



This is the official newsletter of the Ocean Protection Coalition of the Mendocino Coast. The Ocean Protection Coalition is an affiliate of the Redwood Coast Watershed Alliance – <http://rcwa.us/>. The Redwood Coast Watershed Alliance is an alliance of citizen organizations on ridges, valleys and waterways of the Mendocino Coast. The Redwood Coast Watershed Alliance is also a tax-exempt, IRS-approved non profit organization.



Big Lagoon, a beautiful spot approximately 26 miles north of Arcata – photo by Ed Oberweiser

Ocean life faces mass extinction

By Daniel Politi from SLATE.com

The oceans are in a far worse state than previously thought, according to a prestigious group of scientists. The state of the oceans never gets the coverage it really deserves and a report issued by the International Program on the State of the Ocean reveals things are more dire for the marine world than previously thought.

Sure, there's overfishing and global warming has created dead zones in the oceans. However, the truth is far more frightening as we are at high risk for entering a phase of extinction of marine species unprecedented in human history, according to the report written by a panel of experts.

In the report's most stark and shocking suggestion, scientists say that the unprecedented loss of species could be directly comparable to the

five great mass extinctions of prehistory. The panel of 27 scientists said, "A combination of stressors is creating the conditions associated with every previous major extinction of species in Earth's history."

Also shocking is that the scientists determined that the speed and rate at which the oceans are degenerating is much faster than anyone had previously predicted. In fact, scientists say the first steps of a mass extinction may have already begun. Some entire marine ecosystems may vanish within a generation.

The deadly trio of global warming, ocean acidification and lack of water oxygen, which led to most, if not all, of the five global mass extinctions in history are also present in the ocean today. Overfishing is certainly one of the problems, but it's the easiest for governments to reverse.

In its report, the panel concluded that a new extinction event was inevi-

table if the current trajectory of damage continues.

More on the report

Submitted by David Gurney and the Noyo News (<http://noyonews.net>)

A new report, *State of the Oceans*, by 27 eminent scientists from 18 organizations and six nations, met at the University of Oxford in April. The report, released on June 20th, spells doom for us and the ocean if we refuse to change. The report identifies three main signs of a planetary ecosystem in trouble:

- global warming,
- ocean acidification
- anoxia - lack of oxygen.

These grave symptoms have been precursors to each of the five mass extinctions that have occurred

See Mass Exinctions page 2

The MLPAI has conflict of interest issues

From the *Noyo News*
By David Gurney

Noyo News (<http://noyonews.net/?p=27>) has learned that Kearns & West was involved in the public process for PG&E's attempted ocean resource takeover in 2008-2009. According to an announcement posted by PG&E, public affairs representative Ian Caliendo in April, 2009:

"We are working with Kearns & West, a public involvement firm, to design and facilitate an appropriate public participation process. In an effort to better understand the questions, concerns, and interests of the public, and especially those of you involved thus far, Kearns & West will be conducting some informal interviews. You may be contacted by Kearns & West to schedule a confidential interview at a time of your convenience."

What's interesting here, is the fact that almost immediately after helping

garner public support for PG&E to control hundreds of square miles of ocean for wave energy projects in 2008-9, Kearns and West was back, with the Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) "Initiative" - to end fishing, gathering and public access - on huge ocean tracts.

During Kearns & West's most recent "public process," *questions from the public about MLPA protections against industrialization and oil drilling and were strictly prohibited.*

Whenever someone asked about oil and gas drilling, mining, wave energy, or Navy testing within MPAs - they were quickly marginalized and silenced by the privately contracted Kearns and West facilitators. These topics were deliberately kept off the table during the MLPAI.

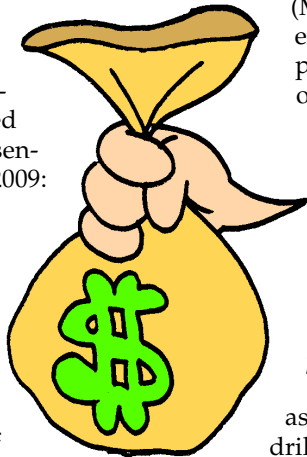
So why is it, that the same private firm running public meetings, to throw

fishermen and the public off the ocean, has as its main paying clients - energy interests, primarily electricity and natural gas interests (<http://noyonews.net/?p=232>)?

