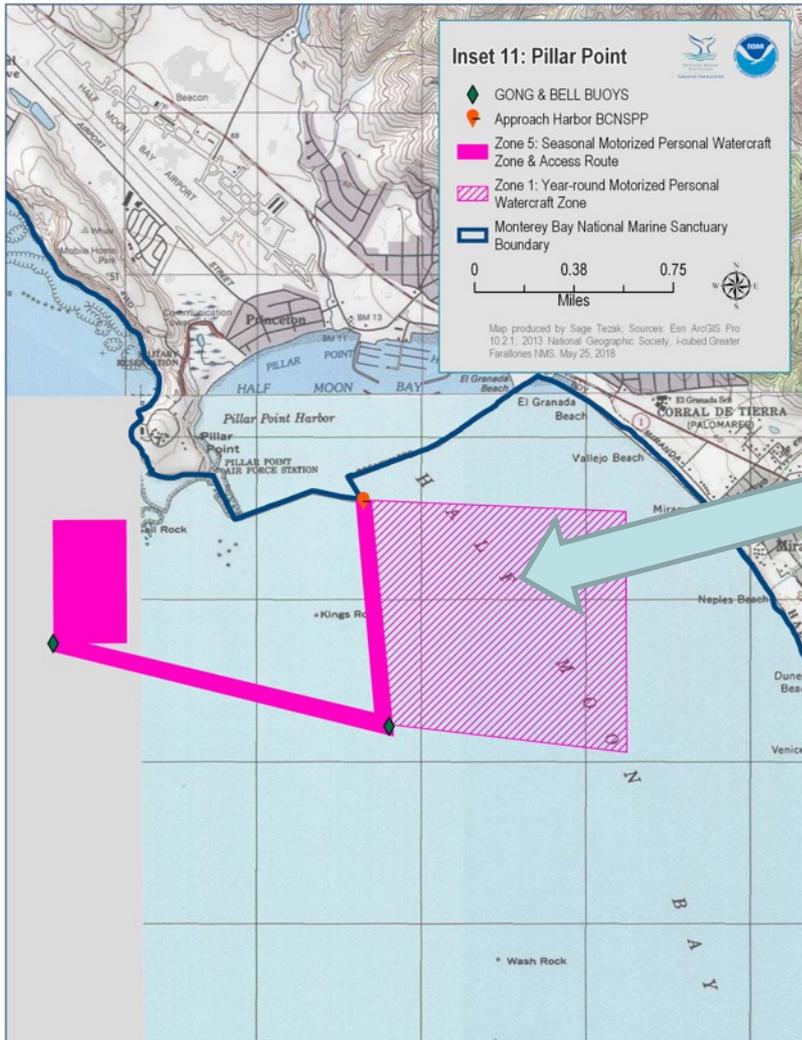
# Background



## 5 MPWC Zones in MBNMS

(Monterey, Moss Landing, Santa Cruz, Pillar Point, Mavericks)

# Background



## Zone 1 Pillar Point (Half Moon Bay)

- (year-round) - accessed through Pillar Point Harbor (PPH) channel

# Background / Purpose and Need



Scoping process for the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) Management Plan Review (MPR) completed in 2015

Currently MPWC are largely used for surf rescue during big wave days (Zone 5)...



GFNMS decided to internally review MPWC use patterns in Zone 1 based on Scoping comments to determine current level of use...

