

Correspondence ID: 50000 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Staley, Alexis C
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 01:46:27
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence:

After reading the material about the pending renewal or cancellation of the Drakes Bay Oyster Company, I continue to have mixed feelings. I can empathize with and understand where both parties are coming from. Each side has a valid argument and legitimate support for their viewpoint. On the one hand, the Drakes Bay Oyster Company is the type of small, locally owned business that I would rather support over huge corporations any day. The oyster farming practices of this company have been deemed environmentally sound, and the aquaculture is providing a sustainable source of seafood to the Bay Area community. Furthermore, this company accounts for the livelihood of the farmers and their families. In our struggling economy, farmers are one group that is being hit the hardest yet their plight is generally overlooked by the collective consciousness. It is tragic to think about all the jobs that will be lost when then Drakes Bay Oyster Company's permit runs out. I wondered for a moment what would be the harm in renewing the company's permit; they are practicing sustainable farming, so the land is not being completely destroyed, and the company's employees would not be left scrambling for a job. However, upon deeper consideration I realized that the very existence of the Drakes Bay Oyster Company on Point Reyes land is in direct conflict with the very purpose of establishing Wilderness land. This land is protected under the Wilderness Act, which generously allowed the company to borrow the land for a limited time. Yet Point Reyes must ultimately remain wilderness, and by definition wilderness areas should be as free as possible from human development and manipulation. Using this land for agriculture and private profit robs visitors of the chance to see the only true wilderness area on the western seashore; when people come to Point Reyes they are generally trying to reconnect with nature, not view the inner workings of an oyster farm. Furthermore, if we choose to open up the Point Reyes Wilderness to this business, we will set a precedent that allows corporations to encroach on national wilderness areas. In a world where every open space is being plotted on for development, we should make preserving wilderness areas a priority. So although it is a shame to close down a source of sustainable agriculture and put people out of work, Drakes Bay Oyster Company was aware of the limited nature of their land usage from the start. The company has profited enough from this land, now it is time to give the land back to the public whose tax dollars are going to preserving the Point Reyes Wilderness.

Correspondence ID: 50001 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 02:18:34
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the no action alternative

Correspondence ID: 50002 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Smith, Lynda
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 02:29:59
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence:

Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

In the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, Congress recognized Drakes Estero as a unique recreational and biological resource and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

Your own draft environmental impact statement reveals the extensive damage that the existing operation has caused to Drakes Estero and Point Reyes National Seashore's beaches. As you know, commercial operations of any kind are not permitted in designated wilderness areas because of such damage. Further, the Park Service's Organic Act mandates protection of park resources and values and strictly limits commercial operations.

Your approval of the proposal to extend the oyster company's permit would be contrary to the Point Reyes Wilderness Act and would establish a dangerous precedent at a time when America's public lands and environmental laws are already under widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

We've been waiting long enough. It is time to allow that permit to expire and to honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Correspondence ID: 50003 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Malvick, Helen
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 04:51:21
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence:

Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50004 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Cosgrave, Gavin
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 05:21:35
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

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Correspondence ID: 50005 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Schoen, Jessica
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 05:26:03
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50006 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: sni vely, kim
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 05:38:28
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50007 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Folk, Kim
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 06:51:47
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

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I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50008 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Krotz, Rachel
Outside Organization: National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 07:15:12
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year, as long intended. It is in the public interest to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the enjoyment of all. The public has waited nearly four decades for these protections to be implemented, which is an immense compromise in itself. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish take shelter in eelgrass. As someone who enjoys our nation's national parks and their wildlife, I urge you to uphold the longstanding plan to convert this very special resource to wilderness.

I urge you to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness next year and is the Environmentally Preferred Alternative. The National Park Service is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources at Drakes Estero and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are set aside for the public and for wildlife protection, and after waiting nearly 40 years for private commercial use rights to expire, it's time to give the estuary the protection it needs. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" is best for public policy, and best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other natural resources. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be commercially grown elsewhere.

Please honor the promise made for a protected marine wilderness at Drakes Estero. In doing so, you will set a good policy example and reward the public with an enduring legacy feat found nowhere else on the West Coast.

Correspondence ID: 50009 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: McCormick, Michael
Outside Organization: Western Addition Nature Group Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 07:20:13
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."

Correspondence ID: 50018 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Sheffield, Erin
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 07:35:04
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Visiting Drakes Bay Oyster Company is a major reason I visit Point Reyes National Seashore. To add an educational element will enhance this natural resource. It must be allowed to continue.

Correspondence ID: 50030 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Saravia, Sylvia
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 07:52:31
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976,

Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

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I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50048 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 08:13:58
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Let the oyster farm lease EXPIRE so that the adverse effects won't cause the fish, seals, mollusks, eelgrass beds and other native species to EXPIRE. WE HAVE TO PROTECT this area!

Correspondence ID: 50060 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Riegel, Jeremy
Outside Organization: National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 08:29:45
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year, as long intended. It is in the public interest to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the enjoyment of all. The public has waited nearly four decades for these protections to be implemented, which is an immense compromise in itself. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish take shelter in eelgrass. As someone who enjoys our nation's national parks and their wildlife, I urge you to uphold the longstanding plan to convert this very special resource to wilderness.

I urge you to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness next year and is the Environmentally Preferred Alternative. The National Park Service is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources at Drakes Estero and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are set aside for the public and for wildlife protection, and after waiting nearly 40 years for private commercial use rights to expire, it's time to give the estuary the protection it needs. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" is best for public policy, and best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other natural resources. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be commercially grown elsewhere.

Please honor the promise made for a protected marine wilderness at Drakes Estero. In doing so, you will set a good policy example and reward the public with an enduring legacy feat found nowhere else on the West Coast.

Correspondence ID: 50061 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 08:30:46
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Please allow the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm Company's lease to expire.

Correspondence ID: 50062 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Abarca, Maribel
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 08:35:56
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: the drive to Drakes Bay Oyster Company, is so beautiful my kids love to go there they enjoy the ride. I been taking my kids there since they were 6 Months old. and now they are in there teens and still love this place, please give the opportunity for my future grandchild's to see how beautiful this place is.

Correspondence ID: 50063 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 08:36:41
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: The primary reason that commercial mariculture must end in 2012 is one of policy: a private enterprise like mariculture within

the boundaries of a Congressionally designed wilderness and a national park is flatly prohibited by both law and NPS policy. As conservationists, I support the vision of the Wilderness Act as conferring the highest form of protection for particularly unique and ecologically important natural areas such as Drake's Estero. Weakening of the mandates of the Wilderness Act at Point Reyes would create a dangerous opening for widespread private, commercial exploitation of other public lands around the nation. The protection of these lands was hard-won and it needs our continued support. How much more time, energy and tax payer money should be spent, so this private enterprise can continue after the 2012 deadline, which was agreed upon at the time of purchase. It's time to terminate the lease to DBOC.

Correspondence ID: 50068 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Bagiackas, Ananda M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 08:45:33
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50069 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: ross, maria g
Outside Organization: Drakes Bay Oyster Farm Supporters Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 08:46:24
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS

Correspondence ID: 50070 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: uribe, sergio m
Outside Organization: Drakes Bay Oyster Farm Supporters Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 08:47:14
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."

Correspondence ID: 50072 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: ross, todd c
Outside Organization: Drakes Bay Oyster Farm Supporters Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 08:47:52
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."

Correspondence ID: 50074 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: SMENTEK, MATT
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 08:51:55
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50076 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Goldsmith, Andrew
Outside Organization: California State Parks Association Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 08:54:46
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as it is a Win-Win solution. The DBOC facilities will be upgraded to ensure protection to the Estero and a company providing sustainable, high quality seafood at a reasonable price will continue on. My three children, now in their twenties, having been enjoying this oyster farm since Mr. Johnson used to chase them around in his wheel chair. The fact that more children will get to learn about and enjoy Drake's Estero and oyster production is enough on its own to implement this alternative.

Regards,

Andrew Goldsmith

Correspondence ID: 50077 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Harrison, Megan S
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Nice job y'all. I think this is a great opportunity for all concerned. It addresses the need for preservation and management of the aquaculture, and is truly a conservation venture. Good job. I wholly support this proposal and cannot wait to come see Drake's Bay again (and enjoy the superb bivalves!).

Correspondence ID: 50081 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 09:03:33
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50082 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: grant, james a
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 09:50:04
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."

Correspondence ID: 50083 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: montelione, kaitlin
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 09:52:15
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

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Correspondence ID: 50084 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Fulkerson, Katherine
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 09:52:24
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

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Correspondence ID: 50085 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Williams, Megan
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 10:06:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the CollaborativeManagement Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50086 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: A, Jason
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 10:15:48
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Keep this Marin institution going! This oyster farm has been a family business for years and years. It would be terrible for the recent owners to be shut down by government bull!!

Correspondence ID: 50087 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Frawley, Stacy m
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 10:16:24
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: To: The National Park Service From: Stacy Frawley

I support the Coillabrative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC, for the drakes bay area. I feel this is a fair and reasonable agreement. Thank You, Stacy Frawley.

Correspondence ID: 50088 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 10:20:02
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."

Correspondence ID: 50089 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Bachi, Rose
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 10:22:59
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

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Correspondence ID: 50090 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Warner, Chezna
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 10:23:32
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976,

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Correspondence ID: 50091 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Byknish, Chris
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 10:23:38
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

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Correspondence ID: 50092 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Montgomery, Nancy
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 10:23:46
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

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Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50093 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: robison, brooke
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 10:31:09

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

In the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, Congress recognized Drakes Estero as a unique recreational and biological resource and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

Your own draft environmental impact statement reveals the extensive damage that the existing operation has caused to Drakes Estero and Point Reyes National Seashore's beaches. As you know, commercial operations of any kind are not permitted in designated wilderness areas because of such damage. Further, the Park Service's Organic Act mandates protection of park resources and values and strictly limits commercial operations.

Your approval of the proposal to extend the oyster company's permit would be contrary to the Point Reyes Wilderness Act and would establish a dangerous precedent at a time when America's public lands and environmental laws are already under widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

We've been waiting long enough. It is time to allow that permit to expire and to honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Correspondence ID: 50095 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: White, Warren H
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 10:35:45
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."

Correspondence ID: 50096 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Shelton, Thom W
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 10:41:43
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50097 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Stafford, Janet
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 10:52:32
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50098 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Galick, Jennifer
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 10:52:55
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50099 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Johnson, Rick
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 11:06:55
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: The final EIS should evaluate DBOC proposed "treatments" for the health of the Estero. DBOC claims benefits of ecological services from mariculture. What are the applicable Federal standards for human-engineered treatments in wilderness areas and National Parks?

One example that comes to mind is the treatment of Sierra Nevada yellow-legged frogs in Dusty Basin of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks for chytridiomycosis. In that case, there is urgent need, very narrow scope, focused and well researched treatment and research based application of treatment.

In Drakes Estero none of these requirements are met: - No demonstration of need for treatment in Drakes Estero

- DBOC proposed treatment has broad, adverse effects: eelgrass, wildlife, native oysters

- No research findings of treatment value and effects (e.g. "Scaling up these effects to whole systems has been limited by the difficulty in identifying a signal attributable solely to mariculture and by the capacity and resources to make meaningful measurements over larger areas" NAS (2010)

National Research Council, National Academy of Sciences (NAS). 2010. Ecosystem Concepts for Sustainable Bivalve Mariculture. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press.

Correspondence ID: 50100 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Desalvo, Traffy
Outside Organization: Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 11:07:34
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I am writing to urge the National Park Service to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year as long-intended. The American public deserves to have the West Coast's only marine wilderness protected for future generations to enjoy. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish spawn. It deserves the highest level of protection as Congress long-intended. As someone who enjoys our nation's spectacular national parks, I urge you to not undermine protections at Drakes Estero and succumb to special interests seeking to commercialize these special places.

I urge the National Park Service and the Department of the Interior to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness and is the environmentally preferred alternative. The NPS is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources, as stated in the Seashore's legislation, and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are for the people and wildlife protection, not commercial exploitation. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other wildlife and plants. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and it is irreplaceable, while oysters can be grown elsewhere.

National Parks and wilderness areas are treasured by the majority of Americans and are for the public interest, not for private commercial exploitation. By protecting wilderness, the National Park Service will set a positive policy example while commercializing it will set a negative example and help others seek their special exemptions from national park laws.

Correspondence ID: 50101 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Schram, Erica
Outside Organization: National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 11:20:41
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year, as long intended. It is in the public interest to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the enjoyment of all. The public has waited nearly four decades for these protections to be

implemented, which is an immense compromise in itself. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish take shelter in eelgrass. As someone who enjoys our nation's national parks and their wildlife, I urge you to uphold the longstanding plan to convert this very special resource to wilderness.

I urge you to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness next year and is the Environmentally Preferred Alternative. The National Park Service is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources at Drakes Estero and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are set aside for the public and for wildlife protection, and after waiting nearly 40 years for private commercial use rights to expire, it's time to give the estuary the protection it needs. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" is best for public policy, and best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other natural resources. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be commercially grown elsewhere.

Please honor the promise made for a protected marine wilderness at Drakes Estero. In doing so, you will set a good policy example and reward the public with an enduring legacy feat found nowhere else on the West Coast.

Correspondence ID: 50102 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Wu, Sook H
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 11:22:27
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: If Drakes Bay Oyster Farm closed it will be big loss of tourist attraction. This place is so unique and we enjoy so much it will be really sad to see the place is closing down. Modern society needs something like this to appreciate the nature, most of people don't even know how the oyster grow and we are very appreciate we have something like this near big city we live in.

We really hope this place remain open, every January is our oyster party time so I'm going there to pick up lots of oysters.

Thank you for reading this letter and considering.

Sincerely, Sook Wu

Correspondence ID: 50103 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 11:22:39
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: December 5, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final Drakes Bay Oyster Company (DBOC) Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement.

While the Marine Mammal Commission, a federal agency, found that seal behavior at Drakes Estero in the national seashore was "at least correlated" with operations of the Drakes Bay Oyster Co., it also said more research is needed to determine a "cause and effect." I know that correlation does not imply causation.

Environmentally, because oysters are a locally sourced food, less transport is required and therefore there are fewer carbon emissions than if the oysters were imported from different states or countries.

The owners are true stewards of the land and waterways. They took over the oyster farm and invested a great deal of money, time and energy into cleaning up and improving the oyster harvesting operation and the working and living conditions of the 35 workers, both men and women. I am especially impressed how people of different social and ethnic backgrounds are drawn to and served by Drakes Bay Oyster Company. Drakes Bay Oyster Company serves the wider Bay Area, not just high-income people in Marin County. The draw of DBOC brings many people to the Park than would otherwise visit.

Educationally, the oyster farm is a unique and fantastic opportunity for visitors and school children to learn about sustainable farming practices and the sensitive balance of producing food while protecting nature. They also learn about the oysters, which are a sustainable food source that is local and in great demand. Domestic shellfish demand already exceeds the supply and if DBOC is no longer in operation the supply will be depleted by approximately 500,000 pounds of oyster meat per year.

In addition, as a valuable food source oysters require no extra feed, no fertilizers, no chemicals or any cultivation. It would take considerably more beef pasture acres to provide equivalent amounts of protein to feed our population. Sincerely, Robert Janes Point Reyes Station, CA

Correspondence ID: 50104 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: Greene, Terri
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 11:23:06
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I am told that Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore . . . a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50105 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: mccall, kaye
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 11:23:20
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

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Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50106 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Levin, Ken
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 11:23:57
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I am writing in response to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement Drakes Bay Oyster Company Special Use Permit. As a local resident for over forty years, I bemoan the contentious polarization of our community over this issue. The supporters of the lease extension have used unsavory tactics to bully their opponents and, in some cases, demean their characters; they have waged an unrelenting political campaign here and in Washington D.C., and they have dragged questionable science into the debate for the purpose of obfuscation.

On this issue, the National Park Service (NPS) Project Objectives are: . Manage natural and cultural resources to support their maximum protection, restoration, and preservation. . Manage wilderness and potential wilderness areas to preserve the character and qualities for which they were designated. . Engage a broad spectrum of the public and relevant agencies in the NEPA process

In accordance with all three of the stated objectives, I urge the adoption of Alternative A, No New Special Use Permit ? Conversion to Wilderness (No-action).

This issue should not be decided by arguments about science or through political pressure, but rather according to the mandate of the National Park Service and its overall objectives.

As this area is potential wilderness, a private business should not be located there. Though the existing lease should be honored until its termination in 2012, the continuation of this business within the Point Reyes National Seashore and within a potential wilderness area would have a negative effect on the valuable natural resource the NPS is mandated to protect.

There would be serious national implications to extending this lease within a designated wilderness area that could put other wilderness areas at risk of invasion by private businesses.

The present owners knew when they purchased the company that the lease would expire in 2012. They were given the option of relocating the business to another location outside the designated wilderness area, which they refused.

Although the various "scientific" studies seem to be somewhat flawed and therefore their conclusions questionable, the Marine Mammal Commission reviewed these studies. Their Report of November 2011 states there is "...some support for the conclusion that harbor seal habitat use patterns and mariculture activities in Drakes Estero are at least correlated." Company motor boats, vast submerged oyster racks and regularly scheduled forays into the estero are not a positive environmental influence on the harbor seal population. The correlation is a negative one.

Having hiked above Drakes Estero numerous times, it is obvious that the partially submerged oyster factory covering such a large area of that body of water detracts from the possibility of creating/preserving a small piece of wilderness. We have so few natural estuarine areas reserved; this one is unique and certainly worth doing so in its entirety.

Please choose Alternative A so that this area can be converted to wilderness for the benefit of all of us as well as the environment.

Correspondence ID: 50107 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Brabham, Lorraine
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 11:53:01
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50108 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Schlesinger, Susie
Outside Organization: West Marin Sonoma Coastal Advocates Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 12:03:11
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I support the Alternative for keeping Drake's Bay Oysters in the National Seashore. In my opinion the designation of Wilderness should not be applied to lands that have always had human or Miwok habitation. To rewrite the history of the "PARK" and to use false science is to pit those of us who have lived in West Marin against the bureaucrats in Washington. The reports from the Marine Mammal center even concur with what I believe is the truth. If the National Seashore wants wilderness then it should not have ANY ranches within its designation. These are important cultural and historic uses for land that add significance to the visiting public. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 50109 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 12:09:42
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50110 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Rasco, Justin L

Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 12:23:50
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50111 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Plank, Katherine
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 12:41:19
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative final DBOC SUP EIS

Correspondence ID: 50112 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Kirch, Jeff
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 12:50:03
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

In the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, Congress recognized Drakes Estero as a unique recreational and biological resource and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

Your own draft environmental impact statement reveals the extensive damage that the existing operation has caused to Drakes Estero and Point Reyes National Seashore's beaches. As you know, commercial operations of any kind are not permitted in designated wilderness areas because of such damage. Further, the Park Service's Organic Act mandates protection of park resources and values and strictly limits commercial operations.

Your approval of the proposal to extend the oyster company's permit would be contrary to the Point Reyes Wilderness Act and would establish a dangerous precedent at a time when America's public lands and environmental laws are already under widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

We've been waiting long enough. It is time to allow that permit to expire and to honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Correspondence ID: 50113 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Cardwell, Larry D
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 12:50:16
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: We don't need to send another small business down the toilet here in California. Over and over again, this state has shown itself to be very business unfriendly. More rules and more regulation is killing the businesses of California and the tax revenues this state takes in. Drakes Bay has been operating for years in a very environmentally friendly manner. They should be allowed to continue onward and provide a service and commodity that many people have enjoyed over the many past years. Thanks for your time.

Larry Cardwell

Correspondence ID: 50114 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Levy, Jonee
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 13:16:33
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Sustainable fishing is attainable at Drakes Bay. Please Support the Collaborative Management alternative.

Correspondence ID: 50115 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Mason, Clarence
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 13:19:02
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support renewable permit for Drakes Bay Oyster farm

Correspondence ID: 50116 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Straus, Albert
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec,06,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS

COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVE: A Ten-Year Special Use Permit with Option for Extension; Rehabilitation of Existing Facilities; and Construction of New Processing Facilities This alternative permits DBOC to continue to utilize onshore facilities within the Seashore (PRNS) pastoral zone to support shellfish cultivation in Drakes Estero pursuant to its leases from the California Department of Fish and Game [CDFG]. DBOC would pay "fair market value" for use of the on-shore facilities, which would take into account the value of interpretive services provided and the investment needed to rehabilitate existing facilities and construct new processing facilities. The rehabilitation and construction work would be as described in the discussion of Alternative D. Under this alternative, DBOC will collaborate with relevant organizations, including but not limited to the NPS, the CDFG, the UC SeaGrant program and other educational and research agencies and in developing interpretive programs and scientifically valid research projects as recommended by the NRC and MMC. This alternative provides educational opportunities for people of all ages, including Seashore visitors, students and researchers, relating to estuarine ecology and mariculture. This alternative is consistent with the "national interest" expressed in President Clinton's May 26, 2000 Executive Order 13158 directing the Departments of Commerce (DOC) and Interior to expand and strengthen the "Nation's system of marine protected areas." It respects the California Fish and Game Commission designation, effective May 2010, of Drakes Estero as a State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA), a protected area in which recreational clam digging and shellfish cultivation pursuant to CDFG leases are permitted. DBOC's operation within a SMCA and PRNS presents a unique opportunity for collaborative research that supports the policies of the National Shellfish Initiative [Initiative] announced by NOAA and DOC in June 2011, and responds directly and positively to NRC and MMC recommendations regarding collaborative efforts to inform adaptive management of Drakes Estero. This alternative supports the goals of the Initiative, which are to increase domestic seafood production, create sustainable jobs and restore marine habitats. It provides opportunities for research as called for by the Initiative, "?on the interactions between shellfish and the environment in terms of climate change, ocean acidification, naturally occurring pathogens and parasites, and other factors . . ." This alternative supports DBOC's efforts to restore native oysters in Drakes Estero and to study the potential for native oysters to withstand the effects of global ocean acidification now beginning to affect all Pacific coast shellfish. This alternative sustainably supports the local economy by continuing to attract thousands of ethnically diverse visitors to West Marin every year and continuing to provide over half of the San Francisco Bay Area's sustainably farmed shellfish. It protects desperately needed affordable housing for farmworkers on remote Point Reyes ranches. Under this alternative, DBOC will continue to provide essential oyster shell for environmental programs, such as the San Francisco Bay Native Oyster Restoration Project, the SF Bay Bird Observatory Snowy Plover Habitat Enhancement Project and the California Department of Fish and Game Least Tern Habitat Enhancement Project. This alternative supports a landscape that is ecologically and economically sustainable. It is consistent with the natural resource management provisions in the PRNS General Management Plan, and enables the Seashore to collaboratively integrate ecosystem science and natural and cultural resource management to better understand and manage relationships among the physical, biological, and cultural elements of a working land and seascape, while maintaining its distinctive "sense of place and character."

Correspondence ID: 50117 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Williams, Catherine
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm. Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

Please return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50118 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Robertson, Ellen
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 13:23:34
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Harbor Seals are vital to the environment and entertaining to nature lovers. Please protect their habitat.

Correspondence ID: 50119 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Miller, Dianne
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 13:23:43
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50120 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Straus, Michael
Outside Organization: none Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 13:25:43
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Dear colleagues,

Below is my opinion, written as an op-ed:

Ellen Straus, my mother, died nine years ago, here on the farm that she so cherished, with a view of Tomales Bay and the Point Reyes National Seashore. I have a pretty good idea of what she would say about current battle pitting Drake's Bay Oyster Company, environmentalists, farmers and government officials: "Nonsense!"

Mom spent a lifetime dedicated to protecting, preserving and promoting the environment. She attended countless meetings and commanded respect because she listened deeply to all parties and forged common ground when others were ready to quit.

The phone never stopped ringing in our farmhouse-including and invariably during dinner, when my father, a dedicated and outspoken environmentalist, would nonetheless quip, "It's the environment calling."

Our kitchen was the scene of endless, often cantankerous meetings, where ranchers and environmentalists would congregate (not a common scene, especially in the 1980s and 90s), brought together by mom's ineffable charm, relentless persistence and seemingly endless supply of cheesecake. Time and again, she helped steer folks to consensus on vital issues.

Today, it's easy to take for granted the marriage of farming and the environment- the Marin Agricultural Land Trust protects nearly half of agricultural land from sprawl development, and serves as a nationally recognized model for land conservation. Marin Organic pioneered the concept of merging local food, organic certification and farmers committing to sustainability

principles over and above mere regulatory requirements. A-60 zoning has staved off the worst of urban sprawl, and the Point Reyes National Seashore demonstrated that government can successfully protect the environment while acknowledging the vital role of responsible farm stewardship.

My parents were ranchers and environmentalists. They saw beyond the "us versus them" mentality that ran and still runs rampant in our community and country. They knew, beyond a doubt, that the future of Marin would depend on our ability to work together, to innovate, and, above all, to find common ground.

Just a few decades ago, this entire region was slated for massive housing subdivision and urban sprawl. Today's Marin County- all of it, with the park and ranches, the urban and rural communities-owes thanks to the tireless collaboration efforts of the Environmental Action Committee of West Marin, Marin County Farm Bureau, Sierra Club, Marin Conservation League, visionary politicians and environmental leaders who rose up to speak with one, unified voice. Their efforts transformed environmental catastrophe into one of the nation's true environmental success stories.

Marin County's agriculture and open space, whether publicly or privately held, are inextricably interconnected. The balance is tenuous, and it's not unfathomable that all of it-the park, open space, organic food, agritourism-could rapidly evaporate. Once Drake's Bay Oyster Company gets forced out, there will be a clear road map for eliminating the rest of agriculture in the Point Reyes National Seashore. As the farming dominos fall, so will critical mass of agricultural infrastructure, making the future of Marin agriculture increasingly uncertain, putting at risk all of our hard-won gains. In short, productive farming is critical to preserving open space.

Because none of the progress we've made is permanent. If agriculture fails in the region, we will face new (and likely more fatal) battles with urban conversion. Mom knew that saving the land was only the first step, and that a long-term successful model would depend on the land being in active, responsible production, and community support for the local food system.

Here in Marin County, we have created a model that has already inspired dozens, if not hundreds, of communities across the nation. Our solutions weren't created by decree, but by consensus and the development of public-private partnerships. Now, more than ever, these victories must be preciously guarded.

If Mom were here, she'd ask, "How can we do things differently? What will it take for the park and farms to coexist? How much cheesecake do I need to make today?"

Do we have the courage to follow the path forged by our elders? A path matching passion with restraint, determination with compassion and, above all, demonstrating a fierce conviction that only by true consensus will we be able to preserve the beauty that we all cherish so deeply?

That's what Mom did, week after week, year after year. Marin hasn't become the hotbed of sustainability by accident, but by forging common ground, step by often-agonizing step. My parents, Jerry Friedman, Sue Jacobs and so many hard-working community members are long gone. But we-all of us-have a unique opportunity to continue their legacy as stewards of the land. But, to honor their memory, we must be willing to listen to each other.

Mom would support the Lunnys, advocate for continued farming in the park, and find a way to work together. She'd insist that the only viable solution would be a win-win. She would be outraged and saddened at the state of affairs, but wouldn't give up until the needs of the environmental and agriculture were successfully addressed.

Sincerely,

Michael Straus Michael@StrausCom.com

Correspondence ID: 50121 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Welsch, Kimberly
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 13:38:07
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50123 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Lane, Elaine
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 13:54:51
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50124 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Felix, Peggy
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 13:55:19
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50126 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Conrow, Bonnie
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 13:55:46
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

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I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50127 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Brast, Dave
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 13:55:47
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50129 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Thompson, Carol
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 13:57:29
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I fully support the renewal of the Drakes Bay Oyster Company's operating permit. While I am thankful that Point Reyes is protected by its designation as a national seashore under the US Dept of the interior, I also believe that the existing ranchers and farmers in West Marin, who have been in operation for 50-plus years and who demonstrate environmentally sustainable practices are part of the fabric of the entire landscape and should be allowed to continue to thrive --as well as to lead the way as models for other sustainable farmers and ranchers throughout the US. There is NO valid proof that the existence of Drakes Bay has had a negative impact on the sea life in point reyes. I urge common sense and a spirit of partnership as you consider the matter before you.