Just a coincidence? Can the same outfit that represents natural gas and energy interests on the one hand, say they are working to protect the ocean on the other? *Noyo News* will let the reader draw their own conclusions.

For this reporter, it is clear we have a problem. The only public process that Kearns & West was engaged in, was the process of turning public resources over to private interests. During this they violated the public trust, and the democratic process itself.

We are calling for an immediate and thorough investigation by the Attorney General, into Kearns & West's conflicts of interest and the illegal manipulation of the public during the MLPAI process. We are demanding that the many public questions about conflicts of interest and corruption within the MLPAI be addressed and that the entire MLPAI process be investigated by appropriate legal entities.



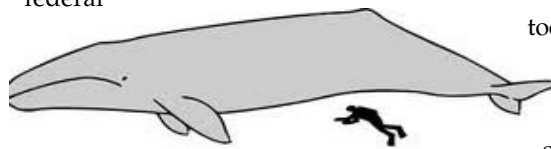
Feds begin to address whale-deafening gulf oil noise

By BC Macdonald

After the Center for Biological Diversity and allies sued over seismic ocean blasts that harm marine mammals, the federal agency that oversees offshore oil drilling is finally asking the National Marine Fisheries Service to analyze how these blasts affect whales and dolphins in the Gulf of Mexico.

For years, the feds have let

companies explore for oil using seismic surveys without permits required by federal



law. The surveys use very loud blasts that hurt marine animals by causing hearing loss, disturbing essential

behaviors like feeding and breeding and blocking communication.

Since Interior Secretary Ken Salazar took office in 2009, he's approved more than 100 seismic oil-exploration surveys generating blasts of up to 250 decibels - the loudest human sounds in the ocean short of explosives. This is in blatant violation of the Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act.

Mass extinctions threaten all ocean life

From page 1

over the past few billion years. The scientists are alarmed by the rapid rate of measurable change we are seeing.

Overfishing and pollution are also mentioned as terrible stressors on all ocean life.

We've killed 90 percent of the large predatory big game fish - marlin, tuna, sharks, spearfish etc.

The ultimate solution for unregulated fisheries management by humans around the globe has often been - "keep fishin' till they're gone."

Approximately 30 percent of precious tropical coral reefs, the earth's incredibly rich, beautiful and bio-diverse zones, have died in the last 15 years from periods of extra warm sea temperatures.

Bryan Walsh of *Time Magazine* said, "We can try to restrict fishing, and we can work to protect sensitive coral reefs and other habitats for marine life.

But if we can't figure out a way to curb global carbon emissions, we may alter the oceans beyond their ability to heal themselves - at least in ways that will support marine life as we know it."

Overpopulation's pressure is causing global fisheries to collapse

From Center for biological diversity
<http://www.biologicaldiversity.org/campaigns/overpopulation/oceans/index.html>

Marine fish provide 15 percent of all animal protein consumed by humans. Under this intense pressure – 15 percent of 6.8 billion people – global fisheries are collapsing.

A 2009 assessment of the state of commercial fisheries around the world found that 80 percent of fish stocks are either fully exploited, overexploited, or have collapsed [1]. Though a catch reduction of 20 to 50 percent is needed to make global fisheries sustainable, the demand for fish is expected to increase by 35 million tons by 2030. This is due to increased consumption and a rapidly increasing human population. The authors of the analysis warn that both biological diversity and human food security are at great risk.

In the U.S., the catch of Atlantic bluefin tuna plummeted by 99 percent between 1963 and 2006 [2]. Atlantic cod declined by 89 percent between 1980 and 2006 [2]. Black grouper, which are fished during spawning and often taken before they are able to successfully reproduce, declined by 82 percent [3].

Many commercially fished species have been placed on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's list of threatened species. These include southern bluefin tuna, yellowtail flounder, Atlantic halibut, abalone, sturgeon, and several sharks. Overall, 90 percent of the world's large predatory fish are in decline [4].