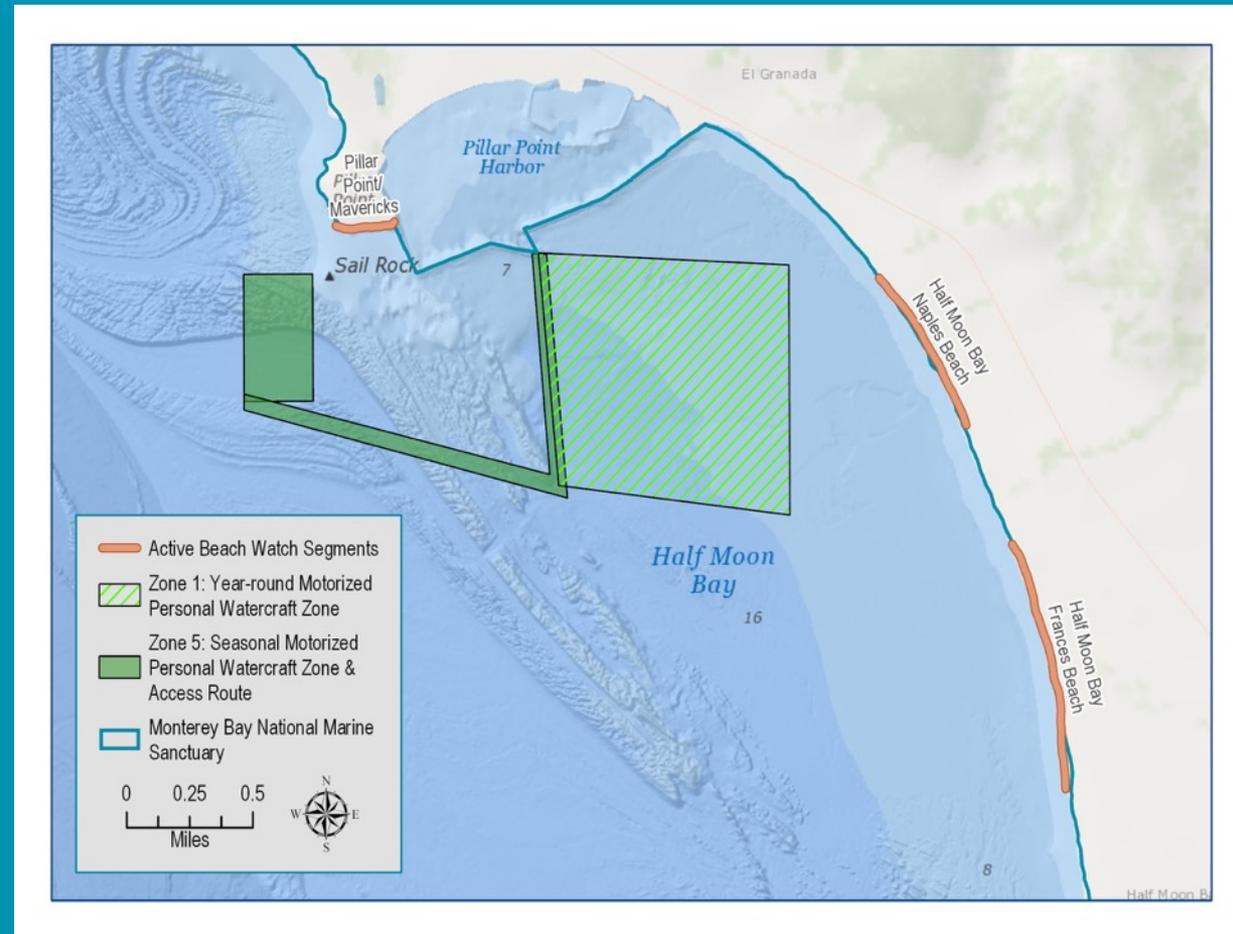


# Beach Watch Monitoring



Beach Watch data was analyzed from 2 Beach Segments:

- 1) Francis Beach
- 2) Naples Beach



# Beach Watch Monitoring



## Beach Watch data methods:

Beach Watch surveyors collect wildlife and human use data out in nearshore waters (including zone 1).

Documented human use activities of interest (include vessel use, MPWCs)

MPWC observations are documented in the comments section of each data sheet.

# Beach Watch Monitoring



Beach Watch data collected since November 1, 2014

<b>Frances Beach</b>	<b>No. Days</b>
Sunday	14
Monday	6
Tuesday	1
Thursday	4
Friday	2
Saturday	61
<b>Total No. Survey Days</b>	<b>88</b>

172 total survey days

**TOTAL NUMBER OF MPWCS OBSERVED IN ZONE 1 = 1 MPWC**

<b>Naples Beach</b>	<b>No. Days</b>
Sunday	14
Monday	10
Tuesday	4
Wednesday	2
Thursday	4
Friday	8
Saturday	42
<b>Total No. Survey Days</b>	<b>84</b>

<b>Total No. Survey Days (both beaches)</b>	<b>172</b>
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# Regulatory Change Under Consideration



## Possible Regulatory Changes to Zone 1:

Eliminate Zone 1 through the MBNMS Management Plan Review (MPR) process based on the following considerations:

- 1) Lack of MPWC use (Beach Watch data)
- 2) Improved enforceability of Zone 5
- 3) Difficulty and cost of maintaining buoys  
*(approx. 30K per year)*

# Next Steps?



## **GFNMS AC meeting (August 2018) ACTION ITEM:**

GFNMS Advisory Council recommended that the removal of Zone 1 through the Management Plan Review process

## **MBNMS AC meeting (October 2018)**

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

Work with MBNMS to determine whether to consider as part of the MPR process  
(Draft EA, Draft Rule and public comment)