Correspondence ID: 50133 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Moser, David
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 14:01:16

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Dear NPS:

I am a property owner and part-time resident of Pt. Reyes Station.

I have closely followed for several years the community-fracturing debate over the future of the Drakes Bay Oyster Company operations at Drakes Estero. The National Park Service had prior to the passage of Section 124 of Public Law 111-88 the authority to simply not extend the RUO and/or SUP as a matter of policy. The National Park Service still has that authority pursuant to Section 124 to make its decision as a matter of policy. However, that is not the approach the NPS has taken. Instead, the NPS elected to try and make the case that the DBOC operation is causing various forms of environmental harm. The NPS thereby established environmental harm, not land use or wilderness policy, as the criteria for determining whether the RUP and/or SUP should be extended for an additional 10 years.

The decision of NPS management to pursue this environmental harm approach was both unnecessary, and unwise. It is clear that NPS management has long desired to terminate the DBOC operations in 2012, and restore the area to wilderness condition. There is ample support for that position in the legislation and legislative history concerning the NPS generally, and the Pt. Reyes National Seashore in particular. But NPS management's unnecessary attempts to justify that desire by asserting that DBOC is causing environmental harm has been a failure. The scientific studies simply do not support a conclusion that the DBOC is causing environmental harm. Having established that as the criteria for deciding whether to extend the RUP and/or SUP, the NPS must live with the results. That means that the NPS must extend the lease for another 10 years from November 2012, which means implementing either Alternative B or C of the EIS, or some variation thereof. That is the approach I support, despite a personal desire to see all of Drakes Estero return to a wilderness condition. Having that begin to occur in 2022 rather than 2012 is reasonable and acceptable under these circumstances.

I also wish to take this opportunity to express both outrage and disappointment with the way in which the NPS has conducted itself in this manner. The NPS staff was clearly trying to achieve a pre-determined outcome in its "scientific" studies. That's not science, that's legal maneuvering and advocacy. Despite the fact that the amount of time and energy spent on the DBOC matter in recent years has been outrageously excessive, and no doubt at the expense of many other far more pressing needs, I am heartened that the Department of the Interior Inspector General, the Marine Mammal Commission, and other credible voices, have taken the time to carefully examine the NPS' studies and approaches in this matter, and exposed the multiple examples of NPS wrongdoing. While the NPS certainly aimed for this process to be an indictment of the Drakes Bay Oyster Company, it has instead been an indictment of the NPS itself.

It is time for the Secretary of the Interior and the NPS to extend the DBOC SUP for 10 years, consistent with either Alternative B or C. And it is also time for the NPS to then focus its gaze inward, and seriously reexamine and reform its scientific practices.

What a shame that all of this vitriol was completely unnecessary. But as the saying goes, "you make your bed, you lie in it." The NPS established environmental harm as the criteria for SUP extension. Its failure despite numerous studies to demonstrate any actual harm means it now must live with the results, and extend the SUP for 10 years.

Very truly yours,

David Moser

Correspondence ID: 50138 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Newsome, Alicia
Outside Organization: Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 14:05:44
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence:

I am writing to urge the National Park Service to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year as long-intended. The American public deserves to have the West Coast's only marine wilderness protected for future generations to enjoy. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish spawn. It deserves the highest level of protection as Congress long-intended. As someone who enjoys our nation's spectacular national parks, I urge you to not undermine protections at Drakes Estero and succumb to special interests seeking to commercialize these special places.

I urge the National Park Service and the Department of the Interior to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness and is the environmentally preferred alternative. The NPS is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources, as stated in the Seashore's legislation, and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are for the people and wildlife protection, not commercial exploitation. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other wildlife and plants. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and it is irreplaceable, while oysters can be grown elsewhere.

National Parks and wilderness areas are treasured by the majority of Americans and are for the public interest, not for private commercial exploitation. By protecting wilderness, the National Park Service will set a positive policy example while commercializing it will set a negative example and help others seek their special exemptions from national park laws.

Correspondence ID: 50141 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: Dolan, Brian
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 14:07:45
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company."

Correspondence ID: 50144 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Dagley, Edith B
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 14:10:08
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the collaborative management alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DMOC SUP EIS. Sincerely, Edith Dagley

Correspondence ID: 50147 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Schmies, Molly
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 14:19:43
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I am in favor of maintaining a renewed contract for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

The loss of historical presence (last remaining oyster cannery in Ca.), jobs, restaurant sales, and revenue to the county is not in good order. I find this struggle to renew a travesty to all of those involved. The "junk science" claims need to be corrected, or proven correct. Show us the scientific proof of these claims or respectfully grant the renewal. Jobs, families, and a sustainable business is on the line.

Respectfully, Molly Schmies 27yr. resident of Sonoma County.

Correspondence ID: 50149 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Larson, S
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 14:25:39
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Please reject this new permit for commercial Oyster Operations and give full wilderness protection. This is an important refuge for wildlife. Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50154 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 14:31:41
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50158 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Curtis, Penelope
Outside Organization: California Heritage Treks Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 14:38:45
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Too much of California has been forced into urban sprawl because of the power of developers over government agencies with elected officials who do not think about what is good for the future of the area but what is good for their pocket books.

The Marin Agricultural Land Trust was created to stop the cancerous sprawl of urbanization. They wanted to make sure open

space, ranch lands and park lands would be protected into perpetuity. Drakes Bay Oyster Company is an environmental sustainable "ranch" which provides local jobs, is part of agritourism and provides food for the region. It is important for the Park Service to recognize the importance of this company in the bigger economic picture of Marin County as well as the environmental picture.

Since the late 1890s, 5 generations of my family have lived in Marin County. When my great-grandparents moved there it was a vast beautiful open space. After the '06 Quake, more people moved from The City to Marin and the open space ranch lands diminished. Today my nieces, in their 20s, have far fewer open lands to explore or visit.

It is incumbent upon the Park Service to work with the Marin Agricultural Land Trust & Drakes Bay Oyster Company to create balance so that future generations can experience how life was before urban uncontrolled sprawl.

Correspondence ID: 50160 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Vongher, Ernest F
Outside Organization: Vongcor Communications Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 14:40:20
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50166 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Haag, John M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 14:51:40
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Bay was stripped of oysters long ago before we realized we could wipe out a natural resource. Drake's Bay Oyster Company has kept oysters in the bay and to remove them would be beyond ludicrous.

The National Park Service and the State Park Service should realize that not everything commercial is by itself bad for our parks. Let me stress 'OUR PARKS' because they are the stewardship of all of us. It's not as if they are asking to flood part of Yosemite. They are just asking to continue to sell something that was there for a long time already.

Sincerely,

John Haag

Correspondence ID: 50170 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Strong, Steve & Sandy M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 14:54:01
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: To whom it may concern,

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS. We have visited Point Reyes National Park for many years and enjoy buying several pounds of fresh oysters from Drakes Bay Oyster Farm.

Respectively, Steve & Sandy Strong

Correspondence ID: 50171 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Tilzey, CPA, Ragen
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 14:54:35
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

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Correspondence ID: 50173 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gusewelle, Anne
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 14:55:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

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I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50174 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Hood, Mary
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 14:55:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

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Correspondence ID: 50175 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Diedrichs, Gary
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 15:12:45
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50176 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Hawkens, Shell
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 15:12:55
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."

Correspondence ID: 50177 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Finkelstein, Laurie
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 15:16:12

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Some of the beauty of Marin, particularly West Marin, is the balance between open, preserved space, and small independent responsible farms. The key to a successful relationship between farming and protected spaces is the common goal of preserving and maintaining the integrity of the land. Drakes Bay Oyster Company is a stellar example of this sensitive relationship succeeding and therefore should be allowed to continue to operate through a special use permit. Our families have enjoyed visiting Pt. Reyes, Tomales Bay, Drakes Bay, etc. for years and one of the ways of preserving these experiences for future generations is to preserve those institutions that work together for the common goal of preservation. Drakes Bay Oyster Company is one such institution.

Correspondence ID: 50178 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Tye, Gilbert S
Outside Organization: Stinson Beach Village Association Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 15:21:31
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: After working for the NPS for several years (Golden Gate NRA) and leading the Point Reyes and GGNRA Scuba teams in search & rescue/scientific dives/ and resource surveys, I have come to find the current discussion regarding the Drakes Bay Oyster Company's use permit for the next 10 or 20 years to be uninformed and premature.

First, there was speculation that the oyster companies operation was somehow effecting the eel grass habitate and by way of assumption the rest of the benthic and subtidal key habitats. Since there has been NO underwater research(ie: transect data recovery, observations, and species counts), it appears that no one really knows what is occurring under the surface.

Second, if there is a potential impact of the shoreline and the esturies along the PRNS of sea level rise and ocean acidifaction , it appears that a stable,daily, and observed operation within this marine area(Drake's Lagoon) that could provide the NPS & Interior Dept. with actual data and measurements of these impacts by a non-federally funded organization would be of great value to 'our' Park resource and a much better understanding of the greater coastal impacts that are occuring.

I therefore wish to support the Drake's Bay Oyster Company's request to continue the land-based facilities until such time that their operation becomes unviable do to 1.) sea level rise impacts or the impacts of ocean acidification upon their oyster harvest. Either of these events could occur within the next 10,20, or 30 years. Thank you for this opportunity to comment Scott Tye-Marin/Stinson Beach

Correspondence ID: 50179 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Monserrat, Laurie E
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 15:29:38
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Please work to preserve aquaculture in our area through the Collaborative Management Alternative.

Thank you, Laurie

Correspondence ID: 50180 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gyorgy, Jane
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 15:34:07
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50181 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gyorgy, Jane
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative

COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVE: A Ten-Year Special Use Permit with Option for Extension; Rehabilitation of Existing Facilities; and Construction of New Processing Facilities

This alternative permits DBOC to continue to utilize onshore facilities within the Seashore (PRNS) pastoral zone to support shellfish cultivation in Drakes Estero pursuant to its leases from the California Department of Fish and Game [CDFG]. DBOC would pay "fair market value" for use of the on-shore facilities, which would take into account the value of interpretive services provided and the investment needed to rehabilitate existing facilities and construct new processing facilities. The rehabilitation and construction work would be as described in the discussion of Alternative D.

Under this alternative, DBOC will collaborate with relevant organizations, including but not limited to the NPS, the CDFG, the UC SeaGrant program and other educational and research agencies and in developing interpretive programs and scientifically valid research projects as recommended by the NRC and MMC. This alternative provides educational opportunities for people

of all ages, including Seashore visitors, students and researchers, relating to estuarine ecology and mariculture.

This alternative is consistent with the "national interest" expressed in President Clinton's May 26, 2000 Executive Order 13158 directing the Departments of Commerce (DOC) and Interior to expand and strengthen the "Nation's system of marine protected areas." It respects the California Fish and Game Commission designation, effective May 2010, of Drakes Estero as a State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA), a protected area in which recreational clam digging and shellfish cultivation pursuant to CDFG leases are permitted. DBOC's operation within a SMCA and PRNS presents a unique opportunity for collaborative research that supports the policies of the National Shellfish Initiative [Initiative] announced by NOAA and DOC in June 2011, and responds directly and positively to NRC and MMC recommendations regarding collaborative efforts to inform adaptive management of Drakes Estero.

This alternative supports the goals of the Initiative, which are to increase domestic seafood production, create sustainable jobs and restore marine habitats. It provides opportunities for research as called for by the Initiative, "on the interactions between shellfish and the environment in terms of climate change, ocean acidification, naturally occurring pathogens and parasites, and other factors . . ." This alternative supports DBOC's efforts to restore native oysters in Drakes Estero and to study the potential for native oysters to withstand the effects of global ocean acidification now beginning to affect all Pacific coast shellfish.

This alternative sustainably supports the local economy by continuing to attract thousands of ethnically diverse visitors to West Marin every year and continuing to provide over half of the San Francisco Bay Area's sustainably farmed shellfish. It protects desperately needed affordable housing for farmworkers on remote Point Reyes ranches.

Under this alternative, DBOC will continue to provide essential oyster shell for environmental programs, such as the San Francisco Bay Native Oyster Restoration Project, the SF Bay Bird Observatory Snowy Plover Habitat Enhancement Project and the California Department of Fish and Game Least Tern Habitat Enhancement Project.

This alternative supports a landscape that is ecologically and economically sustainable. It is consistent with the natural resource management provisions in the PRNS General Management Plan, and enables the Seashore to collaboratively integrate ecosystem science and natural and cultural resource management to better understand and manage relationships among the physical, biological, and cultural elements of a working land and seascape, while maintaining its distinctive "sense of place and character."

Correspondence ID: 50182 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: macniven, jamis
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 15:40:13
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: The Drake's Bay Oyster Farm is a national treasure and is an excellent steward of the environment. I urge you to renew the lease.

Correspondence ID: 50183 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gyorgy, Jane
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 15:41:40
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit and especially the Collaborative Management Alternative as proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Potential impact on wildlife is not properly assessed. The dEIS claims that removing the oyster farm would benefit harbor seals; that claim is false

Drakes Estero is currently home to one of the largest harbor seal populations on the California coast

The harbor seal population has remained constant for decades

Correspondence ID: 50187 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Russell, Carol
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 15:47:51
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS

Correspondence ID: 50190 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Rasco, Kelly M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 15:49:22
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50191 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gyorgy, Jane
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 15:49:26
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company, especially the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company. The dEIS includes much discussion about special-status species It concludes that the oyster farm could potentially negatively impact these species NONE OF THE 7 Endangered species mentioned in the dEIS live in the project area! ? NO Myrtle Silverspot Butterfly live IN project area they make their habitat nearby, but not IN the project area (dEIS pg 187) ? NO Red-legged frogs live in the project area: salt water kills them ? NO Ca Coho Salmon live in project area (dEIS pg 189) ? NO Central Ca Steelhead live in project area (dEIS pg 190) ? NO Leatherback Turtles live in project area (dEIS pg 191) ? NO Western Snowy Plovers live in project area (dEIS pg 192) ? NO Ca Least Terns live in project area (dEIS pg 192) The dEIS fails to provide an accurate assessment of the oyster farm's proven ability to operate without harming wildlife or wildlife habitat. The final document should reconsider all wildlife issues and provide a data based assessment.

Correspondence ID: 50194 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gyorgy, Jane
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 15:53:21
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Environmental benefits are misrepresented and/or missing. PRNS has been rebuked for misrepresenting the facts about the environmental benefits of oyster farming yet, the dEIS misrepresents those facts again, calling the removal of the oyster farm the "environmentally preferable" alternative. The dEIS fails to address the important ecological services provided by oysters, including filtering water and reducing nitrogen in the water. Drakes Estero is one of the most pristine estuaries IN THE COUNTRY DUE TO THE PRESENCE OF THE OYSTERS. The dEIS fails to address the environmental impacts of the following: ? Replacing a local, sustainable food source with 35,000 pounds of oysters that would have to be flown in from Asia each week to compensate ? Comparisons of the carbon footprint of the existing food source with the replacement food source must be analyzed in the dEIS. ? The dEIS fails to consider world population food needs. o 1960 world population 3 BILLION PEOPLE o 2011 world population 7 BILLION PEOPLE, 2.33 times greater in 51 years I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company, especially the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50197 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gray, Lynn
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 15:55:01
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50199 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gyorgy, Jane
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 15:57:10
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Economic impacts are not adequately addressed. The dEIS states, removing the oyster farm would cause "major, long-term, adverse effects to the California shellfish market" but ? the dEIS does not provide a complete analysis of these MAJOR, LONG-TERM, ADVERSE IMPACTS! ? the dEIS does not include these impacts in the overall analysis. ? the dEIS does not analyze the impacts of eliminating one of the largest employers in West Marin. The dEIS must assess and address the economic impacts of eliminating the production of nearly 40% of California's oysters and the subsequent impact on the economy.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company, especially the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50204 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Miller, Barry
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence:

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS, as summarized below. ----- COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVE: A Ten-Year Special Use Permit with Option for Extension; Rehabilitation of Existing Facilities; and Construction of New Processing Facilities This alternative permits DBOC to continue to utilize onshore facilities within the Seashore (PRNS) pastoral zone to support shellfish cultivation in Drakes Estero pursuant to its leases from the California Department of Fish and Game [CDFG]. DBOC would pay "fair market value" for use of the on-shore facilities, which would take into account the value of interpretive services provided and the investment needed to rehabilitate existing facilities and construct new processing facilities. The rehabilitation and construction work would be as described in the discussion of Alternative D. Under this alternative, DBOC will collaborate with relevant organizations, including but not limited to the NPS, the CDFG, the UC SeaGrant program and other educational and research agencies and in developing interpretive programs and scientifically valid research projects as recommended by the NRC and MMC. This alternative provides educational opportunities for people of all ages, including Seashore visitors, students and researchers, relating to estuarine ecology and mariculture. This alternative is consistent with the "national interest" expressed in President Clinton's May 26, 2000 Executive Order 13158 directing the Departments of Commerce (DOC) and Interior to expand and strengthen the "Nation's system of marine protected areas." It respects the California Fish and Game Commission designation, effective May 2010, of Drakes Estero as a State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA), a protected area in which recreational clam digging and shellfish cultivation pursuant to CDFG leases are permitted. DBOC's operation within a SMCA and PRNS presents a unique opportunity for collaborative research that supports the policies of the National Shellfish Initiative [Initiative] announced by NOAA and DOC in June 2011, and responds directly and positively to NRC and MMC recommendations regarding collaborative efforts to inform adaptive management of Drakes Estero. This alternative supports the goals of the Initiative, which are to increase domestic seafood production, create sustainable jobs and restore marine habitats. It provides opportunities for research as called for by the Initiative, "?on the interactions between shellfish and the environment in terms of climate change, ocean acidification, naturally occurring pathogens and parasites, and other factors . . ." This alternative supports DBOC's efforts to restore native oysters in Drakes Estero and to study the potential for native oysters to withstand the effects of global ocean acidification now beginning to affect all Pacific coast shellfish. This alternative sustainably supports the local economy by continuing to attract thousands of ethnically diverse visitors to West Marin every year and continuing to provide over half of the San Francisco Bay Area's sustainably farmed shellfish. It protects desperately needed affordable housing for farmworkers on remote Point Reyes ranches. Under this alternative, DBOC will continue to provide essential oyster shell for environmental programs, such as the San Francisco Bay Native Oyster Restoration Project, the SF Bay Bird Observatory Snowy Plover Habitat Enhancement Project and the California Department of Fish and Game Least Tern Habitat Enhancement Project. This alternative supports a landscape that is ecologically and economically sustainable. It is consistent with the natural resource management provisions in the PRNS General Management Plan, and enables the Seashore to collaboratively integrate ecosystem science and natural and cultural resource management to better understand and manage relationships among the physical, biological, and cultural elements of a working land and seascape, while maintaining its distinctive "sense of place and character." COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVE: A Ten-Year Special Use Permit with Option for Extension; Rehabilitation of Existing Facilities; and Construction of New Processing Facilities This alternative permits DBOC to continue to utilize onshore facilities within the Seashore (PRNS) pastoral zone to support shellfish cultivation in Drakes Estero pursuant to its leases from the California Department of Fish and Game [CDFG]. DBOC would pay "fair market value" for use of the on-shore facilities, which would take into account the value of interpretive services provided and the investment needed to rehabilitate existing facilities and construct new processing facilities. The rehabilitation and construction work would be as described in the discussion of Alternative D. Under this alternative, DBOC will collaborate with relevant organizations, including but not limited to the NPS, the CDFG, the UC SeaGrant program and other educational and research agencies and in developing interpretive programs and scientifically valid research projects as recommended by the NRC and MMC. This alternative provides educational opportunities for people of all ages, including Seashore visitors, students and researchers, relating to estuarine ecology and mariculture. This alternative is consistent with the "national interest" expressed in President Clinton's May 26, 2000 Executive Order 13158 directing the Departments of Commerce (DOC) and Interior to expand and strengthen the "Nation's system of marine protected areas." It respects the California Fish and Game Commission designation, effective May 2010, of Drakes Estero as a State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA), a protected area in which recreational clam digging and shellfish cultivation pursuant to CDFG leases are permitted. DBOC's operation within a SMCA and PRNS presents a unique opportunity for collaborative research that supports the policies of the National Shellfish Initiative [Initiative] announced by NOAA and DOC in June 2011, and responds directly and positively to NRC and MMC recommendations regarding collaborative efforts to inform adaptive management of Drakes Estero. This alternative supports the goals of the Initiative, which are to increase domestic seafood production, create sustainable jobs and restore marine habitats. It provides opportunities for research as called for by the Initiative, "?on the interactions between shellfish and the environment in terms of climate change, ocean acidification, naturally occurring pathogens and parasites, and other factors . . ." This alternative supports DBOC's efforts to restore native oysters in Drakes Estero and to study the potential for native oysters to withstand the effects of global ocean acidification now beginning to affect all Pacific coast shellfish. This alternative sustainably supports the local economy by continuing to attract thousands of ethnically diverse visitors to West Marin every year and continuing to provide over half of the San Francisco Bay Area's sustainably farmed shellfish. It protects desperately needed affordable housing for farmworkers on remote Point Reyes ranches. Under this alternative, DBOC will continue to provide essential oyster shell for environmental programs, such as the San Francisco Bay Native Oyster Restoration Project, the SF Bay Bird Observatory Snowy Plover Habitat Enhancement Project and the California Department of Fish and Game Least Tern Habitat Enhancement Project. This alternative supports a landscape that is ecologically and economically sustainable. It is consistent with the natural resource management provisions in the PRNS General Management Plan, and enables the Seashore to collaboratively integrate ecosystem science and natural and cultural resource management to better understand and manage relationships among the physical, biological, and cultural elements of a working land and seascape, while maintaining its distinctive "sense of place and character." COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVE: A Ten-Year Special Use Permit with Option for Extension; Rehabilitation of Existing Facilities; and Construction of New Processing Facilities This alternative permits DBOC to continue to utilize onshore facilities within the Seashore (PRNS) pastoral zone to support shellfish

cultivation in Drakes Estero pursuant to its leases from the California Department of Fish and Game [CDFG]. DBOC would pay "fair market value" for use of the on-shore facilities, which would take into account the value of interpretive services provided and the investment needed to rehabilitate existing facilities and construct new processing facilities. The rehabilitation and construction work would be as described in the discussion of Alternative D. Under this alternative, DBOC will collaborate with relevant organizations, including but not limited to the NPS, the CDFG, the UC SeaGrant program and other educational and research agencies and in developing interpretive programs and scientifically valid research projects as recommended by the NRC and MMC. This alternative provides educational opportunities for people of all ages, including Seashore visitors, students and researchers, relating to estuarine ecology and mariculture. 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This alternative supports the goals of the Initiative, which are to increase domestic seafood production, create sustainable jobs and restore marine habitats. It provides opportunities for research as called for by the Initiative, "?on the interactions between shellfish and the environment in terms of climate change, ocean acidification, naturally occurring pathogens and parasites, and other factors . . ." This alternative supports DBOC's efforts to restore native oysters in Drakes Estero and to study the potential for native oysters to withstand the effects of global ocean acidification now beginning to affect all Pacific coast shellfish. This alternative sustainably supports the local economy by continuing to attract thousands of ethnically diverse visitors to West Marin every year and continuing to provide over half of the San Francisco Bay Area's sustainably farmed shellfish. It protects desperately needed affordable housing for farmworkers on remote Point Reyes ranches. 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It provides opportunities for research as called for by the Initiative, "?on the interactions between shellfish and the environment in terms of climate change, ocean acidification, naturally occurring pathogens and parasites, and other factors . . ." This alternative supports DBOC's efforts to restore native oysters in Drakes Estero and to study the potential for native oysters to withstand the effects of global ocean acidification now beginning to affect all Pacific coast shellfish. This alternative sustainably supports the local economy by continuing to attract thousands of ethnically diverse visitors to West Marin every year and continuing to provide over half of the San Francisco Bay Area's sustainably farmed shellfish. It protects desperately needed affordable housing for farmworkers on remote Point Reyes ranches. 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Under this alternative, DBOC will collaborate with relevant organizations, including but not limited to the NPS, the CDFG, the UC SeaGrant program and other educational and research agencies and in developing interpretive programs and scientifically valid research projects as recommended by the NRC and MMC. This alternative provides educational opportunities for people of all ages, including Seashore visitors, students and researchers, relating to estuarine ecology and mariculture. This alternative is consistent with the "national interest" expressed in President Clinton's May 26, 2000 Executive Order 13158 directing the Departments of Commerce (DOC) and Interior to expand and strengthen the "Nation's system of marine protected areas." It respects the California Fish and Game Commission designation, effective May 2010, of Drakes Estero as a State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA), a protected area

in which recreational clam digging and shellfish cultivation pursuant to CDFG leases are permitted. DBOC's operation within a SMCA and PRNS presents a unique opportunity for collaborative research that supports the policies of the National Shellfish Initiative [Initiative] announced by NOAA and DOC in June 2011, and responds directly and positively to NRC and MMC recommendations regarding collaborative efforts to inform adaptive management of Drakes Estero. This alternative supports the goals of the Initiative, which are to increase domestic seafood production, create sustainable jobs and restore marine habitats. It provides opportunities for research as called for by the Initiative, "?.on the interactions between shellfish and the environment in terms of climate change, ocean acidification, naturally occurring pathogens and parasites, and other factors . . ." This alternative supports DBOC's efforts to restore native oysters in Drakes Estero and to study the potential for native oysters to withstand the effects of global ocean acidification now beginning to affect all Pacific coast shellfish. This alternative sustainably supports the local economy by continuing to attract thousands of ethnically diverse visitors to West Marin every year and continuing to provide over half of the San Francisco Bay Area's sustainably farmed shellfish. It protects desperately needed affordable housing for farmworkers on remote Point Reyes ranches. Under this alternative, DBOC will continue to provide essential oyster shell for environmental programs, such as the San Francisco Bay Native Oyster Restoration Project, the SF Bay Bird Observatory Snowy Plover Habitat Enhancement Project and the California Department of Fish and Game Least Tern Habitat Enhancement Project. This alternative supports a landscape that is ecologically and economically sustainable. It is consistent with the natural resource management provisions in the PRNS General Management Plan, and enables the Seashore to collaboratively integrate ecosystem science and natural and cultural resource management to better understand and manage relationships among the physical, biological, and cultural elements of a working land and seascape, while maintaining its distinctive "sense of place and character."

Correspondence ID: 50205 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Fairfax, Sally K
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 16:06:28
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence:

I do not believe that the NPS approached the EIS on the Drake's Bay Oyster issue with an open mind. As I commented at the REI listening session, the EIS questions seemed generic, and unsuited, perhaps intentionally, unsuited to weighing the benefits and impacts of the operation. And I do not believe that the data, as I understand it, supports the contention that oyster production is either bad for the seals or bad for the ecosystem more generally. In fact, after such an intense effort to find damage caused by the Oyster operation, the lack of results would seem to confirm the null, that the oysters have slim/none impact on the seals. Indeed, it is arguable that the stewardship of the area provided by such scrupulous managers could have significant ecological benefits, including for the seals. There is no doubt that the operation contributes jobs, protein, a very laudable example of sustainable small scale family based agricultural production, and an opportunity for significant educational programs in such operations. I therefore strongly support the Collaborative Management option as the best way forward.