As the human population grows, the rate of extinction is accelerating. Of the 21 marine species known to have been driven extinct in the last 300 years, 16 disappeared since 1972 [5]. The global fish crisis has become so severe, scientists and wildlife managers are breaking the overpopulation taboo. They're calling not only for reduced

consumption and better regulation, but for alleviation of poverty and stabilization of the world's human population [1].

Compounding the problem of overfishing, millions of other animals are accidentally killed – and thrown away – as commercial fishing bycatch.



Twenty million tons of birds, fish, marine mammals and sea turtles are accidentally caught in fishing nets, longlines and drift-gillnets each year [5]. Bycatch, by itself, has reduced hammerhead sharks in the Northeast Atlantic by 89 percent in recent decades.

For some species, bycatch and competition for food sources may spell extinction. Hundreds of thousands of endangered sea turtles are entangled each year. Tens of thousands die before they can be released. For species such as sea turtles that are long-lived and slow to reproduce, the dramatic increase in mortality due to commercial fishing bycatch is devastating. Six out of seven species of sea turtles are now endangered, three of them critically endangered.

REEF DAMAGE, RUNOFF, AND HUMAN WASTE INCREASING

Our important ocean ecosystem is suffering on multiple fronts. In addition to overfishing impacts from commercial fishing, coral reefs (anchors of biodiversity that support thousands of fish species and as many as a million

species overall) are often damaged or destroyed by trawlers and dredging.

Many commercial fishing operations of the developed world, having overexploited fisheries in their own waters, are now moving to exploit fisheries in the undeveloped world to maintain unsustainable catch levels. More than half of the world's mangrove forests have been transformed or destroyed, much of it converted to commercial aquaculture. [6]

The demand of an unsustainable human population for large-scale terrestrial food production also affects the oceans in devastating ways.

Runoff laced with massive chemical fertilizer applications by commercial-agriculture operations flows to the sea and creates large dead zones where it spreads out into the ocean. These areas are depleted of oxygen and virtually devoid of aquatic life.

Scientists have been aware of the dead zone at the mouth of the Mississippi River since the 1970s. It varies in size from year to year, but has been measured at more than 20,000 square kilometers in recent years. [7]

A vast amount of the discarded waste of 6.8 billion consumers also finds its way to the oceans. Estimates are that 80 percent of the garbage clogging the seas originates on land. In the North Pacific Gyre, an area largely free of ocean currents where floating debris tends to collect, the Great Pacific Garbage Patch has formed. Millions of tons of plastic are trapped there, swirling around an area at least twice the size of Texas and possibly twice the size of the entire continental United States.

Recent research indicates that the ratio of plastic to plankton in the waters of the gyre may be as high as 46:1, threatening starvation to fish and marine birds and mammals that mistakenly ingest tiny pellets of plastic that resemble food. [8]

Better fisheries management and new technologies can help some species rebound. In the long run, many marine birds and mammals mistakenly ingest tiny pellets of plastic that resemble food. [8]

See overpopulation page 4

Corporate millions fund MLPA

By Dan Bacher

Watergate's "Deep Throat," Mark Felt, advised investigative reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein to "follow the money" to uncover the truth behind the Watergate scandal.

Nils E. Stolpe, a muckraking journalist from FishNet USA, has done just that. Stolpe asks the hard-question: How many millions of dollars are environmental non governmental organizations (ENGOs) receiving from corporate-funded foundations. The foundations are driving to take over NMFS and NOAA, to run fishermen's lives and to destroy fishing communities that have been viable for generations?

A new website - <http://www.fishtruth.net/> - will

give you some idea. "The odds are that unless you're a foundation/ ENGO insider, you'll be staggered by the answer," said Stolpe. "Hundreds of millions of dollars just barely cover it."

"These so-called grass roots organizations' have roots that seem to go in only one direction - towards the board rooms of a handful of multi-billion-dollar 'charitable' foundations," he emphasized.

"Just as it was important in the Watergate investigations, following the

money is also important in determining who is doing what and why in fisheries management and where the impetus for a management 'revolution' is coming from," noted Stolpe. "In order to help untangle what seems to be an overly tangled web, I'm putting together information on the mega-foundations behind the anti-fishing juggernaut and the individuals and organizations that are most heavily involved."

