

Whereas, H.R. 1187, the Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries Boundary Modification and Protection Act, was introduced to the 110th Congress on February 16, 2007 by Ms. Woolsey and Mr. Gilchrest; and

Whereas, H.R. 1187 would expand the boundaries of the Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries to broaden the geographic scope of protection the two sanctuaries provide to an extremely productive ocean environment; and

Whereas, submarine canyons, such as Bodega Canyon, are ecologically and economically important because they act as a refuge for some economically important species, provide suitable habitat for sensitive species such as deep water corals and sponges and extend from the continental shelf to the deep sea containing a variety of habitats and a diversity of organisms; and

Whereas, the primary reason for expanding the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary is to include Bodega Canyon within the Sanctuary; and

Whereas, only about one - half of Bodega Canyon would be within the expanded boundaries proposed by H.R. 1187.

Therefore be it resolved, the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council strongly encourages the boundaries proposed in H.R. 1187 be modified to include all of Bodega Canyon by adding a 296.5 square nautical mile area identified by the following corner points: Point 1- North Latitude 38.30000, West Longitude -123.66666. Point 2 - North Latitude 38.30000, West Longitude - 124.00000. Point 3 - North Latitude 37.83333, West Longitude -123.78173. Point 4 - North Latitude 37.83333, West Longitude -123.66666. (See figure 1).

*The Council is an advisory body to the Sanctuary Manager (Superintendent). The opinions and findings of this publication do not necessarily reflect the position of the Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*