Correspondence ID: 50206 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gyorgy, Jane
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 16:06:39
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence:

Socioeconomic impacts are not properly addressed furthermore, the analysis is flawed. Geographic parameters used throughout this chapter ? Switch back and forth from Inverness proper, to greater West Marin, to Marin in general, to Multi-County, to Statewide, and even to Nationwide. ? This switching of parameters is used to argue that the job losses would be minimal. Considered properly: ? DBOC is one of the largest employers in the area. ? West Marin is a community isolated 20 miles away from the main population of the county by farms, ranches, open space and parkland therefore, these job losses would be anything but minimal The analysis presented here is insufficient. This section should be reformulated and corrected for the dEIS. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company, especially the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50207 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gyorgy, Jane
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 16:08:49
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence:

Impacts to local habitat restoration efforts and endangered species are not addressed ? The oyster shell byproduct from the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm cannery is the sole, critical resource for reestablishing native oyster beds, and for restoring CA Least Tern and Western Snowy Plover habitat, in San Francisco Bay. ? The California Least Tern is a U.S. federally listed endangered species ? The Snowy Plover is in decline due to habitat loss. ? If Drakes Bay Oyster farm were shut down, the restoration operations could also be shut down. ? The d EIS does not address the impacts to wildlife or the environmental issues surrounding the loss of these restoration efforts. ? The dEIS should correct these flaws. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company, especially the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50208 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gyorgy, Jane
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 16:10:48
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence:

The historic cultural role of the oyster farm in West Marin is not adequately addressed. The EIS must assess ? The cultural impacts of eliminating an institution that has been in operation for generations ? The importance to ? Park visitors ? Local restaurants ? Local food shed I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company, especially the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50209 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gyorgy, Jane
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 16:13:11
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Existing management policies are not considered. ? The current General Management Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore, adopted in 1980, strongly supports the continued operation of the oyster farm, as do all of the relevant Marin County planning documents. ? The d EIS does not include any reasons for, or discussion of, this decision to bypass ? The existing General Management Plan and ? Marin County's planning processes The existing management policies must be considered and addressed. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company, especially the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50210 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Cutts, Bonnie
Outside Organization: National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 16:22:59
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year, as long intended. It is in the public interest to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the enjoyment of all. The public has waited nearly four decades for these protections to be implemented, which is an immense compromise in itself. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish take shelter in eelgrass. As someone who enjoys our nation's national parks and their wildlife, I urge you to uphold the longstanding plan to convert this very special resource to wilderness.

I urge you to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness next year and is the Environmentally Preferred Alternative. The National Park Service is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources at Drakes Estero and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are set aside for the public and for wildlife protection, and after waiting nearly 40 years for private commercial use rights to expire, it's time to give the estuary the protection it needs. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" is best for public policy, and best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other natural resources. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be commercially grown elsewhere.

Please honor the promise made for a protected marine wilderness at Drakes Estero. In doing so, you will set a good policy example and reward the public with an enduring legacy feat found nowhere else on the West Coast.

Correspondence ID: 50211 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Ostrow, Joseph
Outside Organization: National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 16:25:39
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year, as long intended. It is in the public interest to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the enjoyment of all. The public has waited nearly four decades for these protections to be implemented, which is an immense compromise in itself. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish take shelter in eelgrass. As someone who enjoys our nation's national parks and their wildlife, I urge you to uphold the longstanding plan to convert this very special resource to wilderness.

I urge you to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness next year and is the Environmentally Preferred Alternative. The National Park Service is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources at Drakes Estero and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are set aside for the public and for wildlife protection, and after waiting nearly 40 years for private commercial use rights to expire, it's time to give the estuary the protection it needs. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" is best for public policy, and best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other natural resources. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be commercially grown elsewhere.

Please honor the promise made for a protected marine wilderness at Drakes Estero. In doing so, you will set a good policy example and reward the public with an enduring legacy feat found nowhere else on the West Coast.

Correspondence ID: 50212 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Kitterman, Julie
Outside Organization: Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 16:35:01
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I am writing to urge the National Park Service to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year as long-intended. The American public deserves to have the West Coast's only marine wilderness protected for future generations to enjoy. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish spawn. It deserves the highest level of protection as Congress long-intended. As someone who enjoys our nation's spectacular national parks, I urge you to not undermine protections at Drakes Estero and succumb to special interests seeking to commercialize these special places.

I urge the National Park Service and the Department of the Interior to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness

and is the environmentally preferred alternative. The NPS is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources, as stated in the Seashore's legislation, and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are for the people and wildlife protection, not commercial exploitation. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other wildlife and plants. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and it is irreplaceable, while oysters can be grown elsewhere.

National Parks and wilderness areas are treasured by the majority of Americans and are for the public interest, not for private commercial exploitation. By protecting wilderness, the National Park Service will set a positive policy example while commercializing it will set a negative example and help others seek their special exemptions from national park laws.

Correspondence ID: 50213 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: washburn, constance c
Outside Organization: Marin Agricultural Land Trust Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 16:37:53
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final Drakes Bay Oyster Co SUP EIS. The Oyster company is an asset to Marin county and California for many reasons. It is a model of sustainable and environmentally well managed agriculture and it educates visitors about the importance of local sustainable food systems. It employs over 70 people. It provides high quality food to the Bay Area. It is also an important part of the viability of agriculture as a whole in Marin County.

Correspondence ID: 50214 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Nichols, Maureen
Outside Organization: National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 16:45:19
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year, as long intended. It is in the public interest to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the enjoyment of all. The public has waited nearly four decades for these protections to be implemented, which is an immense compromise in itself. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish take shelter in eelgrass. As someone who enjoys our nation's national parks and their wildlife, I urge you to uphold the longstanding plan to convert this very special resource to wilderness.

I urge you to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness next year and is the Environmentally Preferred Alternative. The National Park Service is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources at Drakes Estero and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are set aside for the public and for wildlife protection, and after waiting nearly 40 years for private commercial use rights to expire, it's time to give the estuary the protection it needs. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" is best for public policy, and best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other natural resources. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be commercially grown elsewhere.

Please honor the promise made for a protected marine wilderness at Drakes Estero. In doing so, you will set a good policy example and reward the public with an enduring legacy feat found nowhere else on the West Coast.

Correspondence ID: 50215 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Mcelveen, Scot
Outside Organization: National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year, as long intended. Commercial uses inside units of the National Park System by law and administrative policy are not the highest priority. They should only be allowed to exist (or in this case continue) when impacts to park resources and values is minimal. This is clearly not the case related to this oyster farm where natural resources have been negatively impacted as determined by scientific study, and where the public's full ability to enjoy these resources as intended has been compromised.

It is in the public interest to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the enjoyment of all. The public has waited nearly four decades for these protections to be implemented, which is an immense compromise in itself. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish take shelter in eelgrass. As someone who enjoys our nation's national parks and their wildlife, I urge you to uphold the longstanding plan to convert this very special resource to wilderness.

I urge you to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness next year and is the Environmentally Preferred Alternative. The National Park Service is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources at Drakes Estero and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are set aside for the public and for wildlife protection, and after waiting nearly 40 years for private commercial use rights to expire, it's time to give the estuary the protection it needs. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" is best for public policy, and best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other natural resources. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be commercially grown elsewhere.

Please honor the promise made for a protected marine wilderness at Drakes Estero. In doing so, you will set a good policy

example and reward the public with an enduring legacy feat found nowhere else on the West Coast.

Correspondence ID: 50216 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: West, Jennifer
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 16:56:01
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50217 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Parr, Albert C
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 16:56:22
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I strongly believe the Drakes Bay Oyster company should be encouraged to stay in business with a viable chance at success. This country needs small businesses and to curtail the activities of this company makes no sense as they have proven to be reliable stewards of the water and shore and in fact add to the tourist attraction quality of that part of the California coast.

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS and I hope the Federal Government can make a business favorable decision in this matter.

Correspondence ID: 50218 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: evans, thomas s
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 17:07:02
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Thomas Evans

Correspondence ID: 50219 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Grove, Jeff
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 17:10:51
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

I believe there have to be win-win solutions for balancing national park, environmental, historical and business needs. Thank you

Correspondence ID: 50220 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Calhoun, Cornelia
Outside Organization: EAC, Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 17:17:44
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternate to the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50221 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Taniguchi, Kenneth K
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 17:20:31

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS. Considering the historical interest in oyster farming in the area and the positive benefit to the California economy in it's current poor condition, it make logical sense to allow the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm operation to continue.

Correspondence ID: 50222 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Boucher, Jack E. E
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 17:24:06
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I have been in conservation and/presrvation all my life....I am now 80....and retired from the National Park Service after a 50 year career There is NO REASON why an oyster farm should not be permitted at Point Reyes....or any where else. Most important, oysters filter the water thy are inhabiting, purifying it. They are a natural resident of waters such as Point Reyes. Be damn glad they are there!

jack e. boucher

PS Plusthey are a delicious delicacy!

Correspondence ID: 50223 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Frachtman, Brianna
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 17:26:34
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50224 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: McCartan, Michael S
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS. As a 2 time visitor to this oyster bay, I feel that this is a sustainable,ecological use. Thank You

Correspondence ID: 50225 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Cacia, Jan B
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS

COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVE: A Ten-Year Special Use Permit with Option for Extension; Rehabilitation of Existing Facilities; and Construction of New Processing Facilities This alternative permits DBOC to continue to utilize onshore facilities within the Seashore (PRNS) pastoral zone to support shellfish cultivation in Drakes Estero pursuant to its leases from the California Department of Fish and Game [CDFG]. DBOC would pay "fair market value" for use of the on-shore facilities, which would take into account the value of interpretive services provided and the investment needed to rehabilitate existing facilities and construct new processing facilities. The rehabilitation and construction work would be as described in the discussion of Alternative D. Under this alternative, DBOC will collaborate with relevant organizations, including but not limited to the NPS, the CDFG, the UC SeaGrant program and other educational and research agencies and in developing interpretive programs and scientifically valid research projects as recommended by the NRC and MMC. This alternative provides educational opportunities for people of all ages, including Seashore visitors, students and researchers, relating to estuarine ecology and mariculture. This alternative is consistent with the "national interest" expressed in President

Clinton's May 26, 2000 Executive Order 13158 directing the Departments of Commerce (DOC) and Interior to expand and strengthen the "Nation's system of marine protected areas." It respects the California Fish and Game Commission designation, effective May 2010, of Drakes Estero as a State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA), a protected area in which recreational clam digging and shellfish cultivation pursuant to CDFG leases are permitted. DBOC's operation within a SMCA and PRNS presents a unique opportunity for collaborative research that supports the policies of the National Shellfish Initiative [Initiative] announced by NOAA and DOC in June 2011, and responds directly and positively to NRC and MMC recommendations regarding collaborative efforts to inform adaptive management of Drakes Estero. This alternative supports the goals of the Initiative, which are to increase domestic seafood production, create sustainable jobs and restore marine habitats. It provides opportunities for research as called for by the Initiative, "?on the interactions between shellfish and the environment in terms of climate change, ocean acidification, naturally occurring pathogens and parasites, and other factors . . ." This alternative supports DBOC's efforts to restore native oysters in Drakes Estero and to study the potential for native oysters to withstand the effects of global ocean acidification now beginning to affect all Pacific coast shellfish. This alternative sustainably supports the local economy by continuing to attract thousands of ethnically diverse visitors to West Marin every year and continuing to provide over half of the San Francisco Bay Area's sustainably farmed shellfish. It protects desperately needed affordable housing for farmworkers on remote Point Reyes ranches. Under this alternative, DBOC will continue to provide essential oyster shell for environmental programs, such as the San Francisco Bay Native Oyster Restoration Project, the SF Bay Bird Observatory Snowy Plover Habitat Enhancement Project and the California Department of Fish and Game Least Tern Habitat Enhancement Project. This alternative supports a landscape that is ecologically and economically sustainable. It is consistent with the natural resource management provisions in the PRNS General Management Plan, and enables the Seashore to collaboratively integrate ecosystem science and natural and cultural resource management to better understand and manage relationships among the physical, biological, and cultural elements of a working land and seascape, while maintaining its distinctive "sense of place and character."

Correspondence ID: 50226 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Ebisuzaki, Lara
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 17:56:14
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50227 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 17:56:29
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50228 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gyorgy, Jane
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 18:02:22
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: National aquaculture policies are ignored. Shellfish aquaculture is widely recognized nationally, and globally, as having a valuable role in the protection of wild fish resources. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is encouraging aquaculture for this and many other reasons. The dEIS should consider these policies. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50229 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Shoemaker, Donna L
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS. Please read my

previous comments sent in a few days ago!

Thanks, Donna

Correspondence ID: 50230 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Williams, Deborah L.
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 18:05:57
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Dear Regional Director Lehnertz and Director Jarvis,

From the perspective and experience of a former Special Assistant to the Secretary of Interior who worked closely with the National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service on wilderness and other nationally significant issues, I strongly urge you to select Alternative A -- No New Special Use Permit in Drakes Estero.

Whether it is the protection of Point Reyes National Seashore Wilderness, or Denali National Park Wilderness, or Izembek National Wildlife Refuge Wilderness, or Wrangell St. Elias National Park Wilderness, history demonstrates clearly that precedents matter, and that we must reject adverse precedents.

We know that to conserve our precious wilderness areas for future generations, land management agencies must exhibit tremendous diligence, backbone, and integrity. And, to ensure that current and future generations are able to enjoy all of the extraordinary benefits of wilderness, it is necessary, although sometimes politically painful, to stand up to persistent, short-term, commercial interests when these interests seek to undermine the Wilderness Act and its application.

Succumbing to short-term, opportunistic, commercial interests in Drakes Estero -- contrary to the clear intent of Congress in creating this Wilderness Area in 1976 -- would, indeed, be a terrible precedent, and one that would haunt the National Park Service and other land management agencies for decades. History demonstrates that you do not want to go down a slippery slope like this, or you and other land management agencies will be battling to achieve the appropriate implementation of potential wilderness in other areas in the future, and inviting more outside interference associated with non-conforming uses.

There is, of course, a simple bright line that should not be crossed: namely, consistent with the Wilderness Act, agencies need to eliminate non-conforming uses in potential wilderness areas when the special use permit at issue expires. Period. If you make an exception in this case, you, other agencies and Congress will be hearing repeatedly in the future, "you did it in Drakes Estero, so you can do it here?" In other words, once you cross a bright line and start down a slippery slope like this, there is no end to future political and policy grief.

Having grown up in Southern California and having witnessed the destruction of the extraordinary estuaries there, like so many others I supported and applauded the passage of the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act. For so many reasons, California, the West Coast, the nation, and the Western Hemisphere needed a marine wilderness area in this location. Congress and the nation understood and embraced this. The 1976 law and its legislative history were clear. Among other provisions, Congress designated the waters of Drakes Estero and the adjoining intertidal land as potential wilderness, and thus the commercial oyster operations had to end when the non-conforming lease expired. Now, of course, is the time to implement this.

Following the Wilderness Act is necessary, and a crucial part of the National Park Service's mandate. One of our greatest gifts to future generations and ecosystem integrity is wilderness designation and proper implementation. This is especially true in Drakes Estero. This high profile location, with all of its biological and ecosystem services attributes, is a place to demonstrate that the Wilderness Act matters and will be honored; and that money and political influence and distortions of the record cannot be used to undermine it.

Other comments will detail at length the many other compelling reasons for selecting Alternative A. The point of my comments is to emphasize the precedential reasons for doing so. Again, the wrong decision here will haunt the National Park Service and other land management agencies throughout the nation. This would, indeed, do a grave disservice to our nation's wilderness areas, your limited resources and your mandates.

In summary, based on the record, the law, the biology, and the precedent-setting nature of this decision, I urge you to select Alternative A ? No New Special Use Permit in Drakes Estero. This would also be consistent with your long-standing excellent management of Point Reyes National Seashore.

Thank you for providing the public the opportunity to comment on this very important issue.

Correspondence ID: 50231 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gyorgy, Jane
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 18:06:06
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the alternatives is appropriate. While the NEPA process mandates the consideration of a "no-action alternative," there are no alternatives presented in the dEIS that qualify as "no-action." ? Alternative A forces DBOC out of business next year, ?

The other alternatives force it to shut down in 10 years. ? The DEIS fails to provide a valid status-quo baseline. ? A new set of alternatives must be created that meet the actual criteria for this process. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company. DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50232 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Benowitz, Arne
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 18:09:26
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50233 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Frachtman, Brianna
Outside Organization: National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 18:17:02
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year, as long intended. It is in the public interest to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the enjoyment of all. The public has waited nearly four decades for these protections to be implemented, which is an immense compromise in itself. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish take shelter in eelgrass. As someone who enjoys our nation's national parks and their wildlife, I urge you to uphold the longstanding plan to convert this very special resource to wilderness.

I urge you to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness next year and is the Environmentally Preferred Alternative. The National Park Service is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources at Drakes Estero and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are set aside for the public and for wildlife protection, and after waiting nearly 40 years for private commercial use rights to expire, it's time to give the estuary the protection it needs. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" is best for public policy, and best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other natural resources. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be commercially grown elsewhere.

Please honor the promise made for a protected marine wilderness at Drakes Estero. In doing so, you will set a good policy example and reward the public with an enduring legacy feat found nowhere else on the West Coast.

Correspondence ID: 50234 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Goodman, Margaret S
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 18:22:25
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the wilderness designation for Drakes Estero within the Point Reyes National Seashore. I urge the National Park Service and Department of the Interior to uphold the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act and select alternative A, which protects this important marine wilderness and is the environmentally preferred alternative.

Drakes Estero is a unique and ecologically significant wildlife area. It is an important stop on the flyway for migrating birds, a refuge and birthplace for harbor seals and a critical native fish nursery. Congress and the public have long intended that Drakes Estero be given the highest federal level of protection as a wilderness area when the commercial oyster lease expires in 2012.

This can only be accomplished by selecting Alternative "A" and ending commercial use of this sensitive wildlife refuge. Alternative A is the most consistent with National Park Service laws and policies. The Park Service's environmental review shows that alternative "A" best protects wildlife and the National Park experience.

Our national parks are for the people and wildlife protection, and wilderness areas with our parks should not prioritize commercial exploitation. The American public deserves to have this unique marine wilderness protected in a natural state for future generations to enjoy.

Drakes Estero is the only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be grown elsewhere.

As someone who enjoys our spectacular national parks, I urge you to not undermine protections at Drakes Estero and succumb to special interests seeking to commercialize these special places.

Correspondence ID: 50235 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Oloughlin, Lareal
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 18:23:42
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Dear NPS, After having watched the History Of The National Parks documentary recently, I wholeheartedly support the wilderness designation for Drakes Estero within the Point Reyes National Seashore. I strongly urge the National Park Service

and Department of the Interior to uphold the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act and select alternative A, which protects this important marine wilderness and is the environmentally preferred alternative.

Drakes Estero is a unique and ecologically significant wildlife area. It is an important stop on the flyway for migrating birds, a refuge and birthplace for harbor seals and a critical native fish nursery. Congress and the public have long intended that Drakes Estero be given the highest federal level of protection as a wilderness area when the commercial oyster lease expires in 2012.

This can only be accomplished by selecting Alternative "A" and ending commercial use of this sensitive wildlife refuge. Alternative A is the most consistent with National Park Service laws and policies. The Park Service's environmental review shows that alternative "A" best protects wildlife and the National Park experience.

Our national parks are for the people and wildlife protection, and wilderness areas with our parks should not prioritize commercial exploitation. The American public deserves to have this unique marine wilderness protected in a natural state for future generations to enjoy.

Drakes Estero is the only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be grown elsewhere.

As someone who enjoys our spectacular national parks, I urge you to not undermine protections at Drakes Estero and succumb to special interests seeking to commercialize these special places.

Correspondence ID: 50236 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Lapuyade, Larry
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 18:26:40
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50237 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Love, Lynn
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 18:27:39
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Although I don't get to Drake's Bay as often as I would like to sample the beauty that it provides, I support the effort to protect this rare and vital part of California.

Correspondence ID: 50238 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Ferguson, Doug
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 18:29:09
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I'm an attorney with 40 years experience in environmental preservation matters. Over my 39 years on the Board of Directors for the Trust for Public Land - for which organization I am NOT officially speaking here - it has been both my pleasure and an honor to work closely with the National Park Service on a large number of projects and initiatives located across the United States. For the first 36 of those 39 years, I considered the NPS in its entirety to be a model of responsible governance.

I hope that remains true elsewhere, but here in Marin we have a major exception. Over the past three years I have been an increasingly interested and dismayed bystander as the NPS - to my absolute astonishment - has become a pawn to strident local interests that are determined by fair means or foul (and mostly foul) to terminate the Drakes Bay Oyster Co. lease. For those willing to take the time to follow this matter closely, it has become abundantly clear that basic honesty is no longer held in respect by those responsible for governing the Point Reyes National Seashore.

The EIS now under review is a continuation of this myopic and woefully-slanted perversion of governmental prerogatives. The only option left to me is to add this urging of support for the COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVE and to hope against hope that the NPS I've so long respected will cease betraying the public trust.

Correspondence ID: 50239 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Walton, Zachary
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Please clarify if NPS is of the view that DBOC's leases with California are lawful now or ever.

Correspondence ID: 50240 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Ringold, Dena
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 18:51:40
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 50241 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Jackson, Donald L
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 19:12:09
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: As a native Californian, and frequent visitor to the National Parks, I appreciate the values of our nation that are preserved in our national parks. I do not see any reason for an oyster operation at Point Reyes.

I support Alternative "A", and a return of that area to natural conditions. The park was created for the enjoyment of all the people, not the few who might profit from a location within the park.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Correspondence ID: 50242 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 19:14:20
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50243 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 19:16:03
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Potential impact on wildlife is not properly assessed.

The dEIS claims that removing the oyster farm would benefit harbor seals; that claim is false. Drakes Estero is currently home to one of the largest harbor seal populations on the California coast and the harbor seal population has remained constant for decades, according to Dr. Sarah Allen's Annual report on Harbor Seals at Drakes Estero.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50244 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A

Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 19:17:33
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company, especially the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

The dEIS includes much discussion about special-status species

It concludes that the oyster farm could potentially negatively impact these species

NONE OF THE SEVEN Endangered species mentioned in the dEIS live in the project area!

' NO Myrtle Silverspot Butterfly live IN project area they make their habitat nearby, but not IN the project area (dEIS pg 187)

' NO Red-legged frogs live in the project area: salt water kills them

' NO Ca Coho Salmon live in project area (dEIS pg 189)

' NO Central Ca Steelhead live in project area (dEIS pg 190)

' NO Leatherback Turtles live in project area (dEIS pg 191)

' NO Western Snowy Plovers live in project area (dEIS pg 192)

' NO Ca Least Terns live in project area (dEIS pg 192)

The dEIS fails to provide an accurate assessment of the oyster farm's proven ability to operate without harming wildlife or wildlife habitat.

The final document should reconsider all wildlife issues and provide a data based assessment.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

Correspondence ID: 50245 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Rowland, Pete
Outside Organization: National Parks VIP Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 19:19:15
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Hello,

As a parks volunteer and a longtime park participant of both Muir Woods and Point Reyes national seashore along with GGNRA, I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS. Please allow the Drakes Bay Oyster farm to continue to run, and I'm sure there is a common ground to be found between the NPS and Drakes Bay Oyster Farm.

Correspondence ID: 50246 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 19:19:41
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Environmental benefits are misrepresented and/or missing.

PRNS has been rebuked for misrepresenting the facts about the environmental benefits of oyster farming yet, the dEIS misrepresents those facts again, calling the removal of the oyster farm the "environmentally preferable" alternative.

The dEIS fails to address the important ecological services provided by oysters, including filtering water and reducing nitrogen in the water. Drakes Estero is one of the most pristine estuaries IN THE COUNTRY DUE TO THE PRESENCE OF THE OYSTERS.

The dEIS fails to address the environmental impacts of the following:

' Replacing a local, sustainable food source with 35,000 pounds of oysters that would have to be flown in from Asia each week

to compensate

' Comparisons of the carbon footprint of the existing food source with the replacement food source must be analyzed in the dEIS.

' The dEIS fails to consider world population food needs.

o 1960 world population 3 BILLION PEOPLE

o 2011 world population 7 BILLION PEOPLE, 2.33 times greater in 51 years

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50247 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Townsend, Trey
Outside Organization: National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 19:20:15
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year, as long intended. It is in the public interest to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the enjoyment of all. The public has waited nearly four decades for these protections to be implemented, which is an immense compromise in itself. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish take shelter in eelgrass. As someone who enjoys our nation's national parks and their wildlife, I urge you to uphold the longstanding plan to convert this very special resource to wilderness.

I urge you to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness next year and is the Environmentally Preferred Alternative. The National Park Service is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources at Drakes Estero and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are set aside for the public and for wildlife protection, and after waiting nearly 40 years for private commercial use rights to expire, it's time to give the estuary the protection it needs. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" is best for public policy, and best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other natural resources. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be commercially grown elsewhere.

Please honor the promise made for a protected marine wilderness at Drakes Estero. In doing so, you will set a good policy example and reward the public with an enduring legacy feat found nowhere else on the West Coast.

Correspondence ID: 50248 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 19:20:26
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Economic impacts are not adequately addressed.

The dEIS states, removing the oyster farm would cause "major, long-term, adverse effects to the California shellfish market" but

' The dEIS does not provide a complete analysis of these MAJOR, LONG-TERM, ADVERSE IMPACTS!

' The dEIS does not include these impacts in the overall analysis.

' The dEIS does not analyze the impacts of eliminating one of the largest employers in West Marin.

The dEIS must assess and address the economic impacts of eliminating the production of nearly 40% of California 's oysters and the subsequent impact on the economy.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and

regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50249 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Sponaugle, Boyd L
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 19:20:33
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Reissue the Special Use Permit. Jobs are essential in today's economy. As every well schooled economist knows, the United States is in the 11th year of a Secular Bear Market that began in January 2000. The average length of time for secular market conditions is 16 years (the longest secular bear market on record being the 20 year period between 1929 and 1949), so it would seem irresponsible to not reissue the Special Use Permit for at least five years, thereby providing and maintaining jobs at a time when they are truly needed.

Correspondence ID: 50250 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 19:21:17
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Socioeconomic impacts are not properly addressed furthermore the analysis is flawed.

Geographic parameters used throughout this chapter

' Switch back and forth from Inverness proper, to greater West Marin, to Marin in general, to Multi-County, to Statewide, and even to Nationwide.

' This switching of parameters is used to argue that the job losses would be minimal.

Considered properly:

' DBOC is one of the largest employers in the area.

' West Marin is a community isolated 20 miles away from the main population of the county by farms, ranches, open space and parkland therefore, these job losses would be anything but minimal

The analysis presented here is insufficient.

This section should be reformulated and corrected for the dEIS.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50251 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 19:21:36
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Impacts to local habitat restoration efforts and endangered species are not addressed

' The oyster shell byproduct from the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm cannery is the sole, critical resource for reestablishing native oyster beds, and for restoring CA Least Tern and Western Snowy Plover habitat, in San Francisco Bay . ' The California Least Tern is a U.S. federally listed endangered species

' The Snowy Plover is in decline due to habitat loss.

' If Drakes Bay Oyster farm were shut down, the restoration operations could also be shut down.

' The d EIS does not address the impacts to wildlife or the environmental issues surrounding the loss of these restoration efforts.

' The dEIS should correct these flaws.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50252 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 19:23:04
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: The historic cultural role of the oyster farm in West Marin is not adequately addressed. The EIS must assess

' The cultural impacts of eliminating an institution that has been in operation for generations

' The importance to

' Park visitors

' Local restaurants

' Local food shed

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50253 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 19:23:40
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50254 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 19:23:55
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Existing management policies are not considered.

' The current General Management Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore, adopted in 1980, strongly supports the continued operation of the oyster farm, as do all of the relevant Marin County planning documents.

' The d EIS does not include any reasons for, or discussion of, this decision to bypass

' The existing General Management Plan and

' Marin County's planning processes

The existing management policies must be considered and addressed.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority

Correspondence ID: 50255 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 19:24:06
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: National aquaculture policies are ignored.

Shellfish aquaculture is widely recognized nationally, and globally, as having a valuable role in the protection of wild fish resources.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is encouraging aquaculture for this and many other reasons.

The dEIS should consider these policies.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50256 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 19:25:36
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the alternatives is appropriate. While the NEPA process mandates the consideration of a "no-action alternative," there are no alternatives presented in the dEIS that qualify as "no-action."

' Alternative A forces DBOC out of business next year,

' The other alternatives force it to shut down in 10 years.

' The DEIS fails to provide a valid status-quo baseline.