The above link will take you to the introduction page. From it you can reach the database of granters, grantees, years of the grants and (except for the Walton Foundation, which omits this information on their website) the purpose of the grants.

The "Connections" link in the middle of the page will take you to a web page where Stolpe has started listing the involved foundations, the involved organizations, the involved individuals and

anything else that "fits into this tangled and incestuous web." He says this project is "far from complete and will continue to be a work in progress as long as it's there"

"The calculations that are now possible provide a perspective of the fishing-related funding of these foundations - and the ENGOs that depend on them - that beg

to be shared," he said.

In 2008, the 'Big Four' foundations poured over \$70 million into the ENGO treasuries. These foundations are the Pew Trusts (Sunoco Oil Company), the Walton Family Foundation (Walmart), the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation (Intel Corporation) and the David and Lucille Packard Foundation (Hewlett-Packard Corporation).

I can relate to Stolpe's research. Environmental politics in California have become severely corrupted by all of the corporate money that flows from Hewlett

Packard, Intel, Getty Oil and the Bechtel Corporation into foundations. The corporations' agenda for putting so much money into big NGOs is to coopt, corrupt and eviscerate much of what passes for environmentalism in California today. Their agenda isn't saving fish populations.

The shadowy Resources Legacy Foundation, a "money laundering operation" for corporations according to North Coast environmental leader John Lewallen, is the prime example. This private corporation funds Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's corrupt Marine Life Protection Act (MLPA) Initiative. It's a process rife with conflicts of interest, corruption

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Human overpopulation threatens fisheries

From page 3

Better fisheries management and new technology can help some species rebound. However, much of this progress will be undermined if the human population, and its voracious appetite, keep growing unsustainably.

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journal.pbio.1000131.

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3. <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/statusoffi%20series/SOSmain.htm>, 2007. 2007 Status of U.S. Fisheries, Fourth Quarter Update.

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5. <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp->

dyn/content/article/2005/08/22/ - 2005. Wave of Marine Species Extinctions Feared. Washington Post, August 24, 2005.

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7. https://toxics.usgs.gov/hypoxia/hypoxic_zone.html - United States Geological Survey.

8. <http://www.algalita.org/> - Algalita Marine Research Foundation. North Pacific Gyre Plankton Sample Ation.

Mendocino Wild Seaweed Safari offered on July 16 and 17

By John Lewallen

John and Barbara Stephens-Lewallen of the Mendocino Sea Vegetable Company and Cat Briar Spirit of Conscious Creations Productions are offering a two-day seaweed wildcrafting intensive seminar. The seminar will happen at Mendocino County's amazing Greenwood Beach in Elk.

The Seaweed Safari will take place on Saturday and Sunday, July 16 and 17, 2011. The Greenwood Beach in Elk is a three-hour drive north of the San Francisco Bay Area.

The seminar includes two seaweed wildcrafting walks, complete information on harmonious harvesting, drying and storage of the most delectable wild seaweeds. There will be a campout for interested participants at a local campground.

Barbara, John and Cat are world-renowned experts on wild edible seaweed. They have decades of experience wildcrafting seaweed, supplying a global market for gourmet dried seaweeds and leading seaweed walks and seminars.

This seaweed wildcrafting seminar and campout is a rare opportunity for

both inexperienced and advanced edible seaweed wildcrafters. There will be hands-on instruction in gourmet cooking with wild seaweeds, information on the nutritional and healing properties of various seaweeds and the external use of seaweeds.

Campout participants are invited



to check in on Friday, July 15, at a campground to be announced. Campers are asked to bring food, water and camping gear and clothing suitable for walking on slippery rocks and in shallow tide pools in cold, windy and warm conditions. Locals, people who prefer to stay in the local inns and those who have physical or other limitations on full participation, are also welcome.

Cost of full participation in this two-day seminar, including group

seaweed meal preparation and dining, and informational handouts, is \$300. Camping fees aren't included. For harvest equipment, bring a sharp knife and food-grade plastic bags for collecting trimmed seaweed blades.

All are invited to bring natural offerings of beauty for the ocean spirits. Cat, Barbara, and John practice and teach harmonious seaweed wildcrafting, attuned to the spirits of the elements and the human community.