' A new set of alternatives must be created that meet the actual criteria for this process.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50257 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: DRAKES BAY OYSTER COMPANY SPECIAL USE PERMIT:

Collaborative Management Alternative

COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVE: A Ten-Year Special Use Permit with Option for Extension;

Rehabilitation of Existing Facilities; and Construction of New Processing Facilities

This alternative permits DBOC to continue to utilize onshore facilities within the Seashore (PRNS) pastoral zone to support shellfish cultivation in Drakes Estero pursuant to its leases from the California Department of Fish and Game [CDFG]. DBOC would pay "fair market value" for use of the on-shore facilities, which would take into account the value of interpretive services provided and the investment needed to rehabilitate existing facilities and construct new processing facilities. The rehabilitation and construction work would be as described in the discussion of Alternative D.

Under this alternative, DBOC will collaborate with relevant organizations, including but not limited to the NPS, the CDFG, the UC SeaGrant program, and other educational and research agencies and in developing interpretive programs and scientifically valid research projects as recommended by the NRC and MMC. This alternative provides educational opportunities for people of all ages, including Seashore visitors, students, and researchers, relating to estuarine ecology and mariculture.

This alternative is consistent with the "national interest" expressed in President Clinton's May 26, 2000 Executive Order 13158 directing the Departments of Commerce (DOC) and Interior to expand and strengthen the "Nation's system of marine protected areas." It respects the California Fish and Game Commission designation, effective May 2010, of Drakes Estero as a State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA), a protected area in which recreational clam digging and shellfish cultivation pursuant to CDFG leases are permitted. DBOC's operation within a SMCA and PRNS presents a unique opportunity for collaborative research that supports the policies of the National Shellfish Initiative [Initiative] announced by NOAA and DOC in June 2011, and responds directly and positively to NRC and MMC recommendations regarding collaborative efforts to inform adaptive management of Drakes Estero.

This alternative supports the goals of the Initiative, which are to increase domestic seafood production, create sustainable jobs, and restore marine habitats. It provides opportunities for research as called for by the Initiative, "...on the interactions between shellfish and the environment in terms of climate change, ocean acidification, naturally occurring pathogens and parasites, and other factors . . ." This alternative supports DBOC's efforts to restore native oysters in Drakes Estero and to study the potential for native oysters to withstand the effects of global ocean acidification now beginning to affect all Pacific coast shellfish.

This alternative sustainably supports the local economy by continuing to attract thousands of ethnically diverse visitors to West Marin every year and continuing to provide over half of the San Francisco Bay Area's sustainably farmed shellfish. It protects desperately needed affordable housing for farm workers on remote Point Reyes ranches.

Under this alternative, DBOC will continue to provide essential oyster shell for environmental programs, such as the San Francisco Bay Native Oyster Restoration Project, the SF Bay Bird Observatory Snowy Plover Habitat Enhancement Project and the California Department of Fish and Game Least Tern Habitat Enhancement Project.

This alternative supports a landscape that is ecologically and economically sustainable. It is consistent with the natural resource management provisions in the PRNS General Management Plan, and enables the Seashore to collaboratively integrate ecosystem science and natural and cultural resource management to better understand and manage relationships among the physical, biological, and cultural elements of a working land and seascape, while maintaining its distinctive "sense of place and character."

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID:	50258	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Romanowski, Amy				
Outside Organization:	National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec.06,2011 19:26:49				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish

and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50259 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Delaney, Elisha
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 19:28:24
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50260 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Mummery, Alexandra
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 19:28:25
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50261 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gerber, R B
Outside Organization: Point Reyes Community Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 19:32:49
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority

Correspondence ID: 50262 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: O'Brien, Dan
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 19:48:15

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I do not think a renewal of the special use permit is in the best long term interest of the park.

Correspondence ID: 50263 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Peters, Lou
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 20:27:26
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50264 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Washington, Chris
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 20:27:26
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50265 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Farmer, Gail
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 20:28:17
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish

and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID:	50266	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Broullon, Adriana J				
Outside Organization:	Agricultural Institute of Marin Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec.06,2011 20:36:23				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50267	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	erskine, doug				
Outside Organization:	retired Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec.06,2011 20:38:32				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	There is not a lot to discuss. The enabling legislation (act of congress) dictates the end of the oyster farm on a date certain. Enough said. It's already been paid for.				

Correspondence ID:	50268	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Devereux, Lynne				
Outside Organization:	Marin Agricultural Land Trust Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec.06,2011 21:10:34				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	"I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."				

Correspondence ID:	50269	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Waters, Greg				
Outside Organization:	CIFUS Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec.06,2011 21:12:25				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	"I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."				

Correspondence ID:	50270	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Carruth, Beverly				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec.06,2011 21:15:00				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50271	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec.06,2011 21:22:21				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	Thank you, I support a 'renewable' special use permit for Drakes' Bay Oyster Company. None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. Drakes' Bay Oyster Company farm oysters with sustainable aquaculture practices and are Land-Stewards for the environment. Sincerely, Erica Goble Greenbrae Marin County California				

Correspondence ID:	50272	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Johnson, Carole				
Outside Organization:	National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec.06,2011 21:27:59				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.				

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish

and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50273 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 21:51:04
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Though we are all in favor of protecting our parklands, one can't do it on the basis of such a slim "maybe this might happen" that has even been controversial and even unproven.

Agriculture has been slowly disappearing in our area. We need the critical mass to keep agriculture alive. The Lunny's are good stewards of the lands and waters. They are not shoddy caretakers. We not only need them to stay for agriculture to remain viable, but has no one thought about the fact that we're a growing population that needs to be fed?

Soon we'll be eating one crop born of monoculture on disappated soils and then we'll all be crying.

Correspondence ID: 50274 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Cory, Allan
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 21:51:04
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company!

Correspondence ID: 50275 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Dilllon, Louis
Outside Organization: AFA Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 21:51:49
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: It would be really sad to see the oyster co. close. I used to ride my horse on the south side of the bay and look down at the oyster boat and appreciate how pristine the bay looked, untouched by any of the usual tragedy of the american landscape. What is even more Ironic is that the stae of California is so incompetent as to jeopardise a historic and enviornmental friendly family operation like this!

I hope the Oyster Co. stays in operation for a long time, as great stewards of the Bay!

Stewardship Begins with People,

Louis Dillon

Farrier

Correspondence ID: 50276 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Uribe, Virginia
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 21:52:51
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50277 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Dilllon, Louis
Outside Organization: AFA Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 21:53:26
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: It would be really sad to see the oyster co. close. I used to ride my horse on the south side of the bay and look down at the oyster boat and appreciate how pristine the bay looked, untouched by any of the usual tragedy of the american landscape. What is even more Ironic is that the state of California is so incompetent as to jeopardise a historic and enviornmental friendly family operation like this!

I hope the Oyster Co. stays in operation for a long time, as great stewards of the Bay!

Stewardship Begins with People,

Louis Dillon

Farrier

Correspondence ID: 50278 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: Dillion, Louis

Outside Organization: AFA Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec.06,2011 21:53:43

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: It would be really sad to see the oyster co. close. I used to ride my horse on the south side of the bay and look down at the oyster boat and appreciate how pristine the bay looked, untouched by any of the usual tragedy of the american landscape. What is even more Ironic is that the state of California is so incompetent as to jeopardise a historic and enviornmental friendly family operation like this!

I hope the Oyster Co. stays in operation for a long time, as great stewards of the Bay!

Stewardship Begins with People,

Louis Dillon

Farrier

Correspondence ID: 50279 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: Corry, Ronit

Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec.06,2011 21:57:49

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50280 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: Calhoun, Alexander D

Outside Organization: Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec.06,2011 22:06:10

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative. I've watched the Park Service misrepresent on the Drake's Estero oyster farming issue for too many years. I frequent the area, and have for nearly 50 years.

The oyster famers appear to me - and to the most accurate science, so it seems, to be great stewards of that beautiful area, open for us all to enjoy. I do believe that at least one of the authors of the legislation that resulted in the Park Service being overseers of stewardship of Drake's Estero has verified and authenticated that the language and intent of the legislation was meant to allow certain existing enterprises to continue operation, including the oyster operation.

Don't endanger California oysters due to some national agenda, and against the law that established the park land in West Marin County, California, USA!

Alex Calhoun, III San Francisco, CA USA

Correspondence ID: 50281 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 22:14:32
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

Correspondence ID: 50282 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Leland, Bill
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Friends,

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Please collaborate and save Marin agriculture.

Thank you, Bill Leland

Correspondence ID: 50283 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: johnson, julie
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 22:16:54
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company."

Correspondence ID: 50284 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Passantino, Trase
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

2

Potential impact on wildlife is not properly assessed.

The dEIS claims that removing the oyster farm would benefit harbor seals; that claim is false. Drakes Estero is currently home to one of the largest harbor seal populations on the California coast and the harbor seal population has remained constant for decades, according to Dr. Sarah Allen's Annual report on Harbor Seals at Drakes Estero.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

3

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company, especially the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

The dEIS includes much discussion about special-status species

It concludes that the oyster farm could potentially negatively impact these species

NONE OF THE SEVEN Endangered species mentioned in the dEIS live in the project area! ' NO Myrtle Silverspot Butterfly live IN project area they make their habitat nearby, but not IN the project area (dEIS pg 187) ' NO Red-legged frogs live in the project area: salt water kills them ' NO Ca Coho Salmon live in project area (dEIS pg 189) ' NO Central Ca Steelhead live in

project area (dEIS pg 190) ' NO Leatherback Turtles live in project area (dEIS pg 191) ' NO Western Snowy Plovers live in project area (dEIS pg 192) ' NO Ca Least Terns live in project area (dEIS pg 192) The dEIS fails to provide an accurate assessment of the oyster farm's proven ability to operate without harming wildlife or wildlife habitat.

The final document should reconsider all wildlife issues and provide a data based assessment.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

4

Environmental benefits are misrepresented and/or missing.

PRNS has been rebuked for misrepresenting the facts about the environmental benefits of oyster farming yet, the dEIS misrepresents those facts again, calling the removal of the oyster farm the "environmentally preferable" alternative.

The dEIS fails to address the important ecological services provided by oysters, including filtering water and reducing nitrogen in the water. Drakes Estero is one of the most pristine estuaries IN THE COUNTRY DUE TO THE PRESENCE OF THE OYSTERS.

The dEIS fails to address the environmental impacts of the following:

' Replacing a local, sustainable food source with 35,000 pounds of oysters that would have to be flown in from Asia each week to compensate ' Comparisons of the carbon footprint of the existing food source with the replacement food source must be analyzed in the dEIS. ' The dEIS fails to consider world population food needs. o 1960 world population 3 BILLION PEOPLE o 2011 world population 7 BILLION PEOPLE, 2.33 times greater in 51 years I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

5

Economic impacts are not adequately addressed.

The dEIS states, removing the oyster farm would cause "major, long-term, adverse effects to the California shellfish market" but ' The dEIS does not provide a complete analysis of these MAJOR, LONG-TERM, ADVERSE IMPACTS! ' The dEIS does not include these impacts in the overall analysis. ' The dEIS does not analyze the impacts of eliminating one of the largest employers in West Marin. The dEIS must assess and address the economic impacts of eliminating the production of nearly 40% of California's oysters and the subsequent impact on the economy.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

6

Socioeconomic impacts are not properly addressed furthermore the analysis is flawed.

Geographic parameters used throughout this chapter

' Switch back and forth from Inverness proper, to greater West Marin, to Marin in general, to Multi-County, to Statewide, and even to Nationwide. ' This switching of parameters is used to argue that the job losses would be minimal. Considered properly:

' DBOC is one of the largest employers in the area. ' West Marin is a community isolated 20 miles away from the main population of the county by farms, ranches, open space and parkland therefore, these job losses would be anything but minimal

The analysis presented here is insufficient.

This section should be reformulated and corrected for the dEIS.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

7

Impacts to local habitat restoration efforts and endangered species are not addressed

' The oyster shell byproduct from the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm cannery is the sole, critical resource for reestablishing native oyster beds, and for restoring CA Least Tern and Western Snowy Plover habitat, in San Francisco Bay. ' The California Least Tern is a U.S. federally listed endangered species ' The Snowy Plover is in decline due to habitat loss. ' If Drakes Bay Oyster farm were shut down, the restoration operations could also be shut down. ' The d EIS does not address the impacts to wildlife or the environmental issues surrounding the loss of these restoration efforts. ' The dEIS should correct these flaws. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

8

The historic cultural role of the oyster farm in West Marin is not adequately addressed. The EIS must assess

' The cultural impacts of eliminating an institution that has been in operation for generations ' The importance to ' Park visitors ' Local restaurants ' Local food shed I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

9

Existing management policies are not considered.

' The current General Management Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore, adopted in 1980, strongly supports the continued operation of the oyster farm, as do all of the relevant Marin County planning documents. ' The d EIS does not include any reasons for, or discussion of, this decision to bypass ' The existing General Management Plan and ' Marin County's planning processes The existing management policies must be considered and addressed.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

10

National aquaculture policies are ignored.

Shellfish aquaculture is widely recognized nationally, and globally, as having a valuable role in the protection of wild fish resources.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is encouraging aquaculture for this and many other reasons.

The dEIS should consider these policies.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

11

None of the alternatives is appropriate. While the NEPA process mandates the consideration of a "no-action alternative," there are no alternatives presented in the dEIS that qualify as "no-action."

' Alternative A forces DBOC out of business next year, ' The other alternatives force it to shut down in 10 years. ' The DEIS fails to provide a valid status-quo baseline. ' A new set of alternatives must be created that meet the actual criteria for this process.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

12

DRAKES BAY OYSTER COMPANY SPECIAL USE PERMIT:

Collaborative Management Alternative

COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVE: A Ten-Year Special Use Permit with Option for Extension; Rehabilitation of Existing Facilities; and Construction of New Processing Facilities

This alternative permits DBOC to continue to utilize onshore facilities within the Seashore (PRNS) pastoral zone to support shellfish cultivation in Drakes Estero pursuant to its leases from the California Department of Fish and Game [CDFG]. DBOC would pay "fair market value" for use of the on-shore facilities, which would take into account the value of interpretive services provided and the investment needed to rehabilitate existing facilities and construct new processing facilities. The rehabilitation and construction work would be as described in the discussion of Alternative D.

Under this alternative, DBOC will collaborate with relevant organizations, including but not limited to the NPS, the CDFG, the UC SeaGrant program, and other educational and research agencies and in developing interpretive programs and scientifically valid research projects as recommended by the NRC and MMC. This alternative provides educational opportunities for people of all ages, including Seashore visitors, students, and researchers, relating to estuarine ecology and mariculture.

This alternative is consistent with the "national interest" expressed in President Clinton's May 26, 2000 Executive Order 13158 directing the Departments of Commerce (DOC) and Interior to expand and strengthen the "Nation's system of marine protected areas." It respects the California Fish and Game Commission designation, effective May 2010, of Drakes Estero as a State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA), a protected area in which recreational clam digging and shellfish cultivation pursuant to CDFG leases are permitted. DBOC's operation within a SMCA and PRNS presents a unique opportunity for collaborative research that supports the policies of the National Shellfish Initiative [Initiative] announced by NOAA and DOC in June 2011, and responds directly and positively to NRC and MMC recommendations regarding collaborative efforts to inform adaptive management of Drakes Estero.

This alternative supports the goals of the Initiative, which are to increase domestic seafood production, create sustainable jobs, and restore marine habitats. It provides opportunities for research as called for by the Initiative, "...on the interactions between shellfish and the environment in terms of climate change, ocean acidification, naturally occurring pathogens and parasites, and other factors . . ." This alternative supports DBOC's efforts to restore native oysters in Drakes Estero and to study the potential for native oysters to withstand the effects of global ocean acidification now beginning to affect all Pacific coast shellfish.

This alternative sustainably supports the local economy by continuing to attract thousands of ethnically diverse visitors to West Marin every year and continuing to provide over half of the San Francisco Bay Area's sustainably farmed shellfish. It protects desperately needed affordable housing for farm workers on remote Point Reyes ranches.

Under this alternative, DBOC will continue to provide essential oyster shell for environmental programs, such as the San Francisco Bay Native Oyster Restoration Project, the SF Bay Bird Observatory Snowy Plover Habitat Enhancement Project and

the California Department of Fish and Game Least Tern Habitat Enhancement Project.

This alternative supports a landscape that is ecologically and economically sustainable. It is consistent with the natural resource management provisions in the PRNS General Management Plan, and enables the Seashore to collaboratively integrate ecosystem science and natural and cultural resource management to better understand and manage relationships among the physical, biological, and cultural elements of a working land and seascape, while maintaining its distinctive "sense of place and character."

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID:	50285	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,06,2011 22:18:39				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company. DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority				

Correspondence ID:	50286	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,06,2011 22:21:17				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	Potential impact on wildlife is not properly assessed. The dEIS claims that removing the oyster farm would benefit harbor seals; that claim is false. Drakes Estero is currently home to one of the largest harbor seal populations on the California coast and the harbor seal population has remained constant for decades, according to Dr. Sarah Allen's Annual report on Harbor Seals at Drakes Estero. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company. DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority				

Correspondence ID:	50287	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Lawson, Jered				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,06,2011 22:23:03				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50288	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,06,2011 22:24:42				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	3 I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company, especially the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company. The dEIS includes much discussion about special-status species It concludes that the oyster farm could potentially negatively impact these species NONE OF THE SEVEN Endangered species mentioned in the dEIS live in the project area! ' NO Myrtle Silverspot Butterfly live IN project area they make their habitat nearby, but not IN the project area (dEIS pg 187) ' NO Red-legged frogs live in the project area: salt water kills them ' NO Ca Coho Salmon live in project area (dEIS pg 189) ' NO Central Ca Steelhead live in project area (dEIS pg 190) ' NO Leatherback Turtles live in project area (dEIS pg 191) ' NO Western Snowy Plovers live in project area (dEIS pg 192) ' NO Ca Least Terns live in project area (dEIS pg 192) The dEIS fails to provide an accurate assessment of the oyster farm's proven ability to operate without harming wildlife or wildlife habitat. The final document should reconsider all wildlife issues and provide a data based assessment. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company. DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.				

Correspondence ID:	50289	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Smith, Edwina				
Outside Organization:	National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,06,2011 22:28:05				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.				

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50290 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 22:46:48
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives is appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50291 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Hartmeyer, Bailey J
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS." Do not do anything to Drakes Bay Oyster Company. It's a national treasure and a vital part of Point Reyes.

Correspondence ID: 50292 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Hartmeyer, Rosarie J
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 22:52:43
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS." Drakes Bay Oyster Company is one of the best parts of Point Reyes National Seashore. Don't change it. It would be horrible for outdoorspeople and others. I wish all national seashores were like this one.

Correspondence ID: 50293 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Simmons, Betty
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 22:58:25
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company."

I am an environmentalist and greatly interested in protecting our coastline and natural environment HOWEVER I think Drakes Bay Oyster Company and it's predecessor, Johnson Oyster Company, have operated a business that has more than proven itself as a good citizen of the coastal community and is a valued and unique business, providing an experience that is an attraction for locals and tourists, alike. The charm of this small business is one of the best things about a trip to the North Bay coast.

Using a Machiavellian code of applying regulations is destructive to the ambiance of the area and ongoing small business success of this fine business.

I have been a resident of the SF Bay Area and North Bay for more than 40 years and I support Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50294 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Larson, Bonnie
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,06,2011 22:58:47
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes

clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID:	50295	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Dorinson, Cathleen				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,06,2011 23:15:40				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support a renewable special use permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.				

Correspondence ID:	50296	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Brown, Amelia N				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,06,2011 23:20:15				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	This attack on a long lasting business that is an asset to our community is sad... I have seen no information that justifies these actions.				

Correspondence ID:	50297	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Donlon Karlenzig, Diana				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,06,2011 23:20:40				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the wonderful job that the Lunny's are doing as stewards of the natural world. Please allow them to continue to grow Oysters; we are lucky to have them. Let's save our energies for more critical battles such as fighting the genetic contamination of our wildlife refuges where GMO crops are being grown.				

Correspondence ID:	50298	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,06,2011 23:23:01				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	Alternative A, to discontinue the current permit and not issue a new one should obviously be the selected and executed action for this activity that is currently occurring within Point Reyes National Seashore. Reissuing such a permit would be unconscionable. The environmental impacts resulting from reissuing a permit would continue to be significant or worse than is currently occurring. Whereas, the socioeconomic impact of not reissuing the permit would be minimal. A permit for continuation of the oyster farm should not be reissued.				

Correspondence ID:	50299	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Williams, Angie				
Outside Organization:	National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,06,2011 23:28:38				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.				

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50300 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, Dana
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 23:36:28
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50301 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Hovde, Stacy
Outside Organization: National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 23:37:34
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year, as long intended. It is in the public interest to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the enjoyment of all. The public has waited nearly four decades for these protections to be implemented, which is an immense compromise in itself. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish take shelter in eelgrass. As someone who enjoys our nation's national parks and their wildlife, I urge you to uphold the longstanding plan to convert this very special resource to wilderness.

I urge you to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness next year and is the Environmentally Preferred Alternative. The National Park Service is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources at Drakes Estero and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are set aside for the public and for wildlife protection, and after waiting nearly 40 years for private commercial use rights to expire, it's time to give the estuary the protection it needs. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" is best for public policy, and best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other natural resources. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be commercially grown elsewhere.

Please honor the promise made for a protected marine wilderness at Drakes Estero. In doing so, you will set a good policy example and reward the public with an enduring legacy feat found nowhere else on the West Coast.

Correspondence ID: 50302 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 23:48:37
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company. DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50303 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 23:49:41
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company. DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50304 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: du Rivage, robert
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.06,2011 23:58:52
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine

wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50305 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Cooper, Danese
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 00:16:05
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50306 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Freeman, Rizwati
Outside Organization: Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 00:39:22
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I am writing to urge the National Park Service to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year as long-intended. The American public deserves to have the West Coast's only marine wilderness protected for future generations to enjoy. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish spawn. It deserves the highest level of protection as Congress long-intended. As someone who enjoys our nation's spectacular national parks, I urge you to not undermine protections at Drakes Estero and succumb to special interests seeking to commercialize these special places.

I urge the National Park Service and the Department of the Interior to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness and is the environmentally preferred alternative. The NPS is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources, as stated in the Seashore's legislation, and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are for the people and wildlife protection, not commercial exploitation. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other wildlife and plants. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and it is irreplaceable, while oysters can be grown elsewhere.

National Parks and wilderness areas are treasured by the majority of Americans and are for the public interest, not for private commercial exploitation. By protecting wilderness, the National Park Service will set a positive policy example while commercializing it will set a negative example and help others seek their special exemptions from national park laws.

Correspondence ID: 50307 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gould, Elizabeth
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 00:59:45
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50308 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Boehm, Jeff
Outside Organization: The Marine Mammal Center Non-profit/Organization
Received: Dec,07,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Re: Draft Environmental Impact Statement Drakes Bay Oyster Company Special Use Permit

The Marine Mammal Center (TMMC), in Sausalito, California, rescues, rehabilitates and releases back to the ocean hundreds of marine mammal patients each year. Based on that core work, TMMC also engages in scientific research and leads school and other public education programs on marine mammals and the ocean environment that we share with them.

Having cared for more than 16,000 patients in 36 years of operation, the Center has a great depth of experience in marine mammal clinical medicine and through its clinical staff has advanced the science behind the care of those animals. The research that TMMC conducts with its partners in the scientific community has illuminated our understanding of domoic acid toxicosis,

cancer, and infectious diseases such as leptospirosis in these species. We have contributed to the understanding of marine mammal population health, and by extension, ocean health. On several fronts, our collaborations have led us to direct applications of our research to contemporary issues in human health.

TMMC has reviewed the draft EIS for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company's Special Use Permit and believe that alternative A (no new special use permit) is the best alternative for the harbor seal population.

Drakes Estero is a primary nursery area for harbor seals from the Russian River, San Francisco Bay and the outer coast. It is closed to human activity during the pupping season with the exception of Drakes Bay Oyster Company activities. As human occupation and development of the Bay Area has increased, harbor seals have lost some of their traditional nursery areas (such as the one that used to exist on Strawberry Spit in Richardson Bay) increasing the relative importance of a less disturbed area like Drakes Estero to the harbor seals within San Francisco Bay. Disturbance of habitat in some cases is increasing as evidenced by the disturbance of harbor seals at the mouth of the Russian river by heavy equipment opening and closing ocean access for salmon improvement. As a result, the central coast harbor seal population has seen no increase in over 15 years. Even within Drakes Estero, however, the harbor seals have been constrained to limited sandbar space by human activity at the mouth of the Estero, predation by coyotes on the mainland, and the presence of oysters on other sandbars. Removal of the oyster operation will provide more safe, nursery space for our local, native seals that have lost so much of their natural habitat.

Harbor seal pups remain with their mothers after birth for a short, but intense, period (3-5 weeks). During this time, their immune systems develop rapidly and they double their weight (storing energy for a post-weaning period when they will learn to forage on their own). If this nursing period is cut short, most pups will not survive. At our hospital for sick and injured marine mammals, the majority of our harbor seal cases are young (less than 4 week old) pups. These pups are separated from or abandoned by their mothers and not capable of surviving on their own. We believe many of these pups are born in "inappropriate" places near human disturbance because of lack of suitable pupping areas in the San Francisco Bay area. We provide supportive care, treat illness, and return pups to the wild once they have gained sufficient weight and are capable of feeding themselves. We have thirty-five years experience caring for these animals, and spearhead a yearly publicity campaign to educate the public about the risk of disturbance to seals during this crucial period of development

While alternative A is a good alternative for harbor seals, alternatives B, C, and D are not. The ongoing displacement and disturbance that will occur with alternative B, C, or D is spelled out by the draft EIS, but the allowed increased in oyster production under these alternatives may have more harmful effects than those described in the EIS. Displacement of the harbor seals toward mainland sites at the mouth of the Estero puts them at increased risk of disturbance from coyotes and humans that use Drakes Beach and Limantour Beach. Additionally, ongoing and increased disturbance may increase the risk of separation between mother and pup, especially in the first few days of life, leading to increased mortality. Post mortem results from dead pups recovered from the mouth of Drakes Estero did not exhibit the signs of malnutrition or infection that we often see in our stranded seal pups, suggesting that separation was quickly followed by death and not related to infectious disease. The recent Marine Mammal Commission report found that some disturbance is inevitable in mariculture activities.

For these reasons, we urge the National Park Service to adopt alternative A as a preferred alternative in the final EIS. In addition, the adverse impacts (particularly displacement of harbor seals to nursery habitat of less quality) from alternatives B, C, or D could be described as major, since the isolated sand bars in Alternative A provide a safe refuge in the event of harm or drop in the regional population.

The EIS should focus on the benefit to the harbor seal population not whether the options might harm the population. Alternative A would constitute a gain for a very vulnerable population of harbor seals. There are very few examples where we can remediate the harm caused over the decades by human encroachment and disturbance of marine mammal habitats. Having Drakes Estero become a true wilderness as originally envisioned would be one of those rare occasions.

Correspondence ID:	50309	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Marrack, Janet				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec.07.2011 01:30:08				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I spent many years in Marin and value Pt Reyes National Seashore as an exceptional wilderness area to be enjoyed by everyone including the marine mammals and other wildlife that make their home in this beautiful place. I am in favor of allowing the Oyster Co lease to expire in 2012.				

Drake's Estero has become a battleground for private interest and profit versus preservation of the natural environment and our National Parks. Mr Luddy and his supporters put on a show of being environmentally sensitive when their real motive is exploitation for personal gain. The attempt to prove "false science" is an unethical distraction which has wasted countless hours and dollars. This controversy is about something much bigger...the commitment to preserve our public lands against special interests and the political pressure that they muster. I implore those making the decision to cast a NO ACTION vote to benefit all of us who enjoy unspoiled National Parks all over the country.

Sincerely, Janet Marrack

Correspondence ID:	50310	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Alvarez, Ana				

Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 03:00:37
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50311 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: Nordgren, Ulla

Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec.07,2011 03:17:15

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I support the wilderness designation for Drakes Estero within the Point Reyes National Seashore. I urge the National Park Service and Department of the Interior to uphold the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act and select alternative A, which protects this important marine wilderness and is the environmentally preferred alternative.

Drakes Estero is a unique and ecologically significant wildlife area. It is an important stop on the flyway for migrating birds, a refuge and birthplace for harbor seals and a critical native fish nursery. Congress and the public have long intended that Drakes Estero be given the highest federal level of protection as a wilderness area when the commercial oyster lease expires in 2012.

This can only be accomplished by selecting Alternative "A" and ending commercial use of this sensitive wildlife refuge. Alternative A is the most consistent with National Park Service laws and policies. The Park Service's environmental review shows that alternative "A" best protects wildlife and the National Park experience.

Our national parks are for the people and wildlife protection, and wilderness areas with our parks should not prioritize commercial exploitation. The American public deserves to have this unique marine wilderness protected in a natural state for future generations to enjoy.

Drakes Estero is the only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be grown elsewhere.

As someone who enjoys our spectacular national parks, I urge you to not undermine protections at Drakes Estero and succumb to special interests seeking to commercialize these special places.

Correspondence ID: 50312 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: Clar, Philip

Outside Organization: Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec.07,2011 00:00:00

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I am writing to urge the National Park Service to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year as long-intended. The American public deserves to have the West Coast's only marine wilderness protected for future generations to enjoy. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish spawn. It deserves the highest level of protection as Congress long-intended. As someone who enjoys our nation's spectacular national parks, I urge you to not undermine protections at Drakes Estero and succumb to special interests seeking to commercialize these special places.

I'm not necessarily adverse to all projects by oil companies, as the need for oil can be a critical national interest. However, the oyster fishery is not so very important vs. it's negative environmental impact.

Sincerely,

Philip Clar, Ph.D 4915 Brightwood Ct. Carmichael, CA 95608

I urge the National Park Service and the Department of the Interior to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness

and is the environmentally preferred alternative. The NPS is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources, as stated in the Seashore's legislation, and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are for the people and wildlife protection, not commercial exploitation. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other wildlife and plants. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and it is irreplaceable, while oysters can be grown elsewhere.

National Parks and wilderness areas are treasured by the majority of Americans and are for the public interest, not for private commercial exploitation. By protecting wilderness, the National Park Service will set a positive policy example while commercializing it will set a negative example and help others seek their special exemptions from national park laws.

Correspondence ID: 50313 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Singler, Steve J
Outside Organization: CNPSR Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 04:52:35
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support allowing the oyster farm within Point Reyes. We are losing the waterman's way of life nation-wide, and allowing this oyster farm will help to preserve a vanishing yet culturally significant American institution.

Correspondence ID: 50314 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Staley, Susan
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 05:21:09
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I just came & visited this area & enjoyed seeing the working farms! I totally support the renewable permit that allows Drakes Bay Oyster Co. to continue operating!

Correspondence ID: 50315 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: savage, w
Outside Organization: ecotone Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 05:23:26
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support no new special use permit - conversion to wilderness as has been intended.

Correspondence ID: 50316 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gainey, Nora
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 05:31:34
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50317 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Goodwin, Paul F
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 06:22:56
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS. This will allow Darkes Bay Oyster Fram to maintain is responsible, and suatianbel business in place, while still recognizing the protected status of the Parkland. This si the tpe of compromise we need more of ane will allow a true, small business to continue to provide jobs and local sustainable seafood.

Thank You

Correspondence ID: 50318 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Davis, Gary E
Outside Organization: GEDavis & Associates Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 07:00:38
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence:

Point Reyes National Seashore has been an important part of my life since the late 1960s, when I lived in Marin County. I still visit this special place on a regular basis and look forward to seeing it improve with each visit.

I am amazed and disheartened to learn that you are considering extension of the special use permit for benefit of the Drakes Bay Oyster Company. It seems clear to me that continued operation of this private commercial at the expense of public interests in the wilderness area of the Seashore was settled many years ago after extensive, thoughtful, public discussion documented and promised in law and policy. Were you to renege on those decisions and commitments, I believe you would break a solemn public trust.

It appears to me that Federal law governing this national park and wilderness area prohibits the continued operation of the Drakes Bay Oyster Company after 2012. The National Park Service is guided by the NPS Organic Act of 1916 and the NPS General Authorities Act of 1970, including its 1978 amendments. The Organic Act requires that parks be managed in a fashion that leaves their resources and values unimpaired; and the General Authorities Act underscores this mandate to ensure that such management shall not be exercised in derogation of park resources and values. The Wilderness Act of 1964 recognizes and defines wilderness as "an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain" and as an area of "Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation." The 1962 legislation establishing Point Reyes National Seashore requires that the National Park Service administer the Seashore in accordance with the Organic Act, as amended and supplemented; furthermore the 1976 amendments to the Seashore's enabling act reinforce that such administration is to be: without impairment of its natural values in a manner which provides for such recreational, educational, historic preservation, interpretation, and scientific research opportunities as are consistent with, based upon, and supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment within the area.

It is abundantly clear to me that the history of intent and federal commitment to manage the Seashore free of the Oyster Company's operation precludes the Secretary from choosing to extend operation of the Drakes Bay Oyster Company after the Reserved Use and Occupancy terminates in 2012. Please reject this attempt to break the public trust for benefit of the commercial interests of this company at the expense of the Seashore's public values.

Correspondence ID: 50319 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Cunningham, Deedie M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."

COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVE:

A Ten-Year Special Use Permit with Option for Extension; Rehabilitation of Existing Facilities; and Construction of New Processing Facilities

This alternative permits DBOC to continue to utilize onshore facilities within the Seashore (PRNS) pastoral zone to support shellfish cultivation in Drakes Estero pursuant to its leases from the California Department of Fish and Game [CDFG]. DBOC would pay "fair market value" for use of the on-shore facilities, which would take into account the value of interpretive services provided and the investment needed to rehabilitate existing facilities and construct new processing facilities. The rehabilitation and construction work would be as described in the discussion of Alternative D. Under this alternative, DBOC will collaborate with relevant organizations, including but not limited to the NPS, the CDFG, the UC SeaGrant program and other educational and research agencies and in developing interpretive programs and scientifically valid research projects as recommended by the NRC and MMC. This alternative provides educational opportunities for people of all ages, including Seashore visitors, students and researchers, relating to estuarine ecology and mariculture. This alternative is consistent with the "national interest" expressed in President Clinton's May 26, 2000 Executive Order 13158 directing the Departments of Commerce (DOC) and Interior to expand and strengthen the "Nation's system of marine protected areas." It respects the California Fish and Game Commission designation, effective May 2010, of Drakes Estero as a State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA), a protected area in which recreational clam digging and shellfish cultivation pursuant to CDFG leases are permitted. DBOC's operation within a SMCA and PRNS presents a unique opportunity for collaborative research that supports the policies of the National Shellfish Initiative [Initiative] announced by NOAA and DOC in June 2011, and responds directly and positively to NRC and MMC recommendations regarding collaborative efforts to inform adaptive management of Drakes Estero. This alternative supports the goals of the Initiative, which are to increase domestic seafood production, create sustainable jobs and restore marine habitats. It provides opportunities for research as called for by the Initiative, "?on the interactions between shellfish and the environment in terms of climate change, ocean acidification, naturally occurring pathogens and parasites, and other factors . . ." This alternative supports DBOC's efforts to restore native oysters in Drakes Estero and to study the potential for native oysters to withstand the effects of global ocean acidification now beginning to affect all Pacific coast shellfish. This alternative sustainably supports the local economy by continuing to attract thousands of ethnically diverse visitors to West Marin every year and continuing to provide over half of the San Francisco Bay Area's sustainably farmed shellfish. It protects desperately needed affordable housing for farmworkers on remote Point Reyes ranches. Under this alternative, DBOC will continue to provide essential oyster shell for environmental programs, such as the San Francisco Bay Native Oyster Restoration Project, the SF Bay Bird

Observatory Snowy Plover Habitat Enhancement Project and the California Department of Fish and Game Least Tern Habitat Enhancement Project. This alternative supports a landscape that is ecologically and economically sustainable. It is consistent with the natural resource management provisions in the PRNS General Management Plan, and enables the Seashore to collaboratively integrate ecosystem science and natural and cultural resource management to better understand and manage relationships among the physical, biological, and cultural elements of a working land and seascape, while maintaining its distinctive "sense of place and character."

Correspondence ID: 50320 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Beallo, Lindsey G
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 07:41:42
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the collaborative mgmt alternative.

Correspondence ID: 50321 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Scales, Jeffrey M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 07:49:11
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50322 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Scales, Jeffrey M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 07:51:57
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Potential impact on wildlife is not properly assessed.

The dEIS claims that removing the oyster farm would benefit harbor seals; that claim is false. Drakes Estero is currently home to one of the largest harbor seal populations on the California coast and the harbor seal population has remained constant for decades, according to Dr. Sarah Allen's Annual report on Harbor Seals at Drakes Estero.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50323 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Scales, Jeffrey M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 07:53:37
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company, especially the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

The dEIS includes much discussion about special-status species

It concludes that the oyster farm could potentially negatively impact these species

NONE OF THE SEVEN Endangered species mentioned in the dEIS live in the project area! ' NO Myrtle Silverspot Butterfly live IN project area they make their habitat nearby, but not IN the project area (dEIS pg 187)

' NO Red-legged frogs live in the project area: salt water kills them

' NO Ca Coho Salmon live in project area (dEIS pg 189)

' NO Central Ca Steelhead live in project area (dEIS pg 190)

' NO Leatherback Turtles live in project area (dEIS pg 191)

' NO Western Snowy Plovers live in project area (dEIS pg 192)

' NO Ca Least Terns live in project area (dEIS pg 192)

The dEIS fails to provide an accurate assessment of the oyster farm's proven ability to operate without harming wildlife or wildlife habitat.

The final document should reconsider all wildlife issues and provide a data based assessment.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50324 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Scales, Jeffrey M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 07:55:21
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Environmental benefits are misrepresented and/or missing.

PRNS has been rebuked for misrepresenting the facts about the environmental benefits of oyster farming yet, the dEIS misrepresents those facts again, calling the removal of the oyster farm the "environmentally preferable" alternative.

The dEIS fails to address the important ecological services provided by oysters, including filtering water and reducing nitrogen in the water. Drakes Estero is one of the most pristine estuaries IN THE COUNTRY DUE TO THE PRESENCE OF THE OYSTERS.

The dEIS fails to address the environmental impacts of the following:

' Replacing a local, sustainable food source with 35,000 pounds of oysters that would have to be flown in from Asia each week to compensate

' Comparisons of the carbon footprint of the existing food source with the replacement food source must be analyzed in the dEIS.

' The dEIS fails to consider world population food needs.

o 1960 world population 3 BILLION PEOPLE

o 2011 world population 7 BILLION PEOPLE, 2.33 times greater in 51 years

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority

Correspondence ID: 50325 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Scales, Jeffrey M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 07:57:01
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Economic impacts are not adequately addressed.

The dEIS states, removing the oyster farm would cause "major, long-term, adverse effects to the California shellfish market" but ' The dEIS does not provide a complete analysis of these MAJOR, LONG-TERM, ADVERSE IMPACTS!

' The dEIS does not include these impacts in the overall analysis.

' The dEIS does not analyze the impacts of eliminating one of the largest employers in West Marin.

The dEIS must assess and address the economic impacts of eliminating the production of nearly 40% of California's oysters and the subsequent impact on the economy.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50326 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Scales, Jeffrey M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 08:04:40
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Socioeconomic impacts are not properly addressed furthermore the analysis is flawed.

Geographic parameters used throughout this chapter

' Switch back and forth from Inverness proper, to greater West Marin, to Marin in general, to Multi-County, to Statewide, and even to Nationwide.

' This switching of parameters is used to argue that the job losses would be minimal.

Considered properly:

' DBOC is one of the largest employers in the area.

' West Marin is a community isolated 20 miles away from the main population of the county by farms, ranches, open space and parkland therefore, these job losses would be anything but minimal

The analysis presented here is insufficient.

This section should be reformulated and corrected for the dEIS.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50327 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Scales, Jeffrey M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 08:06:35
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Impacts to local habitat restoration efforts and endangered species are not addressed

' The oyster shell byproduct from the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm cannery is the sole, critical resource for reestablishing native oyster beds, and for restoring CA Least Tern and Western Snowy Plover habitat, in San Francisco Bay.

' The California Least Tern is a U.S. federally listed endangered species

' The Snowy Plover is in decline due to habitat loss.

' If Drakes Bay Oyster farm were shut down, the restoration operations could also be shut down.

' The d EIS does not address the impacts to wildlife or the environmental issues surrounding the loss of these restoration efforts.

' The dEIS should correct these flaws.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID:	50328	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Gillies, Don				
Outside Organization:	Stony Point Oyster Co. L.L.C. Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec.07,2011 00:00:00				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	Drakes Bay National Park Service Draft EIS Comment Don Gillies				

It is a travesty that this viable, environmentally friendly, locally valuable business is being forced out. I cannot understand why the United States Government has proposed this action and tasked the National Park Service with executing this ridiculous plan. First of all local, state and federal governments have no money and as a result have cut budgets of, limited public access to, or completely shut down parks all across the nation. Many of those remaining open have imposed or increased user fees to the point where the average family cannot afford to go. A thriving, environmentally friendly, shellfish farm should be celebrated for continuing operation in these economically challenged times. To witness man working with nature to provide a much needed food source and economic rewards to the locally area is much more valuable than drawing a boundary around the area and turning it into a legacy achievement for some politician or agency. For the National Park Service to claim this change is necessary to protect the environment and provide opportunity for the citizens to enjoy undisturbed nature is unacceptable. My family has been shellfish farming in Willapa Bay Washington for over 100 years. The working estuary produces 60% of all the oysters consumed in the United States while at the same time provides numerous recreational activities to the public; hunting, fishing kayaking, hiking, bird watching, camping, site seeing, are all available. The small amount of short-term negative impacts associated with shellfish farming is completely overshadowed by the positive affects contributed to the estuary. Numerous statements in your EIS Draft claiming "moderate long term adverse impact" are just wrong. I am very familiar with the activities associated with shellfish farming and every day I work and live in the area have witnessed the overall positive effect to the environment, benefiting the health of the estuary.

The following statements may be anecdotal to you but are proven over and over to me during observations while working the estuary of Willapa Bay.

Eelgrass is not the savior for endangered species. Eelgrass does provide beneficial habitat for many species but can also reduce diverse opportunities for shelter and foraging. Thick eelgrass beds trap sediment, restrict water flow and do not provide the hard stable surfaces needed for attachment by algae and small invertebrates. Every fall eelgrass stalks break off and get wash ashore, where they decomposes. I have found dead fish entangled in eelgrass after the tide goes out. A mat of eelgrass lying on top of the substrate at low tide smothers many sedimentary occupants and over time reduces the amount and diversity of those occupants. Oyster farming and eelgrass are compatible. In Willapa Bay farming methods, bed maintenance and crop cycles over the last 40 years have resulted in an increase of eelgrass. I have seen eelgrass migrate into areas only after active farming has begun and am convinced farming activities are responsible for the presence of eelgrass in these areas. Shellfish farmers have a vested interest in the health of the estuary and stewardship is imperative to the success of the business. On site staff of the National Park Service are tasked with stewardship of the areas they are responsible for. There is a common denominator here and potential for cooperative arrangements as both shellfish farmers and NPS site staff look out for the health of the estuary.

On the subject of "Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat" references to "moderate long term adverse impact" is just not true. Fish, harbor seal, and birds are identified as victims of shellfish farming activities when in actuality they benefit from the highly productive nature of a well managed oyster farm. The simple act of following the food chain to the bottom where algae and diatoms attract zooplankton, cocepods, worms and other forage food will lead you to and oyster bed. Every living animal, including all the wildlife referenced in your EIS draft, depend on the food chain for survival and there is no better place to find the bottom of the food chain than a oyster bed. While I am working birds come right up to within 10 feet of me choosing to feed in my culture area over neighboring non-farmed areas.

Good water quality is imperative to any shellfish farm and growers, serving as stewards for the estuaries they work in, are well known for their efforts to maintain good water quality. Shellfish themselves provide benefits to water quality and act as sentinels for anticipating problems.

The section on "Soundscapes" depicts effects that have virtually no impact unless you are trying to go to sleep within 16 feet of an operating piece of heavy equipment. Why this is even included in the draft EIS is a mystery to me. If it is so important to the author of this section why didn't they include impacts of airplanes flying over the area, cars being operated at over 2000 rpm, music played over 4 dBA or require humans use their indoor voice.

The section titled "Socioeconomic Resource" greatly understates the importance of DBOC to the local economy. You also fail to mention the need for America to increase domestic food production and the goals of expanding aquaculture set forth by other governmental agencies.

The impact on the "visitor experience" depends on the visitor. Failure to mention visitors to DBOC will see that humans and nature can coexist for the benefit of both is an intentional oversight. The continuing operation of DBOC will draw more visitors to the area than in it's absence. Isn't that something the NPS would like to see?

In conclusion this public comment is in favor of issuing another permit under alternative C to DBOC and would also suggest extenuating it beyond the 10-year limit.

Don Gillies Stony Point Oyster Co. L.L.C. Willapa Bay, WA

Correspondence ID: 50329 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Scales, Jeffrey M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 08:08:55
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: The historic cultural role of the oyster farm in West Marin is not adequately addressed. The EIS must assess

' The cultural impacts of eliminating an institution that has been in operation for generations

' The importance to

' Park visitors

' Local restaurants

' Local food shed

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50331 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, Gemma
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 08:10:28
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company. They are environmentally sound & important to the local economy & food supply.

Correspondence ID: 50332 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Scales, Jeffrey M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 08:11:12
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Existing management policies are not considered.

' The current General Management Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore, adopted in 1980, strongly supports the continued operation of the oyster farm, as do all of the relevant Marin County planning documents.

' The d EIS does not include any reasons for, or discussion of, this decision to bypass

' The existing General Management Plan and

' Marin County's planning processes

The existing management policies must be considered and addressed.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50333 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Scales, Jeffrey M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 08:12:50
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: National aquaculture policies are ignored.

Shellfish aquaculture is widely recognized nationally, and globally, as having a valuable role in the protection of wild fish resources.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is encouraging aquaculture for this and many other reasons.

The dEIS should consider these policies.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority

Correspondence ID: 50334 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Scales, Jeffrey M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 08:14:43
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the alternatives is appropriate. While the NEPA process mandates the consideration of a "no-action alternative," there are no alternatives presented in the dEIS that qualify as "no-action."

' Alternative A forces DBOC out of business next year,

' The other alternatives force it to shut down in 10 years.

' The DEIS fails to provide a valid status-quo baseline.

' A new set of alternatives must be created that meet the actual criteria for this process.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50337 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Scales, Jeffrey M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: DRAKES BAY OYSTER COMPANY SPECIAL USE PERMIT:

Collaborative Management Alternative

COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVE: A Ten-Year Special Use Permit with Option for Extension; Rehabilitation of Existing Facilities; and Construction of New Processing Facilities

This alternative permits DBOC to continue to utilize onshore facilities within the Seashore (PRNS) pastoral zone to support shellfish cultivation in Drakes Estero pursuant to its leases from the California Department of Fish and Game [CDFG]. DBOC would pay "fair market value" for use of the on-shore facilities, which would take into account the value of interpretive services provided and the investment needed to rehabilitate existing facilities and construct new processing facilities. The rehabilitation and construction work would be as described in the discussion of Alternative D.

Under this alternative, DBOC will collaborate with relevant organizations, including but not limited to the NPS, the CDFG, the UC SeaGrant program, and other educational and research agencies and in developing interpretive programs and scientifically

valid research projects as recommended by the NRC and MMC. This alternative provides educational opportunities for people of all ages, including Seashore visitors, students, and researchers, relating to estuarine ecology and mariculture.

This alternative is consistent with the "national interest" expressed in President Clinton's May 26, 2000 Executive Order 13158 directing the Departments of Commerce (DOC) and Interior to expand and strengthen the "Nation's system of marine protected areas." It respects the California Fish and Game Commission designation, effective May 2010, of Drakes Estero as a State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA), a protected area in which recreational clam digging and shellfish cultivation pursuant to CDFG leases are permitted. DBOC's operation within a SMCA and PRNS presents a unique opportunity for collaborative research that supports the policies of the National Shellfish Initiative [Initiative] announced by NOAA and DOC in June 2011, and responds directly and positively to NRC and MMC recommendations regarding collaborative efforts to inform adaptive management of Drakes Estero.

This alternative supports the goals of the Initiative, which are to increase domestic seafood production, create sustainable jobs, and restore marine habitats. It provides opportunities for research as called for by the Initiative, "?on the interactions between shellfish and the environment in terms of climate change, ocean acidification, naturally occurring pathogens and parasites, and other factors . . ." This alternative supports DBOC's efforts to restore native oysters in Drakes Estero and to study the potential for native oysters to withstand the effects of global ocean acidification now beginning to affect all Pacific coast shellfish.

This alternative sustainably supports the local economy by continuing to attract thousands of ethnically diverse visitors to West Marin every year and continuing to provide over half of the San Francisco Bay Area's sustainably farmed shellfish. It protects desperately needed affordable housing for farm workers on remote Point Reyes ranches.

Under this alternative, DBOC will continue to provide essential oyster shell for environmental programs, such as the San Francisco Bay Native Oyster Restoration Project, the SF Bay Bird Observatory Snowy Plover Habitat Enhancement Project and the California Department of Fish and Game Least Tern Habitat Enhancement Project.

This alternative supports a landscape that is ecologically and economically sustainable. It is consistent with the natural resource management provisions in the PRNS General Management Plan, and enables the Seashore to collaboratively integrate ecosystem science and natural and cultural resource management to better understand and manage relationships among the physical, biological, and cultural elements of a working land and seascape, while maintaining its distinctive "sense of place and character."

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID:	50340	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Olechowski, Thomas N				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 08:24:28				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				

Correspondence: My family and I have been frequenting this area AND Drakes Bay Oyster Farm for the last ten years. I find it totally irresponsible on behalf of the National Park Service that it would publish the draft EIS in such a format that 'due diligence' was not performed in a manner pertinent to the facts and findings.

The appropriateness of the proposed alternatives are not acceptable as written. My family and I strongly support a RENEWABLE SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR THE DRAKES BAY OYSTER COMPANY for your consideration in this matter.

I enjoy California oysters and visiting the areas where they are harvested. Kindly reconsider additional analysis in your draft document to include, 1.You selectively addressed DBOC and did not address a national aquaculture policy to encourage shellfish aquaculture around the country. What's next, a draft EIS for Texas, Louisiana and the Chesapeake Bay ?

2. Where is the detail for 'harm' for actual and potential impacts on wildlife?

3. There is a definite cultural and historical role of oyster farming in Drakes estero. The document does does not address what the elimination of oystering and the negative effects on the local economy and visitors to the area and in general, to the entirety of West Marin.

4. Why is the removal of the oyster farm the 'environmentally preferable alternative' ? Oysters 'filter' water.

5. Oystering is included in the General Management Plan for the Point Reyes National Seashore. Why the shift to now remove it

as this plan has been around since 1980 ??

Simple put, sustain a renewable permit and practice Fish and Game leases that have been around since 1934.

Please reconsider and correctly complete your due diligence in this matter. Thanks..

Correspondence ID: 50347 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gomes, K
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 08:50:26
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company, especially the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50349 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Durnell, Maureen
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: This alternative permits DBOC to continue to utilize onshore facilities within the Seashore (PRNS) pastoral zone to support shellfish cultivation in Drakes Estero pursuant to its leases from the California Department of Fish and Game [CDFG]. DBOC would pay "fair market value" for use of the on-shore facilities, which would take into account the value of interpretive services provided and the investment needed to rehabilitate existing facilities and construct new processing facilities. The rehabilitation and construction work would be as described in the discussion of Alternative D. Under this alternative, DBOC will collaborate with relevant organizations, including but not limited to the NPS, the CDFG, the UC SeaGrant program and other educational and research agencies and in developing interpretive programs and scientifically valid research projects as recommended by the NRC and MMC. This alternative provides educational opportunities for people of all ages, including Seashore visitors, students and researchers, relating to estuarine ecology and mariculture. This alternative is consistent with the "national interest" expressed in President Clinton's May 26, 2000 Executive Order 13158 directing the Departments of Commerce (DOC) and Interior to expand and strengthen the "Nation's system of marine protected areas." It respects the California Fish and Game Commission designation, effective May 2010, of Drakes Estero as a State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA), a protected area in which recreational clam digging and shellfish cultivation pursuant to CDFG leases are permitted. DBOC's operation within a SMCA and PRNS presents a unique opportunity for collaborative research that supports the policies of the National Shellfish Initiative [Initiative] announced by NOAA and DOC in June 2011, and responds directly and positively to NRC and MMC recommendations regarding collaborative efforts to inform adaptive management of Drakes Estero. This alternative supports the goals of the Initiative, which are to increase domestic seafood production, create sustainable jobs and restore marine habitats. It provides opportunities for research as called for by the Initiative, "?on the interactions between shellfish and the environment in terms of climate change, ocean acidification, naturally occurring pathogens and parasites, and other factors . . ." This alternative supports DBOC's efforts to restore native oysters in Drakes Estero and to study the potential for native oysters to withstand the effects of global ocean acidification now beginning to affect all Pacific coast shellfish. This alternative sustainably supports the local economy by continuing to attract thousands of ethnically diverse visitors to West Marin every year and continuing to provide over half of the San Francisco Bay Area's sustainably farmed shellfish. It protects desperately needed affordable housing for farmworkers on remote Point Reyes ranches. Under this alternative, DBOC will continue to provide essential oyster shell for environmental programs, such as the San Francisco Bay Native Oyster Restoration Project, the SF Bay Bird Observatory Snowy Plover Habitat Enhancement Project and the California Department of Fish and Game Least Tern Habitat Enhancement Project. This alternative supports a landscape that is ecologically and economically sustainable. It is consistent with the natural resource management provisions in the PRNS General Management Plan, and enables the Seashore to collaboratively integrate ecosystem science and natural and cultural resource management to better understand and manage relationships among the physical, biological, and cultural elements of a working land and seascape, while maintaining its distinctive "sense of place and character."

Correspondence ID: 50353 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Bragg, Paula
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 09:06:36
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50355 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Seramin, Rick A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 09:13:51
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company."

Correspondence ID: 50357 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Walker, Robin
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 09:35:14
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50358 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Burch, Anderson
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 09:35:14
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50359 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 09:36:51
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50363 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Hoffer, Cindy L
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 09:45:30

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I am appalled that I must regularly email government agencies, such as yours, and remind them that these are PUBLIC lands, paid for by taxpayers, and were originally designated NATIONAL PARKS to protect the wildlife and preserve the ecosystem for ALL AMERICANS. JUST SAY NO TO THE APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT TO USE POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE FOR PROFIT!!! OUR NATIONAL PARKS SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR PRIVATE PROFIT. Drakes Bay Oyster Company needs to leave SEALS a place to live, eat & grow. Sincerely, Cindy Hoffer

Correspondence ID: 50364 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: Gale, Sally I

Outside Organization: Chileno Valley Ranch Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec,07,2011 09:45:43

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS. I feel that the NPS DEIS alternatives are stacked against the Drakes Bay Oyster Company. None of them are acceptable. There are many reasons to support the continuation of the DBOC; the positive effect it has on the local ecosystem, it's important role in the continuation of the local agricultural history of the area, It's role in producing wholesome local food, it's contribution to the total food production system at a time of increasing scarcity, and the model it provides for a park system to co exist peacefully and productively with the local culture. PRNS was brought into being through a collaborative effort between local ranchers and environmentalists. The belief at the time was that these important natural resource and local cultural values could and should continue together side by side as part of the unique character of the Park. But over time the cultural values have been pushed into the background and the natural resource concerns have been taken up in an exclusionary manner by those who do not understand the history of our area. It is a sad fact that the cooperation between all segments of our society which made the Park possible has eroded into a bickering, foolish debate over DBOC. Thank you, Sally Gale Chileno Valley Ranch Petaluma, Ca., 94952

Correspondence ID: 50365 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: Fountaine, Michael B

Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec,07,2011 09:50:53

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50366 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: Lamoreaux, Brian

Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec,07,2011 09:51:10

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company. Keeping agriculture and aquaculture alive in my region is of utmost importance to me. I am also an avid Pt Reyes National Seashore visitor and fan.