Enrollment in the Mendocino Wild Seaweed Safari is limited. A \$45 non-refundable deposit is required to hold your place. Mail your advance deposit to Conscious Creations Productions, P.O. Box 2235, Willits, CA 95490, to ensure your participation in this unique and valuable educational opportunity.

Checks can be made out to "Conscious Creations Productions." Visa and Mastercard payments are accepted. For credit card payments and detailed information on the Mendocino Wild Seaweed Safari, call Barbara and John at (707) 895-2996, or Cat at (707) 272-7765.

See the Mendocino Sea Vegetable website at www.seaweed.net for a view of the wild seaweed world of Mendocino County.

Contact: John and Barbara, (707)895-2996, lewallen@mcn.org, www.seaweed.net.

Corporate from page 4

and institutional elitism and racism.

The Packard Foundation contributed \$8.2 million to fund MLPA hearings through the Resources Legacy Fund Foundation, while the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation donated \$7.4 million to the widely-contested process. The Laguna Beach-based Marisla Foundation, founded by Getty Oil heiress Anne Getty Earhart, gave \$3 million more.

The Keith Campbell Foundation's contributed \$1.2 million to the MLPA Initiative through the

Resources Legacy Fund Foundation. Finally, the Annenberg Foundation contributed \$200,000 (<http://www.lbindy.com/2011/02/11/marine-hearings-buoyed-by-nonprofits/>).

It's important to note that organizations that do good work on behalf of recreational anglers, commercial fishermen and Indian tribes such as Earthjustice, Save Our Wild Salmon and the Institute for Fisheries Resources also receive money from the big foundations.

However, big corporate environmental groups that support the MLPA Initiative, Catch Shares Program and

the Peripheral Canal definitely receive the overwhelming bulk of foundation funds.

Stolpe said, "No wonder none of them will admit that our domestic fisheries are in really good shape and getting better. How would they replace those tens of millions of bucks that come rolling in every year like clockwork if they didn't have a fisheries crisis to fix?"

Many fish populations are rebounding. Rockfish and lingcod populations on the West Coast, after being hit hard by an over-capitalized commercial fleet encouraged by federal

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Dolphins and whales need your help

From the Center for Biological Diversity

http://action.biologicaldiversity.org/page/action/public/?action_KEY=7163

Seismic exploration surveys use arrays of high-powered air guns to search for oil. They generate the loudest human-produced sounds in the ocean short of explosives. The blasts can exceed 250 decibels and cause hearing loss in marine mammals. They disturb feeding and breeding over vast distances, mask communications between individual whales and dolphins and reduce catch rates of commercial fish.

The high intensity pulses made by air guns can hurt marine creatures and ecosystems in a number of ways. These include habitat displacement, disruption of vital behaviors, loss of biological diversity and even injuries and mortality. High intensity sounds are known to pose a unique danger to marine mammals and other aquatic species. This is because of the important role that acoustics play in marine ecology and partly because of the great distances and diverse range of habitat over which intense sound can travel underwater.

The impacts of air gun surveys are felt on a very wide geographic scale. A single seismic survey has been shown to cause endangered fin and humpback whales to stop vocalizing — which they must do to eat and to reproduce. This can happen over an area tens of thou-

sands of square nautical miles in size. It can cause baleen whales to abandon habitat over the same range.

The Interior Department agency Bureau Of Ocean Energy Management (BOEMRE) and its predecessor, the Minerals Management Service, have for years allowed oil exploration using noisy seismic surveys without permits. This violates the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act. Finally, the agencies are moving toward complying with the law.

Certain adverse impacts on whales and dolphins are unavoidable if offshore oil development is allowed. Mitigation measures that can be required

through the permit process could greatly reduce impacts.

Please write and tell the Fisheries Service that you support protecting dolphins and whales from harmful oil exploration.

Sample letter

Subject: Comments on ITR, 76
Fed. Reg. 34657
I urge the National Marine

Fisheries Service to adopt the strictest mitigation measures possible to protect marine mammals in the Gulf of Mexico from harm caused by seismic exploration. The Fisheries Service should limit seismic exploration in the Gulf of Mexico.