Correspondence ID: 50367 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: Gonzalez, Glenna

Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec,07,2011 10:05:08

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50368 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: Champagne, Judith

Outside Organization: San Geronimo Valley Stewards Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec,07,2011 10:24:29

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Bay Oysters are an asset to our community, both environmentally and economically. The Mikwok Indians used that area

for food and trade since the 1800s and currently as then the oysters are filtering the water, providing food and jobs in our community.

Neal Maloney, marine biologist of Morro Bay Oyster Company states: "...industrious filtering clarifies the bay, which makes for cleaner water and gives eelgrass the light it needs to grow...it buffers the shoreline from erosion, making the water that much purer"

What other food industry can offer such rewards, clean water, food and jobs.

Please allow the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm continue as it has.

Judith Champagne

Correspondence ID: 50369 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Bisner, Kerri
Outside Organization: National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 10:27:14
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year, as long intended. It is in the public interest to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the enjoyment of all. The public has waited nearly four decades for these protections to be implemented, which is an immense compromise in itself. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish take shelter in eelgrass. As someone who enjoys our nation's national parks and their wildlife, I urge you to uphold the longstanding plan to convert this very special resource to wilderness.

I urge you to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness next year and is the Environmentally Preferred Alternative. The National Park Service is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources at Drakes Estero and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are set aside for the public and for wildlife protection, and after waiting nearly 40 years for private commercial use rights to expire, it's time to give the estuary the protection it needs. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" is best for public policy, and best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other natural resources. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be commercially grown elsewhere.

Please honor the promise made for a protected marine wilderness at Drakes Estero. In doing so, you will set a good policy example and reward the public with an enduring legacy feat found nowhere else on the West Coast.

Correspondence ID: 50370 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: matlock, woody
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 10:29:02
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: DON'T DO IT! LEAVE DRAKES BAY AND TOMALES BAYS ALONE...LET THE FARMS STAY!

Correspondence ID: 50371 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, Nick
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 10:34:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50372 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Nix, Elisabeth
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 10:35:36
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish

and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50373 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: morgan, morgan I
Outside Organization: self Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 10:54:50
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company."

Correspondence ID: 50374 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: O'Hara, Michele
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 10:55:15
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: As a supporter of the Point Reyes National Seashore and former manager of a business in Marin County, I strongly support keeping Drakes Bay Oyster Company at its current location and letting them continue their business. Just as the cattle companies who are in the area are allowed to continue their operations, Drakes Bay should continue to provide an amazing product while providing jobs for people in the area. There needs to be a balance between businesses and natural seashore areas for visitors and I believe that Drakes Bay does a great job at respecting the seashore while educating the public about the seashore resources.

Correspondence ID: 50375 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Streit, Mike D
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 11:01:39
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50376 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: kersey, glenn
Outside Organization: none Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 11:02:37
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: oysters have been grown in drakes bay since the miwoks, before drake. i have great love and respect for the national park service and their desire to let everything go "back to nature". but the oyster farm and the farms above them predate the park and are part of the peninsula and its history. please do not let well meaning but misinformed out of state environmentalists close a well run sustainable and popular farm. thank you.

Correspondence ID: 50377 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 11:03:34
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50378 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 11:04:41
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Potential impact on wildlife is not properly assessed.

The dEIS claims that removing the oyster farm would benefit harbor seals; that claim is false. Drakes Estero is currently home to one of the largest harbor seal populations on the California coast and the harbor seal population has remained constant for decades, according to Dr. Sarah Allen's Annual report on Harbor Seals at Drakes Estero. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50379 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 11:05:18
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company, especially the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

The dEIS includes much discussion about special-status species

It concludes that the oyster farm could potentially negatively impact these species NONE OF THE SEVEN Endangered species mentioned in the dEIS live in the project area!

' NO Myrtle Silverspot Butterfly live IN project area they make their habitat nearby, but not IN the project area (dEIS pg 187) ' NO Red-legged frogs live in the project area: salt water kills them ' NO Ca Coho Salmon live in project area (dEIS pg 189) ' NO Central Ca Steelhead live in project area (dEIS pg 190) ' NO Leatherback Turtles live in project area (dEIS pg 191) ' NO Western Snowy Plovers live in project area (dEIS pg 192) ' NO Ca Least Terns live in project area (dEIS pg 192)

The dEIS fails to provide an accurate assessment of the oyster farm's proven ability to operate without harming wildlife or wildlife habitat.

The final document should reconsider all wildlife issues and provide a data based assessment. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50380 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 11:05:51
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Environmental benefits are misrepresented and/or missing.

PRNS has been rebuked for misrepresenting the facts about the environmental benefits of oyster farming yet, the dEIS misrepresents those facts again, calling the removal of the oyster farm the "environmentally preferable" alternative.

The dEIS fails to address the important ecological services provided by oysters, including filtering water and reducing nitrogen in the water. Drakes Estero is one of the most pristine estuaries IN THE COUNTRY DUE TO THE PRESENCE OF THE OYSTERS.

The dEIS fails to address the environmental impacts of the following:

' Replacing a local, sustainable food source with 35,000 pounds of oysters that would have to be flown in from Asia each week to compensate ' Comparisons of the carbon footprint of the existing food source with the replacement food source must be analyzed in the dEIS. ' The dEIS fails to consider world population food needs. o 1960 world population 3 BILLION PEOPLE o 2011 world population 7 BILLION PEOPLE, 2.33 times greater in 51 years

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50381 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: Nuss, Chad M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 11:06:50
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50382 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 11:15:21
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: The historic cultural role of the oyster farm in West Marin is not adequately addressed. The EIS must assess

' The cultural impacts of eliminating an institution that has been in operation for generations ' The importance to ' Park visitors '
Local restaurants ' Local food shed

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50383 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Wilkinson, Mary C
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 11:17:18
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I am dismayed at the amount of money both the Lunny's and the government have spent on this problem. The stress as well on the family has been awful. I want the Lunny's to continue supplying oysters us. They are decent, honest, hard-working people. Their love for the environment is extraordinary. They are supplying jobs to people. It seems that in these difficult times this is what we are suppose to be doing. Happiness and much peace in this holiday season. Mary

Correspondence ID: 50384 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Wickham, Charlotte
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 11:24:13
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50385 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Robinson, Juneko
Outside Organization: National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 11:26:45
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year, as long intended. It is in the public interest to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the enjoyment of all. The public has waited nearly four decades for these protections to be implemented, which is an immense compromise in itself. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish take shelter in eelgrass. As someone who enjoys our nation's national parks and their wildlife, I urge you to uphold the longstanding plan to convert this very special resource to wilderness.

I urge you to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness next year and is the Environmentally Preferred Alternative. The National Park Service is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources at Drakes Estero and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are set aside for the public and for wildlife protection, and after waiting nearly 40 years for private commercial use rights to expire, it's time to give the estuary the protection it needs. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" is best for public policy, and best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other natural resources. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be commercially grown elsewhere.

Please honor the promise made for a protected marine wilderness at Drakes Estero. In doing so, you will set a good policy example and reward the public with an enduring legacy feat found nowhere else on the West Coast.

Correspondence ID: 50386 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Goodwin, Paul F
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 11:28:23
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS. This is a

commonsense compromise that allows a small, family, sustainable, and community business to continue while respecting the Park and the ecology of the Estero.

Correspondence ID: 50387 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Mery, Michael
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 11:30:27
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Superintendent Cicely Muldoon Point Reyes National Seashore 1 Bear Valley Road Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Re: Drakes Estero EIS

I live in Pt. Reyes Station moving here in 1982. I spent my childhood in Inverness and lived there until graduating from high school in 1955. I returned in 1974 and have lived in either Inverness or Pt. Reyes since that date. I was familiar with the estero long before it became part of Pt. Reyes National Seashore. I urge the National Park Service and Secretary Salazar to support full wilderness inclusion for Drakes Estero in 2012 as per the 1976 legislation.

Full wilderness inclusion is clearly the best environmental alternative as is stated in the draft EIS and accordingly I support without reservation Alternative A, the 'no action' alternative. The public clearly supports this choice where the 'public' is defined as the citizens of the United States. Locally the discussion often sounds as the estero is part of a West Marin Park. It is a national park and those of us fortunate enough to live and/or work here do so based the tax revenues of the nation, not only our own. I would add the suggestion that Alternative A could be improved if it included some restoration work on the shore of the estero where the oyster cultivation buildings and other structures are sited. There has been considerable disturbance in that area and the estero would benefit from the restoration.

Comments:

1. A reasoned case can be made for oyster cultivation in Drakes Estero. With the current wilderness designation, however, that activity is not permitted. There is a legal route for oyster cultivation to continue and a process for determining to whom the right would be accorded. Legislation is required to remove the wilderness designation and that would be followed by working out the details of the area to be leased. At that point, a bidding process would take place whereby the lease value would be empirically determined. This conversion to non-wilderness status would not be my preference, but with a proper process I would accept the change without complaint. All of the alternatives other than #1 result in a special arrangement for one producer, no competitive bidding, i.e., a 'sweetheart' arrangement based on the appropriations bill rider. This is highly irregular and ethically offensive and is blatantly inconsistent with the wilderness act. 2. All three of the Action Alternatives will result in continuing avoidable impacts to the estero and a severe burden to the NPS staff. The NPS is NOT a regulatory agency and acting as one would be inappropriate and costly. The current grazing activity on the pastoral lands is such a burden, but it is a far simpler one than the regulatory responsibilities were the continuation of oyster cultivation to be permitted. The staff time and expense would be very difficult to estimate and very difficult to fund and the park service does not even have the staff to carry out such a program. The current conflict would most likely continue to the detriment of park service community relations for the sole benefit of one producer. In my view, this is an offensive and indefensible precedent, both locally and nationally. In effect, the Action Alternatives understate and minimize both the environmental impact and the management and compliance problems that would continue and likely increase. 3. One of the arguments favoring the action alternatives is that the oysters provide a sustainable and valuable local high quality protein source. In principle, that would seem reasonable. As a practical matter, however, the protein provided by oysters is less than one half of one percent of the protein consumption for the San Francisco Bay Area. Oysters are a very expensive specialty item and are not part of ordinary diets. It is similar to arguing that white asparagus is a staple. 4. The proponents of the continuation of oyster cultivation suggest that agricultural production in the seashore has equal standing to the preservation and enhancement of natural resource values. This is not the case and is never the case in a national park. Were the Seashore Forest Service or BLM lands, they would have a good case, the one for 'dual use.' That is NOT the case, however, dramatically so for lands with wilderness designation. 5. The discussion of 'science' with respect the estero has been and continues to be a distraction of no direct relevance to the decision of whether to grant the special use permit. The current lease holder has publically stated that there are, of course, impacts on the estero and the resident wild life from agricultural activity as there are impacts from recreational use, e.g., kayaking. Given proper supervision, many would likely agree that those impacts are not severe. The decision of whether to grant a special use permit is a policy and political decision and the 'science, although pertinent to assessing impacts, is subsidiary to the political decision. The 'science' has and continues to be a distracting sideshow of little to no relevance to the decision by the Secretary.

In closing, we have an opportunity, one mandated by the 1976 wilderness act, to complete the terms of the act with the full wilderness inclusion of Drakes Estero. If this is the path taken, the Secretary, NPS staff and all of us will have left our grandchildren and their grandchildren a wondrous legacy unique in the national park system. Oysters can be and are legally cultivated in many places; we have one opportunity for a wilderness estero, the highest level of protection with the lowest human impact in the national park system of our country.

Respectfully, Michael Mery

Correspondence ID: 50388 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Ridge, Steve
Outside Organization: private citizen Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 11:35:42

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Drakes Bay Oyster Farm is one of the Bay Areas marine gems and should be allowed to continue with it's business.

It is seen as an attribute to the ecosystem, not a detriment.

Correspondence ID: 50389 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Blank, Zoe
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 11:36:26
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50390 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Cameron, Bruce S
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 11:36:43
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS. California needs this small business operation.

Correspondence ID: 50391 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Rhiannon, Rhiannon
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 11:43:34
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Keep farmers and environmentalists working together to continue the beautiful legacy of land use in West Marin. I lived in Point Reyes for 20 years and treasure the way the community can hold various opinions and still see the big picture. WE NEED FARMING AND GOOD FARMING PRACTICES IN WEST MARIN.

Correspondence ID: 50392 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 11:44:17
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the wilderness designation for Drakes Estero within the Point Reyes National Seashore. I urge the National Park Service and Department of the Interior to uphold the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act and select alternative A, which protects this important marine wilderness and is the environmentally preferred alternative.

Drakes Estero is a unique and ecologically significant wildlife area. It is an important stop on the flyway for migrating birds, a refuge and birthplace for harbor seals and a critical native fish nursery. Congress and the public have long intended that Drakes Estero be given the highest federal level of protection as a wilderness area when the commercial oyster lease expires in 2012.

This can only be accomplished by selecting Alternative "A" and ending commercial use of this sensitive wildlife refuge. Alternative A is the most consistent with National Park Service laws and policies. The Park Service's environmental review shows that alternative "A" best protects wildlife and the National Park experience.

Our national parks are for the people and wildlife protection, and wilderness areas with our parks should not prioritize commercial exploitation. The American public deserves to have this unique marine wilderness protected in a natural state for future generations to enjoy.

Drakes Estero is the only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be grown elsewhere.

As someone who enjoys our spectacular national parks, I urge you to not undermine protections at Drakes Estero and succumb to special interests seeking to commercialize these special places.

Correspondence ID: 50393 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Cooley, Crawford
Outside Organization: Mari Agricultural Land Trust Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 11:54:57
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I have reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company Special Use Permit and find it defective and misleading in a number of areas. The present NPS DEIS alternatives are not inclusive. Therefore I support and recommend that you include in the final document the proposed Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative.

The draft document is deficient in that alternatives A, B, C, and D all remove DBOC in 2012 or at the end of a 10 year period. It should be allowed to continue indefinitely as long as it abides by the conditions of the Collaborative Management Alternative and is financially viable.

The document assumes that the "Potential Wilderness" designation will be applied to the DBOC area and other agricultural operations. This is not a certainty and would be contrary to the original plan for the Point Reyes National Seashore.

Having observed the heavy handed administration of the commercial dairy and livestock operations within the Seashore by the NPS, it is clear to me that the NPS effort to remove DBOC is just the first step in a long range campaign to remove all agricultural operations from the Seashore. Should this occur it would have a disastrous impact on the dairy and livestock industry of Marin and Sonoma Counties.

As a member of a family that has ranch holdings and operations in this area for more than 160 years I urge you to include the Collaborative Management Alternative in the final DBOC Environmental Impact Statement.

Correspondence ID:	50394	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec.07,2011 11:58:51				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	"I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."				

Correspondence ID:	50395	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Seiler, Martin				
Outside Organization:	Tomales Bay Oyster Company, LLC Business				
Received:	Dec.07,2011 00:00:00				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	<p>The Tomales Bay Oyster Company operates as a Tomales Bay shellfish grower and we are experts on both the wholesale and retail sales of oysters. We are familiar with the supply and demand for oyster in our region. The demand for oysters from Bay area consumers forces us to import nearly half our purveyed product from other growers in the Pacific Northwest. We have in fact suspended our wholesale program in favor of maintaining a supply for our retail customers. The fact is we must import product to meet our demand, it is not "speculation" as the EIS wrongly implied - no attempt was made to gain input from our company. The EIS incorrectly suggested that Tomales Bay growers could expand operations to make up for the loss of DBOC production and must be revised. We have expanded our operations in Tomales Bay to capacity. Although we maximize our production levels, the demand for oysters is too high for Tomales Bay growers to meet. We, therefore, cannot possibly make up any of the supply lost if Drakes Bay Oyster Company (DBOC) is closed. Because we cannot produce enough in Tomales Bay, our businesses currently purchase oysters from growers out of our region. Closing DBOC will cause a loss of local shellfish production that cannot be replaced. This is not speculation. The EIS failed to consult with local experts and have made incorrect assertions. The EIS must properly analyze the loss of the local shellfish production and the impacts to the local economy. The Tomales Bay Oyster Company retail and picnic areas are at capacity and cannot expand. We already struggle with parking issues and traffic congestion. There is a clear lack of overflow picnic areas public or private to accommodate visitors to the oyster farm. DBOC customer base of 50,000-plus people will also lose the opportunity to be educated about the sustainable food production that farmed shellfish represents. Our customers will be adversely affected because former DBOC customers will attempt to utilize our area if DBOC is closed. The EIS must consider the adverse impacts to both DBOC and displaced Tomales Bay visitors if the NPS chooses to close DBOC. Tomales Bay oyster businesses do not offer oysters shucked and packed in jars. Oyster consumers who prefer jarred oysters will be disproportionately affected by the closure of DBOC and the State's last operating oyster cannery. The EIS must consider the fact that DBOC offers a product that cannot otherwise be supplied locally. The EIS study must be corrected to include the common knowledge and scientific research that proves harbor seals habituate to non-threatening human activities. We regularly pass hauled out harbor seals with our boats and rarely do the harbor seals respond in any way. This would be true of the harbor seals in Drakes Estero as well. There are many scientific papers in the literature that provide clear support that harbor seals habituate. The EIS must include an analysis of harbor seal habituation. The EIS failed to adequately consider the ecosystem services provided by cultured shellfish and has dismissed ecosystem services as simply "localized". We completely support the comments provided by the Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association regarding this issue. The California Department of Fish & Game (CDFG) and the Fish and Game Commission (CFG) has leased the State's shellfish water bottoms of Drakes Estero since 1934. The CDFG continued to lease these water bottoms after the PRNS was established. The CDFG leases in Drakes Estero expire in 2029. DBOC simply needs valid NPS permit to use the onshore facilities. DBOC's lease agreement with CDFG must not be changed or disrespected. The EIS has failed to provide any reasonable justification for the NPS plan to usurp State authority and intercept State lease income when the State has always had this reserved right and authority. The EIS also failed to analyze the fact that the NPS has absolutely no shellfish aquaculture knowledge or experience in Drakes Estero. Tomales Bay growers cannot expand operations and therefore cannot offer jobs to the 30 people that would lose their jobs if NPS chooses to end shellfish aquaculture in Drakes Estero. Given the specific skills possessed by the DBOC workers (i.e. shucking in the last operating cannery in the State), it would be impossible for them to find jobs in our region or even our State. Some of DBOC's employees have been working and living in the on-farm housing at DBOC for nearly 30 years. These individuals are an integral part of the West Marin community and local economy. The EIS wrongly asserted that the DBOC workers that would be homeless and jobless if NPS elects to evict DBOC could find work at local oyster farms. This is false and must be corrected. Given the scarcity of affordable housing and jobs, it is almost guaranteed that these people would be forced out of West Marin by a wrong NPS decision. CDFG has the history, experience and authority to manage shellfish aquaculture in Drakes Estero. DBOC's current CDFG leases represent approximately 55% of the CDFG leased water bottoms in the State, and 85% of the shellfish water bottoms in Marin County. CFGC is currently revising shellfish leases and is planning to increase lease rates so that the growers' fees will cover the costs of the state shellfish program. If</p>				

DBOC is evicted by the NPS, or if the NPS does not allow CDFG to continue leasing water bottoms to DBOC, the entire financial burden of the program will shift to other growers with State leases. CDFG must be allowed to continue to regulate mariculture in Drakes Estero under the current leases. The EIS must consider the adverse impact this unnecessary decision would have on other shellfish growers with CFGC leases if the NPS forces the state of California and DBOC to relinquish the valid, existing leases.

I support the: COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVE: A Ten-Year Special Use Permit with Option for Extension; Rehabilitation of Existing Facilities; and Construction of New Processing Facilities.

This alternative permits DBOC to continue to utilize onshore facilities within the Seashore (PRNS) pastoral zone to support shellfish cultivation in Drakes Estero pursuant to its leases from the California Department of Fish and Game [CDFG]. DBOC would pay "fair market value" for use of the on-shore facilities, which would take into account the value of interpretive services provided and the investment needed to rehabilitate existing facilities and construct new processing facilities. The rehabilitation and construction work would be as described in the discussion of Alternative D. Under this alternative, DBOC will collaborate with relevant organizations, including but not limited to the NPS, the CDFG, the UC SeaGrant program and other educational and research agencies and in developing interpretive programs and scientifically valid research projects as recommended by the NRC and MMC. This alternative provides educational opportunities for people of all ages, including Seashore visitors, students and researchers, relating to estuarine ecology and mariculture. This alternative is consistent with the "national interest" expressed in President Clinton's May 26, 2000 Executive Order 13158 directing the Departments of Commerce (DOC) and Interior to expand and strengthen the "Nation's system of marine protected areas." It respects the California Fish and Game Commission designation, effective May 2010, of Drakes Estero as a State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA), a protected area in which recreational clam digging and shellfish cultivation pursuant to CDFG leases are permitted. DBOC's operation within a SMCA and PRNS presents a unique opportunity for collaborative research that supports the policies of the National Shellfish Initiative announced by NOAA and DOC in June 2011, and responds directly and positively to NRC and MMC recommendations regarding collaborative efforts to inform adaptive management of Drakes Estero. This alternative supports the goals of the Initiative, which are to increase domestic seafood production, create sustainable jobs and restore marine habitats. It provides opportunities for research as called for by the Initiative, ".on the interactions between shellfish and the environment in terms of climate change, ocean acidification, naturally occurring pathogens and parasites, and other factors . . ." This alternative supports DBOC's efforts to restore native oysters in Drakes Estero and to study the potential for native oysters to withstand the effects of global ocean acidification now beginning to affect all Pacific coast shellfish. This alternative sustainably supports the local economy by continuing to attract thousands of ethnically diverse visitors to West Marin every year and continuing to provide over half of the San Francisco Bay Area's sustainably farmed shellfish. It protects desperately needed affordable housing for farmworkers on remote Point Reyes ranches. Under this alternative, DBOC will continue to provide essential oyster shell for environmental programs, such as the San Francisco Bay Native Oyster Restoration Project, the SF Bay Bird Observatory Snowy Plover Habitat Enhancement Project and the California Department of Fish and Game Least Tern Habitat Enhancement Project. This alternative supports a landscape that is ecologically and economically sustainable. It is consistent with the natural resource management provisions in the PRNS General Management Plan, and enables the Seashore to collaboratively integrate ecosystem science and natural and cultural resource management to better understand and manage relationships among the physical, biological, and cultural elements of a working land and seascape, while maintaining its distinctive "sense of place and character."

Correspondence ID:	50396	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Peterson, Bobby M				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 12:03:35				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50397	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	estabrook, kent				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 12:05:15				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I strongly support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50398	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Petersen, Chick				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 12:06:35				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.				
Correspondence ID:	50399	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Grossman, George j				
Outside Organization:	Point Reyes National Seashore Association Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 12:20:32				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	"I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."				

I fully appreciate the effort at compromise, having followed this issue for years. The way it's supposed to work.

George

Correspondence ID: 50400 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: MANLEY, GERARD A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 12:32:15
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

Correspondence ID: 50401 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Anderson, Sandy
Outside Organization: National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 12:35:28
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year, as long intended. It is in the public interest to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the enjoyment of all. The public has waited nearly four decades for these protections to be implemented, which is an immense compromise in itself. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish take shelter in eelgrass. As someone who enjoys our nation's national parks and their wildlife, I urge you to uphold the longstanding plan to convert this very special resource to wilderness.

I urge you to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness next year and is the Environmentally Preferred Alternative. The National Park Service is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources at Drakes Estero and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are set aside for the public and for wildlife protection, and after waiting nearly 40 years for private commercial use rights to expire, it's time to give the estuary the protection it needs. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" is best for public policy, and best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other natural resources. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be commercially grown elsewhere.

Please honor the promise made for a protected marine wilderness at Drakes Estero. In doing so, you will set a good policy example and reward the public with an enduring legacy feat found nowhere else on the West Coast.

Correspondence ID: 50402 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gambill, Niechele
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 12:35:48
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important matter it is greatly appreciated.

Correspondence ID: 50403 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Lines, nick
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 12:53:46
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative

Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Sincerely, Nick Lines

Correspondence ID: 50404 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Wallof, Hunter
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 12:57:42
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: My daughter, Willow, and I live in Inverness Park and have heard arguments for and against the oyster farm in the estuary. I seems to me that those who know what the Lunny family is doing and the thoughtful ways they are raising oysters and protecting the estuary are laudatory. I think that other alternatives might be more destructive to the marine ecosystem in the area than to have people there that truly care about the estuary and manage it for the benefit of the ecosystem. Seems to me that the dairy operations in the park do a great deal of damage and should be phased out as soon as possible and much of the "management" carried out by the park-service has caused their own problems. Let's just give the oyster farm project permission to continue what they are doing for now. Sometimes I have the feeling that there are those who would have all human activity confined to cities and be kept out of anything we call nature and not approved by "professionals" and "experts". In my view we are, or should be, part of nature and be educated in its ways and the ways we can safely interact with it for the protection of it and ourselves. Sincerely; Hunter&Willow

Correspondence ID: 50405 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gurley, Dana
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 13:05:44
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50406 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Goldsmith, Kira
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 13:06:01
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50407 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: c, daniel

Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 13:06:01
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50408 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Kerpan, Marie
Outside Organization: Sustainable Mill Valley Non-profit/Organization
Received: Dec.07,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Sustainable Mill Valley supports the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50409 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Moody, Maryam
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 13:08:12
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50410 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Salvaryn, Jeff
Outside Organization: Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 13:09:12
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I am writing to urge the National Park Service to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year as long-intended. The American public deserves to have the West Coast's only marine wilderness protected for future generations to enjoy. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish spawn. It deserves the highest level of protection as Congress long-intended. As someone who enjoys our nation's spectacular national parks, I urge you to not undermine protections at Drakes Estero and succumb to special interests seeking to commercialize these special places.

I urge the National Park Service and the Department of the Interior to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness and is the environmentally preferred alternative. The NPS is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources, as stated in the Seashore's legislation, and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are for the people and wildlife protection, not commercial exploitation. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other wildlife and plants. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and it is irreplaceable, while oysters can be grown elsewhere.

National Parks and wilderness areas are treasured by the majority of Americans and are for the public interest, not for private commercial exploitation. By protecting wilderness, the National Park Service will set a positive policy example while commercializing it will set a negative example and help others seek their special exemptions from national park laws.

Correspondence ID: 50411 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Indrieri, Audy
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 13:11:44
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company."

Correspondence ID: 50412 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Franklin, Margaret
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 13:35:44

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50413 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 13:38:50
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."

Correspondence ID: 50414 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Capobianco, Joyce
Outside Organization: National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 13:39:35
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year, as long intended. It is in the public interest to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the enjoyment of all. The public has waited nearly four decades for these protections to be implemented, which is an immense compromise in itself. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish take shelter in eelgrass. As someone who enjoys our nation's national parks and their wildlife, I urge you to uphold the longstanding plan to convert this very special resource to wilderness.

I urge you to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness next year and is the Environmentally Preferred Alternative. The National Park Service is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources at Drakes Estero and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are set aside for the public and for wildlife protection, and after waiting nearly 40 years for private commercial use rights to expire, it's time to give the estuary the protection it needs. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" is best for public policy, and best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other natural resources. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be commercially grown elsewhere.

Please honor the promise made for a protected marine wilderness at Drakes Estero. In doing so, you will set a good policy example and reward the public with an enduring legacy feat found nowhere else on the West Coast.

Correspondence ID: 50418 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Yates, Erik
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 13:51:43
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Drake Bay Oyster Farm's right to continue their current operations. I believe that those who would see it shut down have not adequately considered its positive benefits on the local economy & environment.

Correspondence ID: 50421 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Romanoff, Elizabeth M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 13:54:10
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS

Correspondence ID: 50425 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: vonWaldburg, Art R
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 14:01:21
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50427 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Selchie, Moreva L
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 14:05:01
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I find the alternatives feasible. I feel it is important to close down DBOC in ten years, because commercial activity is inappropriate in and disturbing to the Estero. I feel the preferred alternative is to grant DBOC ten years because the oysters clean the water.

I would advise the National Seashore to attend to what I experience as the larger problem for Drake's Estero - the runoff from the adjoining ranches; often including a direct run-in of manure from cattle down at the water line. If the compensatory cleaning of the water by oysters is extended for ten years, this would give the Seashore more time to address the larger problem. I would caution the Seashore against solving the smaller problem, the commercial oysters, without addressing the larger one coming from the ranches.

I kayaked the Estero for several decades and I do not feel the oyster bed activity disturbs the seals in particular. However, any commercial operation - including kayak companies - is exceedingly disturbing to the ecosystem of the Estero as a whole. If we want to return the Estero to nature, as was intended by Congress, and allow it to become undisturbed, any commercial activity needs to be seriously limited. Allowing the closure of the DBOC to become the occasion for flooding the Estero with kayaks would make no sense in terms of the wilderness goal. I would see putting quota limits on nonmotorized watercraft and requiring a trip permit process.

In general, I feel that the situation needs to be looked at as a whole, with the goal of returning the Estero to nature.

Moreva Selchie

Correspondence ID: 50428 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Permenter, Raean
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 14:06:25
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50429 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 14:12:50
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company."

Correspondence ID: 50430 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Parrish, Deborah L
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 14:13:34
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: It is important to find the balance between using our land for our healthy life and misusing the land. We need to keep the oyster beds in the bay. They are important for the ecosystem and the economical viability of our area. Please, let's find a way to coexist!

Correspondence ID: 50431 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: Teichman, Judy
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: The following comments on the draft Environmental Impact Statement regarding the proposed Special Use Permit for the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm are supplemental to a comment mailed earlier. They are offered in support of the Comment of the Alliance for Local Sustainable Agriculture proposing a "Collaborative Management Alternative".

PURPOSE AND NEED:

The Purpose and Need Statement in the draft EIS [DEIS] is inaccurate and misleading and designed to force closure of the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm. The following comments are offered to establish that the Purpose and Need Statement needs to be revised.

In fact, action is needed at this time because the Reservation of Use and Occupancy for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company [DBOC or when owned by Charles Johnson, the "Oyster Farm"] expires on November 30, 2012. The ROU is Exhibit C to the Grantor's [Johnson Oyster Company] October 13, 1972 Offer to Sell Real Property, which was incorporated in the November 30, 1972 Grant Deed for the property by reference. The ROU is: ". . . for the purpose of processing and selling wholesale and retain oysters, seafood and complimentary food items, the interpretation of oyster cultivation to the visiting public, and residential purposes reasonably incidental thereto"

Paragraph 11 of the RUO provides:

"Upon expiration of the reserved term, a special use permit may be issued for the continued occupancy of the property for the herein described purposes, provided however, that such permit will run concurrently with and will terminate upon the expiration of State water bottom allotments assigned to the Vendor. . . ."

To continue to serve the purposes for which the ROU was retained, the Lunnys/DBOC requested only, and only need, the SUP contemplated in Paragraph 11. DBOC has leases from the California Department of Fish and Game that run until 2029 for use of the State water bottoms for shellfish cultivation referenced in Paragraph 11.

The description of "Purpose" in the draft Environmental Impact Statement [DEIS] as including a Special Use Permit from the National Park Service, and then providing in the alternatives proposed that any SUP would be conditioned on the Oyster Farm relinquishing its leases from the California Department of Fish and Game is most generously described as disingenuous for a number of reasons.

(1) A documented history of the State's leasing and collecting both rent and fees for the shellfish produced in Drakes Estero, and of NPS recognizing the State's right to continue to lease the submerged lands in Drakes Estero for shellfish cultivation, was provided during scoping for purposes of the DEIS. The collection of rent and fees continues to this day.

(2) Effective May 2010 the California Fish and Game Commission designated Drakes Estero a State Marine Conservation Area in which the only fishing allowed is recreational clam digging and shellfish cultivation pursuant to leases from the California Department of Fish and Game. Former Seashore Superintendent Don Neubacher served as a member, with Dr. Ben Bennett as his alternate, on the Stakeholders Group that develop alternatives for North Central Coast marine areas for consideration by a Blue Ribbon Taskforce appointed by the California Secretary of Natural Resources. The Stakeholders Group was advised by a Science Advisory Team that included Seashore scientist Dr. Sarah Allen. Then Director of the NPS Pacific West Region, now NPS Director Jon Jarvis, wrote in support of an alternative which would have designated Drakes Estero a State Marine Reserve effective in 2012 when the ROU expires. Had that alternative been adopted by the Fish and Game Commission after environmental review the question of an SUP for DBOC after 2012 would have been moot. However, the Blue Ribbon Taskforce, charged with looking at larger ecosystems, recommended that adjacent Limantour Estero be designated a State Marine Reserve, where no taking of fish is allowed, and that recreational clam digging and shellfish cultivation be allowed in Drakes Estero. At least in part the purpose was to provide alternative habitats for various flora and fauna in what are otherwise similar marine environments. At culmination of this extensive planning and environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act process, the Taskforce's recommendation was the preferred alternative adopted by the Fish and Game Commission. Despite having actively participated in this State process, NPS now claims that the State's power relate only to "regulating" the cultivation of shellfish in California waters. [Maybe the real question is, just how thin can you slice baloney!]

(3) The actual California legislation granting the tide and submerged lands in the Point Reyes National Seashore [Seashore] to the United States, Stats 1965, Ch. 983, required the United States to "survey and monument the granted lands and record a description and plat thereof in the Office of the County Recorder of Marin County." The survey was not completed and the Deed recorded until September 10, 1974, while the DOI was preparing the EIS on a proposal to create the Point Reyes Wilderness. Particularly in this context, the following statement of DOI Assistant Secretary of the Interior John Kyle's statement in his letter to the Chair of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs is proof that the DOI understood that the fishing rights retained by the State included the right to lease the submerged lands for shellfish cultivation: " Drakes Estero. Commercial oyster farming operations take place in this estuary and the reserved rights by the State on tidelands in this area make this acreage inconsistent with wilderness." This statement was made less than 9 months after Acting Attorney General Robert Bork commented in a letter dated December 12, 1973, addressed to then Secretary of the Interior Rogers C.B. Morton, regarding the title to the Oyster Farm, that "The title evidence and accompanying data disclose valid title to be vested in the

United States of America subject to the rights and easements . . . which your Department has advised will not interfere with the proposed use of the land."

(4) The fact that Congress designated Drakes Estero "potential wilderness" despite Kyle's statement reflects that Congress intends a different meaning for "wilderness" for purposes of the 1964 Wilderness Act than NPS had at that time. In this regard, Section 2(b) of the 1964 Wilderness Act explicitly provides, in pertinent part: "The inclusion of an area in the National Wilderness Preservation System notwithstanding, the area shall continue to be managed by the Department and agency having jurisdiction there over immediately before its inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation System unless otherwise provided by Act of Congress. . . ." In the case of Drakes Estero Section 124 of Public Law 111-88 has the effect of confirming the intent of Congress as expressed in Section 2(b), and the appropriate "use" of this particular "potential wilderness" area is consistent with Section 4(a)(e) of the Wilderness Act, which provides, in pertinent part: "Nothing in this Act shall modify the statutory authority under which units of the national park system are created. Further, the designation of any area of a park . . . pursuant to this Act shall in no manner lower the standards evolved for the use and preservation of such park . . . in accordance with the [Organic Act], the statutory authority under which the area was created, or any other act of Congress which might pertain to or affect such area . . ." Consistent with this interpretation, in 1976 Congress also disregarded the NPS recommendation that the High Sierra Camps in Yosemite, which NPS Director Gary Everhardt said are "believed to be fully compatible with the purpose and mission of national parks and there are no present plans to discontinue these uses" be excluded from the wilderness designation.

2008 SUP

For the first time since the United States purchased the Oyster Farm in 1972, the NPS included terms relating to shellfish cultivation in Drakes Estero in the 2008 Special Use Permit. The 2008 SUP was negotiated at a time when the NPS was strongly asserting publicly that the DBOC's operation was harming the ecology of Drakes Estero, particular the popular harbor seals. When DBOC purchase the Oyster Farm assets in December, 2004, there were 6 years remaining on the ROU. The SUP for (a) water from the well expired on June 30, 2006, (b) for septic expired on November 30, 2006, and (c) for ancillary use (expanded shoreline area), which was issued of five years in 1992 for five years had expired on November 15, 1997. Under pressure to have Permits for the onshore facilities in the context of allegations that offshore operations were harming the flora and fauna of Drakes Estero, the Lunnys apparently chose to at least temporarily accept an SUP with terms that impact their ability to cultivate shellfish in Drakes Estero in compliance with their State leases. The fact that the Lunnys/DBOC may have acquiesced in over reaching by the NPS does not convert the State's retained and exclusive right to lease the submerged lands for shellfish cultivation to a right shared with the National Park Service.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The following are suggested project objectives: (A) Manage Seashore natural and cultural and historic resources to preserve for future generations both their character and qualities and the unique character and qualities of the adjacent rural communities. (B) Manage Seashore pastoral zone resources consistent with Federal, Regional, State and Local policies in support of increasing the supply of seafood, an environmentally preferred source of protein. (C) Manage pastoral zone consistent with the goals of the National Shellfish Initiative to increase domestic seafood production, create sustainable jobs and restore marine habitats. (D) Retain and encourage expansion of interpretive services, including educational program, provided by the Drakes Bay Oyster Company. (E) Retain and improve affordable housing units for Oyster Farm workers and their family members, including those who work in other local businesses.

Correspondence ID:	50432	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Tarpey-Schwed, Mark				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 14:15:53				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50433	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Foley, Robin				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 14:25:13				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50435	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Frakes, Melissa				
Outside Organization:	National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 14:36:03				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.				

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of

thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50436 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Parker, Holly
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 14:38:43
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: DRAKES ESTERO ESTUARY

Every day there is a new study concluding that our oceans are becoming increasingly unbalanced do to over fishing on various levels. The top predators are being obliterated because a particular culture of the supposed 'intelligent species' believes that shark fin soup should, as one example, be consumed as a status symbol for family weddings and other celebrations. Sea turtles in danger because of another particular culture believe their eggs to be delicacies and their meat should be made into soup.

There was a time in the life of our blue planet where the balance of nature (proportion of homo sapien to other species)was kept in check by natural selection. Our modern medicine allows our species to live twice as long, cure previously deadly diseases, allow otherwise infertile men and women to procreate by use of artificial means and even transplant organs in those who by natural selection would not have survived as a weaker member of the species.

I am not saying that modern medicine is a bad thing or that assisting otherwise barren people experience the joy of birth should not be happening; I AM saying that if we ARE going to continue to extend human life and artificially multiply, we MUST adjust our way of thinking when it comes to our home. If we do not, our planet will no longer support ANY species.

This issue of whether or not to allow further human exploitation of the Drakes Estero estuary is a no-brainer not worthy of discussion. Please do not spend another moment in discussion of this issue and do the right thing for all inhabitants of our beautiful blue marble of a home sweet home.

Sincerely, HOLly Parker

Correspondence ID: 50437 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Hickey, David N
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 14:48:13
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50438 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Ferron, Tracy
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 14:49:33
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS. Thank you, Tracy

Correspondence ID: 50439 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Orahoske, Andrew J
Outside Organization: Environmental Protection Information Center Non-profit/Organization
Received: Dec,07,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Dear Responsible Official,

I am writing on behalf of the Environmental Protection Information Center ("EPIC"), a nonprofit organization that works to protect and restore ancient forests, watersheds, coastal estuaries, and native species in Northern California. EPIC submits the following comments to the Department of the Interior regarding Drakes Estero in Point Reyes National Seashore. EPIC supports Alternative A in the DEIS, which allows for Drakes Estero to finally gain wilderness designation as Congress intended in the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act. Drakes Estero is a unique and crucially important wildlife area, a vital stop on the Pacific Flyway for migrating birds, a refuge and birthplace for harbor seals, a critical native fish nursery, and habitat for endangered species. Congress and the public have long intended that Drakes Estero be given the highest federal level of protection as a

wilderness area when the commercial oyster permit expires in 2012. By selecting Alternative A, the Park Service will fulfill the Point Reyes wilderness promise, and be consistent with National Park Service laws and policies. The Park Service's environmental review shows that Alternative A best protects wildlife and the National Park experience. Our wilderness areas and national parks are for wildlife, wild land conservation and for the American public to enjoy. Wilderness areas and national parks are not for commercial exploitation. Drakes Estero is the only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be grown elsewhere. Federal law and policy require full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012 and prohibit the Park Service from issuing a new special use permit to the Drakes Bay Oyster Company ("DBOC"). The Point Reyes National Seashore was created "to save and preserve, for the purposes of public recreation, benefit, and inspiration" a portion of the nation's diminishing seashore. The Seashore's 1962 authorizing legislation requires the Park Service to administer the Seashore "without impairment of its natural values" and in a manner that is "supportive of the maximum protection, restoration, and preservation of the natural environment." The Wilderness Act of 1964 recognizes and defines wilderness as "an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain." Wilderness is further defined as an area of "federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions." The 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act reaffirms the 1962 and 1964 laws and added language to the Seashore's authorizing legislation which "underscores the intention that the Seashore is to be managed for the protection of its natural environment and values." The Point Reyes Wilderness Act designates the waters of Drakes Estero and the adjoining intertidal land as "potential wilderness." The term "potential wilderness" is defined in legislative history as "a category of lands which are essentially of wilderness character, but retain sufficient non-conforming structures, activities, uses or private rights so as to preclude immediate wilderness classification." The legislative history provides an explicit statement of Congressional intent regarding the importance of removing all non-conforming uses, including the oyster operation in Drakes Estero from areas designated as "potential wilderness." We urge you to make the right decision for Drakes Estero by finally ensuring that the area be protected as wilderness.

Sincerely,

Gary Graham Hughes Executive Director

Andrew Orahoske Conservation Director

Environmental Protection Information Center 145 G Street, Suite A Arcata, CA 95521 Tel: (707) 822-7711
www.wildcalifornia.org

Correspondence ID: 50440 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Carson, Sharon
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 14:55:47
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I support the wilderness designation for Drakes Estero within the Point Reyes National Seashore. I urge the National Park Service and Department of the Interior to uphold the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act and select alternative A, which protects this important marine wilderness and is the environmentally preferred alternative. Drakes Estero is a unique and ecologically significant wildlife area. It is an important stop on the flyway for migrating birds, a refuge and birthplace for harbor seals and a critical native fish nursery. Congress and the public have long intended that Drakes Estero be given the highest federal level of protection as a wilderness area when the commercial oyster lease expires in 2012. This can only be accomplished by selecting Alternative "A" and ending commercial use of this sensitive wildlife refuge. Alternative A is the most consistent with National Park Service laws and policies. The Park Service's environmental review shows that alternative "A" best protects wildlife and the National Park experience. Our national parks are for the people and wildlife protection, and wilderness areas with our parks should not prioritize commercial exploitation. The American public deserves to have this unique marine wilderness protected in a natural state for future generations to enjoy. Drakes Estero is the only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be grown elsewhere. As someone who enjoys our spectacular national parks, I urge you to not undermine protections at Drakes Estero and succumb to special interests seeking to commercialize these special places.

Correspondence ID: 50446 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Hammer, Lauren
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 15:03:39
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50449 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Schwarz, Kurt R
Outside Organization: Maryland Ornithological Society Non-profit/Organization
Received: Dec,07,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: December 7, 2011

To be submitted via NPS webform at: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/commentForm.cfm?documentID=43390>

Superintendent Point Reyes National Seashore 1 Bear Valley Road Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

To the National Park Service:

The Maryland Ornithological Society (MOS) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the draft environmental impact statement for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company special use permit. Members of MOS have visited Point Reyes National Seashore and Drakes Estero, as they contain important habitat for birds and other forms of wildlife.

MOS is a statewide nonprofit organization established in 1945 and devoted to the study and conservation of birds. Currently we have 15 chapters and approximately 1,500 members. Some are scientists and naturalists, but our membership includes people of all ages and all walks of life, from physicists to firefighters, legislators to landscapers. Birding is one of the fastest growing types of outdoor recreation. MOS members travel to national seashores and other federal lands on birding and nature-watching vacations throughout the United States. We spend money on food, lodging, guide services, books, and souvenirs to support the local economy wherever we go.

The Maryland Ornithological Society compliments the National Park Service for the thoughtful analysis of this proposal in the draft EIS. MOS favors Alternative A, which provides for ending the commercial shellfish operation in Drakes Estero when the permit expires in November 2012 and granting the area full wilderness status, as Congress provided in Public Law 94-567. Alternative A will enhance the bird habitat values of Drakes Estero by removing structures and activities of the shellfish company.

Historical Background Drakes Estero is an estuary roughly 3.5 miles long and 2 miles across, at the heart of Point Reyes National Seashore, 30 miles north of San Francisco. It owes its name to an event in 1579 when the explorer Sir Francis Drake sailed into Drakes Bay and careened his ship, the Golden Hind, on the shore for repairs. "Estero" is the Spanish word for an estuary.

Point Reyes National Seashore was established in 1962, with a total acreage of 71,000 acres. In 1976 Congress enacted PL 94-544 and PL 94-567, which designated 25,370 acres of the national seashore as wilderness. The same laws also designated 8,003 acres at Drakes Estero as "potential wilderness addition," which will attain wilderness status when an existing commercial shellfish mariculture operation ceases on November 30, 2012, under terms of its permit.

In 2005 a new owner acquired the shellfish operation, re-named it the Drakes Bay Oyster Company (DBOC), and began to seek an extension of the permit and an expansion of the operation. In 2009 Congress enacted an appropriations bill rider (section 124 of PL 111-88), giving the Secretary of the Interior discretion to issue a special use permit to DBOC for 10 more years starting in 2012. The EIS analyzes four alternatives for consideration by the Secretary.

Alternatives Alternative A provides for ending the commercial shellfish operation in 2012 and converting the area to wilderness status. Alternative B provides for issuing a new 10-year permit for the DBOC operation at the level existing in 2010 and postponing wilderness status. Alternative C is similar to B, but at the level existing in 2008. Alternative D is similar to B, but allows expansion of operations and installation of new onshore structures.

Wildlife Habitat Values Drakes Estero has outstanding values for wildlife habitat and is popular with nature-watching visitors. Its rich population of benthic invertebrates makes it a major foraging and resting area for many species of migrating and wintering waterbirds and shorebirds. At low tide, much of the estero bottom is exposed as intertidal wetlands. Point Reyes National Seashore has been identified as a Global Important Bird Area by the National Audubon Society, with Drakes Estero recognized as the part most important for bird conservation. The U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan identifies Drakes Estero as a site of regional importance.

More than 60 species of birds have been recorded at Drakes Estero. Notable species include White Pelican, Brown Pelican, Snowy Egret, Great Egret, Great Blue Heron, Black Brant, Gadwall, Osprey, Peregrine Falcon, Black-bellied Plover, Snowy Plover, Dunlin, Western and Least Sandpiper, Caspian Tern and Marbled Murrelet. Drakes Estero is also a primary pupping site for the harbor seal, producing between 300 and 500 pups annually.

Impacts on Wildlife Habitat The DBOC raises non-native shellfish species (Pacific oysters and Manila clams) with an annual production of approximately 600,000 pounds, primarily for sale to restaurants and wholesalers. The shellfish are raised in widely dispersed sites on 95 wooden racks and in mariculture bags on 142 acres of culture beds. To tend the aquaculture sites, DBOC uses motorboats up to 8 hours per day six days per week, making approximately 12 round trips per day. No public boating is allowed, except kayaking from July through February. A dozen buildings and two wastewater leach fields on the shore of Drakes Estero serve as DBOC facilities for processing and mariculture support.

Bird habitat is being degraded by the DBOC operation. Eelgrass beds, essential to Black Brant, have been scarred by 8.5 miles of channels cut by motorboat propellers (EIS, page 173). Motorboat traffic also flushes foraging and resting shorebirds. Mariculture bags along 5 miles of the intertidal zone prevent shorebirds from foraging there. The California Coastal Commission has repeatedly cited DBOC for environmental impacts in violation of its permit conditions.

Alternative A will put an end to the impacts and allow the National Park Service to restore the damaged wildlife habitat. Alternatives B and C would allow the impacts to continue. Alternative D would expand them by authorizing expansion of

offshore and onshore operations to produce 850,000 pounds of shellfish annually.

Maryland Experience Here in Maryland, MOS members often visit Assateague Island National Seashore. Waters within its boundary are closed to mariculture operations, in line with park policies against commercial exploitation of protected lands and water. However, mariculture is practiced elsewhere in Maryland. It is actively being promoted by Maryland state agencies in Chincoteague Bay near Assateague, and in Chesapeake Bay.

Recommendations The Maryland Ornithological Society urges the National Park Service to adopt Alternative A because it provides for restoration of the outstanding wildlife habitat of Drakes Estero by removing commercial shellfish operations from the area. The impacts of the racks, bags and motorboat traffic will be ended by Alternative A.

Under Alternative A, Drakes Estero will attain wilderness status as envisioned by Congress 35 years ago in PL 94-544 and PL 94-567. This will mean permanent protection against commercial intrusions, motorized vehicles, motorboats, and any other damage to its natural character. This wilderness area is especially valuable on the national scale because Drakes Estero is the only marine wilderness Congress has designated on the Pacific Coast between California and Washington State and one of only 11 marine wilderness areas nationally.

Grandfathered nonconforming uses with an expiration date exist in a number of National Park System units. Sometimes the use is allowed for the lifetime of the permittee, sometimes for a set number of years. This approach has often been used with livestock grazing in the parks. A grandfather arrangement eases the impact of a new park on prior users of the land, and yet it establishes an orderly transition to full protection under the laws governing national parks and seashores. In the case of DBOC, the present owners acquired the company six years ago with the knowledge that Congress 35 years ago provided for Drakes Estero to have wilderness status upon expiration of the permit in 2012. Thirty-five years is long enough for this mariculture operation to be allowed to create impacts against the wildlife habitat and natural character of Drakes Estero. No further permit should be issued.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

Kurt R. Schwarz MOS Conservation Chair

9045 Dunloggin Court Ellicott City, MD 21042 krschwa1@verizon.net 410-461-1643

Correspondence ID: 50450 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Walker, Deb
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 15:06:11
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50451 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Otterbeck, Fara
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 15:13:31
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Why in the world would the park service throw away an opportunity to work with a small business on developing sustainable relationships between humans and their environment? The park service and small farms should be working together to show people how proper husbandry can heal and preserve the land. I certainly expect better attention to facts and science in these discussions.

This has gotten ridiculous. We should not be annoying our representatives with bad science and and inability to compromise. Nor should we be subjecting the people of California to such nonsense.

Warm Regards,

F Otterbeck

Correspondence ID: 50454 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 15:20:01
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50458 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Garland, Ben
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 15:25:04
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS. Speaking independently and unofficially as an conservationist for the USDA-NRCS, I believe this alternative is the best course of action to maintain not only the environmental integrity of the bay but also the important positive historical, social, and agricultural contributions of DBOC on the surrounding Sonoma/Marin community.

Correspondence ID: 50460 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Harrah, Jean
Outside Organization: caff Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 15:26:26
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50462 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Diaz-Romero, Mary Ann
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 15:27:36
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: IT IS VITAL TO OUR AREA THAT WE KEEP THE DRAKES BAY OYSTER COMPANY! Please help us to keep it!

Correspondence ID: 50466 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Monson, Julie C
Outside Organization: Inverness Association Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 15:33:09
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I strongly support the gradual conversion of Drakes Estero to Wilderness, with the removal of DBOC and any other commercial/industrial uses in this part of the Point Reyes National Seashore. I therefore prefer Alternative A

Correspondence ID: 50467 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 15:38:28
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support wilderness in the National Parks and in particular for Drake's Estero. As a lifetime resident of West Marin, I value the intrinsic beauty of this area immensely and believe the Estero should be given wilderness status.

I do not believe that this would work any injustice upon the Drakes Bay Oyster Company who bought the lease from the Johnson's with full knowledge of the expiring lease and of the NPS prerogative not to extend the lease beyond 2012.

An extension now would only serve to lengthen the period of discord in our community around this issue.

Correspondence ID: 50468 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Toma, Linda m
Outside Organization: past long term certified nursing aide Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 15:38:30
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: PLEASE SUPPORT AND KEEP THE DRAKES BAY OYSTER FARM ,CAFF IS supporting it too.Oyster research has taught and proven that they also help to keep the oceans clean & help save other marine animals in the seas.For others,Oysters are

nature's way of the best ocean foods there are.PLEASE KEEP DRAKES BAY OYSTER FARM In business in Marin County.

Correspondence ID:	50469	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Barge, Kenneth F				
Outside Organization:	Public Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 15:53:31				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	"I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."				

Correspondence ID:	50470	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 15:56:48				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support wilderness at Drakes Estero.				

Correspondence ID:	50471	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Lawrence, R				
Outside Organization:	National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 15:57:13				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I do not support Drake's farm. It is on land that was donated to the National Parks years ago, subject to a terminable right to operate the farm. That right is terminating, and the Park Service should not authorize an extension. The reason is that doing so would create an exception to the rule that Parks and Wilderness Areas may not be used for commercial purposes. Creating an exception opens the door at this area and at others.				

Correspondence ID:	50472	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Levine, Elinor				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:00:11				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS. I've been to Drake's Bay Oyster Company for years, as well as using the national park. I urge you to come to a solution that allows for continued aquaculture in the bay.				

Correspondence ID:	50473	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Tomlinson, Michael E				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:04:07				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50474	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:05:06				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the growing of oysters in Drakes Bay as not being harmful to the natural habitat and an example of working together in harmony. I support the Collaborative Management Alternative, and decry the apparent misuse of science in the studies that were done, and I am saddened by the vehemence of people's opinions that feel so close to violence. May peace rain, my we live in harmony, with all sentient beings.				

thanks

Correspondence ID:	50475	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Hsia-Coron, Mary				
Outside Organization:	self (a registered voter) Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:11:26				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	My family and I are shell fish lovers and we often buy farmed oysters. We hope you will allow Drakes Bay Oyster Company to continue. I think oyster farming is a very sustainable activity that can be done with minimal negative impact on the environment. I have visited an oyster farm at Tomales Bay and was very impressed with the low impact of their set-up.				

If we don't have enough local oysters in California, consumers like me will have to purchase oysters flown in from other parts of the US, and that generates unnecessary green house gases.

If you take a step back and look at the Big Picture, you will realize that it's much better, environmentally, to raise local oysters in SF area, than it is to import oysters. Another positive side effect are the jobs created by local oyster farming during these economically difficult times.

Correspondence ID: 50476 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Griffin, L. Martin
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 16:13:59
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I, L. Martin Griffin, Jr., M.D., M.P.H. strongly endorse the comments on the Draft EIS by John P. Kelly PhD for Drakes Bay Oyster Company Special Use Permit submitted electronically on 1 December 2011 by John P. Kelly, PhD, Director of Conservation Science, Audubon Canyon Ranch, Stinson Beach, CA

I strongly support Alternative A, allowing the expiration of the existing Special Use Permit and planned conversion of the estuary to Wilderness.

Sincerely,

L. Martin Griffin Jr., M.D., M.P.H. Founder Audubon Canyon Ranch Co-founder Environmental Forum of Marin

Correspondence ID: 50477 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Yoon, Carol
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:16:49
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: NPS should consider the environmental benefits of the oyster farm and correct the misrepresentations. PRNS has misrepresented the facts about the environmental benefits of oyster farming. The draft EIS misrepresents those facts again, calling the removal of the oyster farm the "environmentally preferable" alternative. This fails to address the important ecological services provided by oysters, including filtering water. It also fails to address the environmental impacts of replacing a local, sustainable food source with the alternative of importing oysters in order to meet the current demand.

Correspondence ID: 50478 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Griffin, Joyce B
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:19:39
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I, Joyce B Griffin, strongly endorse the comments on the Draft EIS by John P. Kelly PhD for Drakes Bay Oyster Company Special Use Permit submitted electronically on 1 December 2011 by John P. Kelly, PhD, Director of Conservation Science, Audubon Canyon Ranch, Stinson Beach, CA

I strongly support Alternative A, allowing the expiration of the existing Special Use Permit and planned conversion of the estuary to Wilderness.