The Fisheries Service should also prohibit seismic surveys in areas of high biological importance. These areas include Mississippi Canyon, an important habitat for the Gulf's small, biologically distinct population of sperm whales and DeSoto Canyon, also providing sperm whale habitat. DeSoto Canyon is where Bryde's whales are most commonly seen in the Gulf.

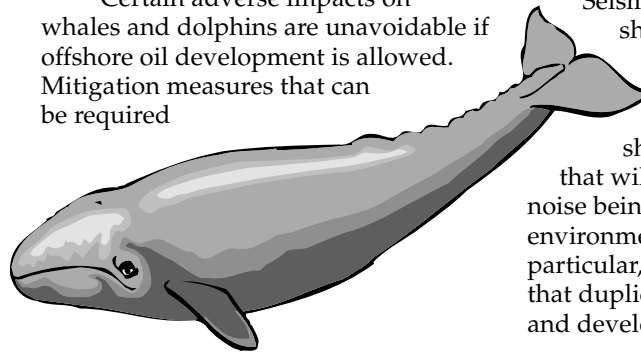
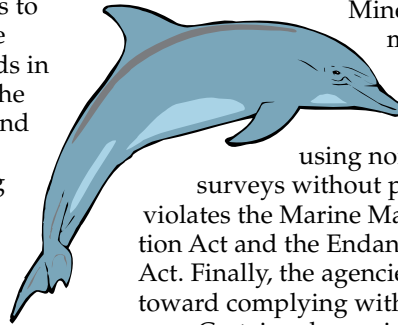
Seismic surveys in coastal areas should be restricted to protect bottlenose dolphins and manatees.

The Fisheries Service should implement measures that will reduce the total amount of noise being introduced into the marine environment as much as possible. In particular, the Service should ensure that duplicative surveys are eliminated and develop a cumulative noise budget.

Your signature

Please send your letter to:

P. Michael Payne, Chief
Permits, Conservation, and Education
Division
National Marine Fishery Services
Office of Protected Resources,
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3225



House votes to open California offshore oil leasing in 2012

By John and Barbara Stephens-Lewallen, Mendocino Sea Vegetable Company
Philo, California

On May 12, the U.S. House of Representatives voted to open leasing for offshore oil and gas drilling in federal waters off the California coast in 2012.

HR 1231, which was approved by a 243-179 vote, requires the Interior Secretary to "make available for leasing any Outer Continental

Shelf planning areas that: 1.) are estimated to contain more than 2,500,000,000 barrels of oil; or 2.) are estimated to contain more than 7,500,000,000 cubic feet of natural gas."

This provision, if passed by the Senate and approved by the President, would require lease sales in planning areas off the California Coast. This would include the Point Arena Basin planning area off the Mendocino Coast in Northern California.

We're asking everyone to join us in

vocal opposition to this new effort to open leasing for offshore oil and gas drilling off the California coast next year. As edible seaweed harvesters, it is our duty to defend the rich, clean ocean waters of Northern California as a source of health-giving food for present and future generations.

Editor's note: This bill after, passing the House of Representatives, failed by 18 votes in the Senate on May 19. Five Republicans crossed party lines to vote against the bill. The final Senate vote was 57 opposed, 42 in favor and one non vote.

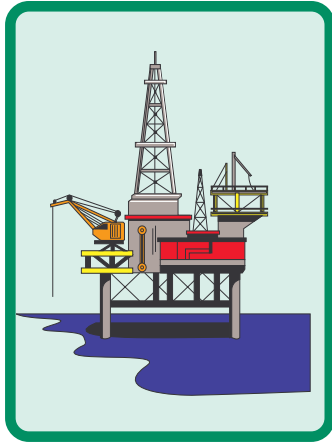
MLPA official greenwashes oil industry's record on energy

By Dan Bacher

Catherine Reheis-Boyd, the president of the Western States Petroleum Association, claimed the oil industry is "doing their share to promote renewable energy" in an op-ed in the Sacramento Bee (<http://www.sacbee.com/2011/01/09/3308270/opinion-petroleum-companies-doing.html>)

"Villainizing the petroleum industry does nothing to promote sound energy policy," she said. "Oil companies in the United States are the single biggest private sector investors in the development of alternative and renewable energy supplies."

However, Reheis-Boyd, as chair of the Marine Life Protection Task Force for the South Coast and a member of the task forces for the North Central Coast and North Coast, approved fake "marine protected areas" that villainized sustainable fishermen and gatherers. This did nothing to stop the



real causes of fishery declines - ocean acidification, water diversions from the Delta, water pollution and coastal development.

She and other task force members did everything they could to take oil spills and drilling, water pollution, coastal development, military testing, corporate aquaculture and all other human uses off the table. They only attacked fishing and gathering.

Reheis-Boyd who has called repeatedly for new oil drilling off the California coast, is a strange type of marine guardian.

Grassroots environmentalists, fishermen and Indian tribes repeatedly pointed out the hypocrisy of an oil lobbyist overseeing the implementation of "marine protected areas." Corporate and environmental NGO representatives repeatedly praised the corrupt Marine Life Protection Act process for being "open, transparent and inclusive."

Governor Jerry Brown and his new Resources Secretary, John Laird, made no public statements or any indications of whether or not they will continue Schwarzenegger's controversial MLPA process.

It is insane to continue the MLPA fiasco when Brown is calling for the slashing of state programs. California has the lowest ratio of game wardens to residents of any state in the U.S. to enforce these fake marine protected areas.

More than 300 members of 50 Indian nations, immigrant seafood industry workers, fishermen and environmentalists peacefully took over a MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force meeting in Fort Bragg on July 21, 2010. They did this to protest the violation of tribal fishing and gathering rights under the MLPA process.

The Fish and Game Commission is set to consider a single proposal for a network of marine protected areas on the North Coast. The proposal will include provisions respecting tribal fishing and gathering rights at its February 2-3, 2012 meeting.

For more information about the MLPA, see: <http://blogs.alternet.org/danbacher/2011/01/04/will-jerry-brown-continue-arnolds-mlpa-initiative/>

Corporate funds enable the MLPA process from page 5

government low-interest loans, are rebounding. This is due to the most stringent fishing restrictions of any place on the planet.

However, Central Valley salmon and Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta pelagic (open water) species have declined dramatically in recent years. Central Valley salmon and Delta fish populations have collapsed due to record water exports from the Delta and declining water quality, not because of overfishing. In 2002, 798,770 adult chinooks, including 94,223 hatchery fish and 704,547 natural spawners, returned to the Sacramento River to spawn.

The Sacramento River fall chinook run, the driver of West Coast salmon fisheries, dropped from 798,770 adult chinooks in 2002 to only 39,530 fish in 2009. The collapse prompted the federal and state governments to close

recreational and commercial salmon fishing off the California and southern Oregon coast in 2008 and 2009. This closure caused economic devastation to coastal communities already besieged by the housing market crash and high unemployment levels.

Due to improved ocean salmon numbers, a severely restrictive commercial season and short recreational season opened in 2010.

The National Marine Fisheries Service forecasts an ocean abundance of 729, 893 Sacramento fall chinooks this year, based on modeling derived from a 2010 jack (two-year-old) salmon escapement to Central Valley rivers in 2010. Due to the increased salmon abundance, recreational and commercial fishermen may see more liberal salmon seasons.

At the same time, the endangered

Sacramento adult winter chinook population, plummeted to only 1,596 fish in 2010. Seasons will have to be crafted around avoiding impacts upon the winter run to preserve this fragile population.

Federal biologists recommend this be done by either raising the recreational size limit to 24 inches, reducing the length of the season, or a combination of both.

As we watch corporate-funded Environmental Non Governmental Organizations campaign to privatize the public trust through catch shares and fake marine protected area programs, Stolpe's site will be invaluable. It will aid journalists, activists and members of public desiring to "follow the money" behind corporate environmentalism. I applaud Stolpe for setting up <http://www.fishtruth.net>.

Write Your Officials

President Barack Obama – The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, DC 20500, (202) (202) 456-1111, FAX (202) 456-2461, *web* - <http://whitehouse.gov>

U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer – Washington D.C. office: 202-224-3553 , mailing address: 112 Hart Senate Bldg, Washington, DC 20510 , SF office: 1700 Montgomery St, suite 240, San Francisco, CA 94111, (415) 403-0100, *web* – <http://boxer.senate.gov>

U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein – 331 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510, (202) 224-3841, FAX (202) 228-3954; District Office for state and local issues: One Post St., Suite 2450, San Francisco 94104, (415) 393-0707, *web* – <http://feinstein.senate.public.gov/public>

Representative Mike Thompson – 1st District, 231 Cannon Office Building, Washington, DC 20515, (202) 225-3311, FAX (202) 225-4335: Coast representative, Heidi Dickerson, 430 N. Franklin St., P.O. Box 2208, Fort Bragg, CA 95437, 962-0933, FAX 962-0934, *web* – <http://mikethompson.house.gov/>

Governor Jerry Brown– State Capitol, Suite 1173, Sacramento, 95814, (916) 445-2841, FAX (916) 558-3160 *web* – <http://gov.ca.gov>

State Senator Noreen Evans – Senate District 2, Capitol Building, Room 4034, Sacramento, CA 94248-0001 Office phone (916) 651-4002, FAX (916) 323-6958; *web* – <http://dist02.casen.gov/office.com>

Assemblyman Wesley Chesbro – Assembly District 1, State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249-001, (916) 319-2001, *web* – <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a01/>

Mendocino County Board of Supervisors: 1st District, **Carre Brown**, 2nd District, **John McCowen**; 3rd District, **John Pinches**; 4th District, **Kendall Smith**; 5th District, **Dan Hamburg**. County Administration Center, 501 Low Gap Rd., Rm 1090, Ukiah, CA 95482, 463-4221, FAX 463-4245, *web*: <http://co.mendocino.ca.us/lbosl>

Fort Bragg City Council: Contact at: City Hall, 416 N. Franklin St., Fort Bragg, CA 95437, 961-2823, FAX 961-2802 citycouncil@fortbragg.com

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OPC Needs You

STOP OCEAN INDUSTRIALIZATION



Go Environmentally Safe, Clean Energy NOW
Ocean Protection Coalition

The Ocean Protection Coalition is a non profit group originally formed to prevent offshore oil drilling off the Mendocino coast.

Now our coastline is threatened by the Minerals Management Service's five-year plan with offshore lease sales.

We are also facing two new threats. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) is granting wave power preliminary pilot projects off the Mendocino, Eureka and Ventura County coastlines.

If that wasn't bad enough, now the United States Navy wants to conduct a five-year training exercise in what it calls the Northwest Training Range Complex. This will threaten ocean waters from the Canadian border to the Humboldt/ Mendocino county line and beyond. The navy wants to conduct expanded sea and air warfare training and weapons development activities on more than 120,000 nautical square miles off the Pacific Northwest coastline. The navy's weapons training and development activities include bombing, the placement of hundreds of sonar buoys, live firing of guns, missiles, torpedoes and the release of a number of toxic chemicals and substances into the ocean. These include phosphorus, tuolene, depleted uranium and unexploded ordnance containing chromium, chromium compounds and many more.

The Navy acknowledges that half a million marine mammals, mostly whales and dolphins could be harmed by the many explosions and especially the sonar. The Gray Whales will have to navigate through this horror 10 times during their migrations to Mexico and back during the navy's five-year war exercises.

OPC is fighting to stop the militarization and industrialization of our oceans. We need your support and help now! We need you to circulate petitions against the destruction of the oceans. We need your written letters to flood the halls of Congress and the White House. We need you at our demonstrations and need you to attend meetings both ours and regulatory agency ones.

We will use the OPC News to give citizens updates on threats to the ocean and our coastline. Please sign up to subscribe for hard copies of the OPC News and pass them around. You can also contact us at: cflum@mcn.org to get on our list serv and receive receive the OPC News electronically.

OPC is a small organization with minimal funds to carry on our important work. If you are able to donate even a small amount, it will be gratefully accepted. Please send your donations to: The Ocean Protection Coalition, P.O. Box 1006, Fort Bragg, CA 95437. We are a non-profit organization. If you would like more information about our group or meeting time and place, please call 964-5035.