Sincerely,

Joyce B Griffin docent, Audubon Canyon Ranch retired college instructor of English

Correspondence ID: 50479 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:20:18
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50480 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:20:31
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50481 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:20:47
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50482 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A

Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:20:59
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50483 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:21:11
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50484 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: presley, carol
Outside Organization: community alliance with family farmers Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:21:26
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS." This alternative supports the goals of the Initiative, which are to increase domestic seafood production, create sustainable jobs and restore marine habitats. It provides opportunities for research as called for by the Initiative, "...on the interactions between shellfish and the environment in terms of climate change, ocean acidification, naturally occurring pathogens and parasites, and other factors . . ." This alternative supports DBOC's efforts to restore native oysters in Drakes Estero and to study the potential for native oysters to withstand the effects of global ocean acidification now beginning to affect all Pacific coast shellfish.

Sustainably managed and environmentally promoting working landscapes such as the DBOC must be supported for their ability to perform dual objectives of food production and environmental stewardship. The water quality of the Estero benefits from farming bioaccumulating organisms, like oysters, which effectively reduce excess nitrate concentrations.

Correspondence ID: 50485 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:21:30
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50486 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Stevens, Daphne T
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Our Planet has tipped leaving all species in serious trouble. "We need to do all we can to protect our planet from tipping more. Why not preserve Drakes Estero which is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

In the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, Congress recognized Drakes Estero as a unique recreational and biological resource and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

Your own draft environmental impact statement reveals the extensive damage that the existing operation has caused to Drakes Estero and Point Reyes National Seashore's beaches. As you know, commercial operations of any kind are not permitted in designated wilderness areas because of such damage. Further, the Park Service's Organic Act mandates protection of park resources and values and strictly limits commercial operations.

Your approval of the proposal to extend the oyster company's permit would be contrary to the Point Reyes Wilderness Act and would establish a dangerous precedent at a time when America's public lands and environmental laws are already under widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

We've been waiting long enough. It is time to allow that permit to expire and to honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Correspondence ID: 50487 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:21:44
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID:	50488	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:21:57				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50489	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:22:15				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50490	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:22:30				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50491	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:22:48				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50492	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Haner, Doug				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:22:56				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	Disclaimer: I am a local resident of Point Reyes. That said, I support the continuation of the Drakes Bay Oyster Company in perpetuity. It's part of the landscape and our culture, as are the farms on the Point Reyes Peninsula, which I also support. Local support was garnered in the 70s by assuring locals that agricultural and maricultural uses would continue as they land became a national seashore. None of the alternatives are acceptable as they present deadlines for when the oyster company should close. I do not feel that the oyster company should be closed.				
Correspondence ID:	50493	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:23:03				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50494	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:23:18				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50495	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:23:35				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50496	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:23:50				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50497	Project:	33043	Document:	43390

Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:24:07
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50498 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:24:21
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50499 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:24:39
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50500 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:24:54
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50501 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Bicek, Jane
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:25:06
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Please allow Drakes Bay Oyster Farm to continue operation in northern California. I frequently visit Point Retract area, and it is a lovely part of the national seashore. Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 50502 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:25:08
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50503 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:25:23
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50504 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:25:37
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50505 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:25:54
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50506 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:26:06
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID:	50507	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:26:22				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50508	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:26:35				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50509	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:26:48				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50510	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:27:01				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50511	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:27:19				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50512	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:27:32				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50513	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:27:50				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50514	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	buckley, peter k				
Outside Organization:	David Brower Center Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:27:58				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I believe you have many comments that reflect the idea that PT. Reyes has been historically a working landscape, and that farms and businesses operating sustainably are important factors in maintaining the regions vitality, and the health of local communities. The Lundy farm operates sustainably and enhances the community and land into which it is embedded. I work full time on environmental issues, particularly land conservation in wild places, and feel that the Lundy operation is consistent with those values, and should be allow to continue to operate. Thank you for your consideration.				
Correspondence ID:	50515	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:28:08				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50516	Project:	33043	Document:	43390

Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:28:25
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50517 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:28:39
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50518 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVE:

A Ten-Year Special Use Permit with Option for Extension; Rehabilitation of Existing Facilities; and Construction of New Processing Facilities

This alternative permits Drakes Bay Oyster Company (DBOC) to continue to utilize onshore facilities within the Seashore (PRNS) pastoral zone to support shellfish cultivation in Drakes Estero pursuant to its leases from the California Department of Fish and Game [CDFG]. DBOC would pay "fair market value" for use of the on-shore facilities, which would take into account the value of interpretive services provided and the investment needed to rehabilitate existing facilities and construct new processing facilities. The rehabilitation and construction work would be as described in the discussion of Alternative D. Under this alternative, DBOC will collaborate with relevant organizations, including but not limited to the NPS, the CDFG, the UC SeaGrant program and other educational and research agencies and in developing interpretive programs and scientifically valid research projects as recommended by the NRC and MMC. This alternative provides educational opportunities for people of all ages, including Seashore visitors, students and researchers, relating to estuarine ecology and mariculture. This alternative is consistent with the "national interest" expressed in President Clinton's May 26, 2000 Executive Order 13158 directing the Departments of Commerce (DOC) and Interior to expand and strengthen the "Nation's system of marine protected areas." It respects the California Fish and Game Commission designation, effective May 2010, of Drakes Estero as a State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA), a protected area in which recreational clam digging and shellfish cultivation pursuant to CDFG leases are permitted. DBOC's operation within a SMCA and PRNS presents a unique opportunity for collaborative research that supports the policies of the National Shellfish Initiative [Initiative] announced by NOAA and DOC in June 2011, and responds directly and positively to NRC and MMC recommendations regarding collaborative efforts to inform adaptive management of Drakes Estero. This alternative supports the goals of the Initiative, which are to increase domestic seafood production, create sustainable jobs and restore marine habitats. It provides opportunities for research as called for by the Initiative, "...on the interactions between shellfish and the environment in terms of climate change, ocean acidification, naturally occurring pathogens and parasites, and other factors . . ." This alternative supports DBOC's efforts to restore native oysters in Drakes Estero and to study the potential for native oysters to withstand the effects of global ocean acidification now beginning to affect all Pacific coast shellfish. This alternative sustainably supports the local economy by continuing to attract thousands of ethnically diverse visitors to West Marin every year and continuing to provide over half of the San Francisco Bay Area's sustainably farmed shellfish. It protects desperately needed affordable housing for farmworkers on remote Point Reyes ranches. Under this alternative, DBOC will continue to provide essential oyster shell for environmental programs, such as the San Francisco Bay Native Oyster Restoration Project, the SF Bay Bird Observatory Snowy Plover Habitat Enhancement Project and the California Department of Fish and Game Least Tern Habitat Enhancement Project. This alternative supports a landscape that is ecologically and economically sustainable. It is consistent with the natural resource management provisions in the PRNS General Management Plan, and enables the Seashore to collaboratively integrate ecosystem science and natural and cultural resource management to better understand and manage relationships among the physical, biological, and cultural elements of a working land and seascape, while maintaining its distinctive "sense of place and character."

Correspondence ID: 50519 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:28:57
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50520 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:29:09
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50521 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:29:21
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50522 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:29:36
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50523 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Hamblin, Colin
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

1. All proposed alternatives put the oyster farm out of business - NPS should create a new alternative that supports oyster farming and maintains the renewal option. While the NEPA process mandates the consideration of a "no-action alternative," there are no alternatives here that qualify as "no-action." Alternative A forces DBOC out of business next year and the other alternatives shut DBOC down in ten years. The draft EIS fails to provide a valid status-quo baseline, which would include a lease with a renewal option. A new set of alternatives must be created that meet the actual criteria for this process.
2. NPS should support a renewable permit. Please support the issuance of a renewable permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company. DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses pursuant to the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases in place since 1934.
3. NPS should adhere to its existing management policies, which support the continuation of the oyster farm. The current NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore, adopted in 1980, supports the continued operation of the oyster farm, as do all of the relevant Marin County planning documents. The draft EIS does not include justification for the decision to overturn the existing General Management Plan and Marin County's planning processes. The failure to address these issues is unacceptable.
4. NPS must consider the environmental benefits of the oyster farm and correct the misrepresentations. PRNS has misrepresented the facts about the environmental benefits of oyster farming. The draft EIS misrepresents those facts again, calling the removal of the oyster farm the "environmentally preferable" alternative. This fails to address the important ecological services provided by oysters, including filtering water. It also fails to address the environmental impacts of replacing a local, sustainable food source with the alternative of importing oysters in order to meet the current demand. The nation currently suffers a \$10 billion seafood deficit; any loss in domestic production correlates to an increase in international imports. Comparisons of the carbon footprint of the existing food source with the replacement food source must be analyzed in the EIS.
5. NPS must fully address the economic impacts of the oyster farm - the draft study fails to provide a complete analysis. The draft EIS mentions that removing the oyster farm would cause "major, long-term, adverse effects to the California shellfish market" but does not provide a complete analysis of these impacts, nor does it include these impacts in the overall analysis. Further, it does not analyze the impacts of eliminating one of the largest employers in West Marin County and the last remaining oyster cannery in California. The EIS must address the economic impacts of eliminating the production of nearly 40% of California's oysters and the subsequent impact on the economy.
6. NPS must fully address the socioeconomic impact of the oyster farm - this draft study section should be reformulated to address impacts on West Marin itself. The discussion of the socioeconomic impact of the alternatives is seriously flawed. Different geographic parameters are used throughout that chapter seemingly at random, switching from Inverness proper, to greater West Marin, to Marin, to multi-county, to statewide, to nationwide. This switching of parameters is used to argue that the job losses caused by shutting down the oyster farm would be minimal. Considered properly, in the context of West Marin, these job losses would be anything but minimal, as DBOC is one of the largest employers in the area. This section should be reformulated and corrected for the EIS.
7. NPS must fully address the historical cultural role of oyster farming in Drakes Estero - the draft study is inadequate. The EIS should assess the cultural impacts of eliminating an institution that has been in operation for generations and that is important to park visitors, local restaurants, and the local foodshed.
8. NPS must properly assess impacts (both actual and potential) on wildlife - the draft study makes claims of harm based on weak or non-existent evidence. The draft EIS claims that removing the oyster farm would benefit harbor seals; that claim is not supported by science. This issue has been reviewed by various agencies and individuals, including the National Academy of Sciences and many prominent scientists, with the conclusion that the impact of the oyster farm on the harbor seals cannot be determined. What is known, however, is that Drakes Estero is currently home to one of the largest harbor seal populations on the

California coast and that the population seems to be stable.

The draft EIS also includes a tremendous amount of discussion about special-status species and concludes that the oyster farm has or could have a negative impact on these species - yet most of the species mentioned in the report don't even exist in the estero (plovers, terns, red-legged frogs, and leatherback turtles). The final EIS should reconsider all wildlife issues and provide a data-based assessment. 9. NPS must address the oyster farm's contributions to local habitat restoration and endangered bird restoration efforts - the draft study ignores these restoration services provided by the oyster farm. The oyster shell byproduct from the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm cannery is a critical resource for re-establishing native oyster beds and for restoring Least Tern and Snowy Plover habitat, both in the San Francisco Bay. The California Least Tern is a U.S. federally listed endangered species and the Snowy Plover is in decline due to habitat loss. These two restoration projects have relied very heavily on the philanthropic contributions of Drakes Bay Oyster Company and it is unlikely these projects would continue if shell were to be sourced out of state. The draft EIS does not address the impacts to wildlife or the environmental issues surrounding the loss of these restoration efforts.

10. NPS must address national aquaculture policies when considering the oyster farm - the draft study does not discuss the various government and private efforts to encourage shellfish aquaculture around the country and around the world. Shellfish aquaculture is widely recognized nationally and globally as having a valuable role in the protection of wild fish resources. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is encouraging aquaculture for this and many other reasons. The EIS should take these policies into account.

Correspondence ID: 50524 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 16:29:55
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50525 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 16:30:12
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50526 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 16:30:25
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50527 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 16:30:41
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50528 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 16:30:57
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50529 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 16:31:14
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50530 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Johnson, Scott
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 16:31:19
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Thank you - Scott Johnson

Correspondence ID: 50531 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:31:30
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50532 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:31:48
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50533 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:32:03
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50534 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:32:19
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50535 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:32:37
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50536 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:32:51
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50537 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:33:08
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50538 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:33:27
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50539 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:33:44
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50540 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A

Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:33:58
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50541 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:34:14
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50542 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:34:29
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50543 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:34:44
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50544 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:35:02
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50545 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:35:20
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50546 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:35:36
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50547 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:35:50
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50548 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:36:03
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50549 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Thedford, Lorrie
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:36:10
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future

generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID:	50550	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:36:20				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50551	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:36:37				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50552	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:36:53				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50553	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:37:07				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50554	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:37:21				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50555	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:37:33				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50556	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:37:48				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50557	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 16:38:01				

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50558 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:38:14
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50559 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:38:32
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50560 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:38:49
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50561 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:39:02
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50562 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:39:36
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50563 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:39:50
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50564 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:40:02
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50565 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:40:17
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50566 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:40:31
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50567 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec,07,2011 16:40:48
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50568 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:41:03
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50569 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:41:18
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50570 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:41:34
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50571 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:41:52
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50572 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:42:07
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50573 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:42:25
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50574 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:42:41
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50575 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:42:56
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50576 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:43:12
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50577 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A

Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:43:24
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50578 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:43:37
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50579 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Murray, Lori
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:50:01
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS

Correspondence ID: 50580 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Kalivoda, Charlene B
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:50:14
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I have over 60 and for over 40 of those years I have been getting oysters from Johnston's. The area is a delight to see and an important part of many lives both in and out of California.

Correspondence ID: 50581 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Moncrief, Angela
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:52:03
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: NPS should support a renewable permit. Please support the issuance of a renewable permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company. DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses pursuant to the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases in place since 1934.

NPS must address the oyster farm's contributions to local habitat restoration and endangered bird restoration efforts - the draft study ignores these restoration services provided by the oyster farm. The oyster shell byproduct from the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm cannery is a critical resource for re-establishing native oyster beds and for restoring Least Tern and Snowy Plover habitat, both in the San Francisco Bay. The California Least Tern is a U.S. federally listed endangered species and the Snowy Plover is in decline due to habitat loss. These two restoration projects have relied very heavily on the philanthropic contributions of Drakes Bay Oyster Company and it is unlikely these projects would continue if shell were to be sourced out of state. The draft EIS does not address the impacts to wildlife or the environmental issues surrounding the loss of these restoration efforts.

Correspondence ID: 50582 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: weber, warren t
Outside Organization: star route farms Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 16:54:34
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS

Correspondence ID: 50583 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Tsang, A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:03:24
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50584 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gray, Douglass C
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:03:49
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS." "I had the pleasure of experiencing Drakes Bay Oyster's operation last fall while visiting family in Mill Valley. The owner was extremely pleasant and provide us with a wealth of knowledge about oyster farming and it's benefits to the environment there. It was great to see the pride she obviously has for the environment that they are operating within. Through her conversation with us, she also exhibited her sense of stewardship for the Drakes Bay area. She also mentioned the many school groups that visit the area and the fact that she enjoys sharing her knowledge and excitement with visitors, whether old or, as in my case, older. We even launched our kayaks there and spent several hours enjoying the afternoon in this quietly spectacular area.

Having spent 28 years as Director of Parks and Forestry for the Town of Plymouth, my observation in this matter is that this business (Drakes Bay Oyster Farm) is exactly the right activity to promote. It appears to be the perfect blend of protection of a vital resource area while promoting an environmentally sustainable business that provides jobs as well as a renewable food source. By granting the lease extension, the National Park Service will be continuing to fulfill its obligation to protect a beautiful, but sensitive area while also continuing to allow the area to be sustainably productive. This is the ultimate goal of stewardship...protection with sustainable productivity. Thank you. Douglass C Gray

Correspondence ID: 50585 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Morres, David
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 17:06:20
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50586 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Bala, Sheree
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 17:06:21
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50587 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Frescoln, Laura
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 17:06:21
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches,

and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50588 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Good, Bruce
Outside Organization: none Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS." Thank you for your attention to this matter. Bruce Good

Correspondence ID: 50589 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 17:19:04
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: There is less than 5% designated wilderness in the United States at this time and with the population reaching 7 billion people this year, this type of space is becoming rarer and rarer. While it is sad that the oyster farm will be displaced, Kevin Lunny had ample opportunity a) not to buy the farm knowing the lease would expire and b) make his money and let the farm go when the lease expired. He also has had plenty of opportunity to move his oyster operation elsewhere. Instead he chose to take advantage of the situation and set up a fight with the park.

In my opinion, the value of having unspoiled land far outweighs the existence of one more oyster farm. This is the crux of the argument. All of the science/psuedoscience debate is not relevant to the discussion and is merely a distraction.

Correspondence ID: 50590 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 17:29:24
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50591 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Dickerson, Ken
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 17:30:42
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."

Correspondence ID: 50592 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Blake, Jane M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 17:32:55
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."

Correspondence ID: 50593 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 17:35:32
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50594 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 17:35:45
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50595 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:35:59
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50596 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:36:16
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50597 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Bumgarner, Stacie
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:36:19
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50598 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:36:29
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50599 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Ashtari, Lauren
Outside Organization: Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:36:36
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I am writing to urge the National Park Service to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year as long-intended. The American public deserves to have the West Coast's only marine wilderness protected for future generations to enjoy. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish spawn. It deserves the highest level of protection as Congress long-intended. As someone who enjoys our nation's spectacular national parks, I urge you to not undermine protections at Drakes Estero and succumb to special interests seeking to commercialize these special places.

I urge the National Park Service and the Department of the Interior to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness and is the environmentally preferred alternative. The NPS is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources, as stated in the Seashore's legislation, and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are for the people and wildlife protection, not commercial exploitation. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other wildlife and plants. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and it is irreplaceable, while oysters can be grown elsewhere.

National Parks and wilderness areas are treasured by the majority of Americans and are for the public interest, not for private commercial exploitation. By protecting wilderness, the National Park Service will set a positive policy example while commercializing it will set a negative example and help others seek their special exemptions from national park laws.

Correspondence ID: 50600 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:36:45

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50601 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:37:02
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50602 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:37:15
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50603 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:37:28
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50604 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:37:46
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50605 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:38:05
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50606 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:38:19
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50607 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:38:31
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50608 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:38:46
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50609 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:39:04
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50610 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec,07,2011 17:39:23
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50611 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:39:37
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50612 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:39:53
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50613 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:40:10
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50614 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:40:22
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50615 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Beatrice, Steven
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:40:35
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

In the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, Congress recognized Drakes Estero as a unique recreational and biological resource and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

Your own draft environmental impact statement reveals the extensive damage that the existing operation has caused to Drakes Estero and Point Reyes National Seashore's beaches. As you know, commercial operations of any kind are not permitted in designated wilderness areas because of such damage. Further, the Park Service's Organic Act mandates protection of park resources and values and strictly limits commercial operations.

Your approval of the proposal to extend the oyster company's permit would be contrary to the Point Reyes Wilderness Act and would establish a dangerous precedent at a time when America's public lands and environmental laws are already under widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

We've been waiting long enough. It is time to allow that permit to expire and to honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Correspondence ID: 50616 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:40:37
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50617 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec,07,2011 17:40:53
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50618 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:41:08
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50619 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:41:26
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50620 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:41:42
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50621 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:41:59
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50622 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:42:15
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50623 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:42:28
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50624 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:42:44
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50625 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:42:57
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50626 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:43:09
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50627 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A

Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:43:24
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50628 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:43:38
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50629 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Bayles, John C
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:43:47
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Dear Sir,

The following says it all:

"The unique environmental protection that Marin County has been able to implement came about as a result of a series of historic agreements forged between farmers and environmentalists and we should respect this balancing of interests and the positive amenities it has created for the local region."

It is the farmers and fisherman who have valued, nurtured and cared for these spaces long before suburbanites, narrow business interest and Washingtonians arrived to "improve" the situation.

Leave the seashore alone, as it is now in a well balanced ecosystem that also provides employment and food. The last two are quite important. Much more.

THank you

JOhn Bayles

ps: I own ocean front property, have a science degree, grew up on ocean and am in the food business (but not seafood).

Correspondence ID: 50630 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:43:55
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50631 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:44:11
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50632 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:44:29
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50633 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:44:46
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50634 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:45:02
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50635 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:45:15
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50636 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:45:29
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50637 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Linney, Joan
Outside Organization: CAFF Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:45:35
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Bay Oyster Company has been willing to change to meet environmental protection goals in the past and are still willing to work toward a collaborative approach. I respect this balancing of interests and the positive amenities it has created for the local region, and that is why:

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

DBOC has been in that location for so long that they have become part of the ecology. It is important to me that NPS consider the environmental benefits of the oyster farm and correct several misrepresentations. PRNS has misrepresented the facts about the environmental benefits of oyster farming. The draft EIS misrepresents those facts again, calling the removal of the oyster farm the "environmentally preferable" alternative. This fails to address the important ecological services provided by oysters, including filtering water. It also fails to address the environmental impacts of replacing a local, sustainable food source with the alternative of importing oysters in order to meet the current demand. The nation currently suffers a \$10 billion seafood deficit; any loss in domestic production correlates to an increase in international imports. Comparisons of the carbon footprint of the existing food source with the replacement food source must be analyzed in the EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50638 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:45:41
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50639 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:45:55
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50640 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:46:10
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50641 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:46:24
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50642 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:46:42
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50643 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:46:54
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50644 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:47:10
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50645 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:47:26
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50646 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:47:39
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50647 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:47:57
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50648 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:48:09
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50649 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:48:25
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50650 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:48:40
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50651 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:48:53
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50652 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:49:09
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50653 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:49:23
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50654 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:49:41
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50655 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:49:54
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50656 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:50:12
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50657 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:50:26
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50658 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:50:39
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50659 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:50:57
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50660 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:51:11
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50661 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:51:25
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID:	50662	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 17:51:43				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50663	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 17:52:00				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50664	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 17:52:14				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50665	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 17:52:32				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50666	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 17:52:48				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50667	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 17:53:06				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50668	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 17:53:20				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50669	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 17:53:36				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50670	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 17:53:50				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50671	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 17:54:03				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				

Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50672 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:54:17
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50673 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:54:32
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50674 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:54:44
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50675 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:54:58
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50676 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:55:12
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50677 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:55:29
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50678 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:55:42
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50679 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:55:54
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50680 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:56:09
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50681 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:56:22

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50682 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:56:40
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50683 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:56:58
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50684 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:57:17
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50685 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:57:30
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50686 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:57:45
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50687 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:57:59
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50688 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:58:12
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50689 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:58:26
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50690 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Noyes, Ingrid E
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 17:58:30
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company. The majority of the people who live here want the oyster farm to stay! We love our park, AND we love the oyster farm (and only oyster cannery in California). The two (park and oyster farm) are NOT mutually exclusive! In fact they benefit each other. Please do not let environmental extremists destroy what is a treasured local resource, and provider of excellent local food, homes, and jobs.

Correspondence ID:	50691	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 17:58:40				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50692	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 17:58:56				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50693	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 17:59:12				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50694	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Peters, Julia				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 17:59:14				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	We in West Marin wish to preserve responsibly managed aquaculture and support Drakes Bay Oyster Company and feel the NPS proposed alternatives will simply shut them down. We support much of the work of NPS and hope that it can direct its efforts to where it is really needed, not in interfering with the responsibly management micro-economic aquaculture of the Point Reyes area.				

None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

Correspondence ID:	50695	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 17:59:29				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50696	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 17:59:41				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50697	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 17:59:58				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50698	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:00:12				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50699	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:00:30				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50700	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:00:44				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50701	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:01:02				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50702	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:01:14				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50703	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:01:32				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50704	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:01:48				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50705	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:02:03				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50706	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:02:21				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50707	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:02:34				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50708	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:02:52				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50709	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Odell, John M				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:03:30				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				

Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50710 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:04:23
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50711 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:04:41
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50712 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:04:57
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50713 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:05:28
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50714 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:05:44
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50715 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:05:56
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50716 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:06:13
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50717 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Cole, Samantha
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:06:22
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish

and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50718 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Cook, Susan
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 18:06:28
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50719 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Frame, George
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations. Oyster farming, no matter how desirable and useful it may be, has no place in a national park, and certainly not in a wilderness area. There should be a methodical plan to relocate the oyster business outside the national park. With wilderness protection, there should also be curtailment or elimination of power boats.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm. Therefore, non-native oysters should be removed from the estuary, to be consistent with National Park Service policies and with Federal Executive Order 13112 to eradicate non-native species and restore indigenous wildlife species.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources. Allowing commercial operations of farming oysters within the national park sets a dangerous precedent for natural resources protection in other national parks throughout the nation.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50720 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 18:06:32
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50721 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 18:06:50

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50722 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:07:08
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50723 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:07:24
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50724 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:07:38
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50725 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:07:54
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50726 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:08:08
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50727 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:08:23
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50728 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:08:42
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50729 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:08:54
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50730 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:09:10
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50731 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec,07,2011 18:09:23
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50732 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:09:36
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50733 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:09:50
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50734 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:10:04
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50735 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:10:18
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50736 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:10:31
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50737 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:10:47
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50738 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:11:04
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50739 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:11:17
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50740 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:11:33
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50741 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A

Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:11:50
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50742 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:12:04
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50743 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:12:18
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50744 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:12:33
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50745 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:12:48
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50746 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:13:06
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50747 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:13:25
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50748 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:13:40
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50749 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:13:57
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50750 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:14:12
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50751 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:14:24
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50752 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: DeLashmutt, Harry A
Outside Organization: Coalition of National Park Service Retirees Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:14:29
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I wish to support Alternative A - not to extend the special use permit beyond its specified term to 2012. This oyster harvesting disrupts the natural bottom ecosystem of the beds and promotes a disturbance that takes months to years to overcome. Any extension will become a dangerous precedent to future requests for extensions and I can see no turning at any juncture. This extension would be clearly in violation of the enabling Act and what the Seashore stands for. Please do not succumb to minority special interests over the critical park values of preservation.

Correspondence ID: 50753 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:14:37
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50754 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:14:51
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50755 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:15:03
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50756 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:15:16
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50757 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:15:28
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50758 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:15:41
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50759 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:15:55
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50760 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec,07,2011 18:16:10
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50761 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:16:25
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50762 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:16:42
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50763 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:16:56
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50764 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:17:13
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50765 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:17:30
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50766 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:17:44
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50767 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:17:57
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50768 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:18:11
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50769 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:18:24
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50770 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A

Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:18:36
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50771 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:18:49
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50772 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:19:01
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50773 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:19:19
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50774 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:19:34
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50775 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:19:48
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50776 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:20:01
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50777 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Warwick, Bradley S
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:20:08
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."

Correspondence ID: 50778 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:20:19
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50779 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:20:37
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50780 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:20:53
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50781 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:21:08
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50782 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:21:25
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50783 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:21:42
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50784 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:21:59
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50785 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Monik-Warwick, Sylvie
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:22:04
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."

Correspondence ID: 50786 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:22:15
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50787 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:22:33
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50788 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:22:46
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50789 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:23:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50790 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:23:16
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50791 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:23:31
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50792 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:23:43
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50793 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:23:57
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50794 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:24:11
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50795 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:24:23
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50796 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:24:42
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50797 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:24:54
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50798 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:25:09
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50799 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:25:27
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID:	50800	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:25:42				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50801	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Fenn, Paul D				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:25:52				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	Tomales Bay needs people and a way of life, not just habitat and summer homes for rich people. Drakes Bay Oyster Company is a critical business for locals to make a living here. None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.				
Correspondence ID:	50802	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:25:55				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50803	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:26:11				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50804	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:26:25				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50805	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:26:44				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50806	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:26:58				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				
Correspondence ID:	50807	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Liechty, Jeffrey S				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:41:12				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	It is important that Point Reyes National Seashore, including Drakes Estero are maintained as Wilderness. The uniqueness of the locale, combined with the sensitivity of marine mammals and other wildlife make it imperative that the National Park Service prioritizes this area as Wilderness, upholding the Marine Mammals Protection Act. NPS can maintain historical ranches and other buildings as a preservation of cultural heritage, but a new Permit should not be given to DBOC. I support Wilderness in Drake's Estero.				
Correspondence ID:	50808	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 18:44:15				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID: 50809 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Graham, BR
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS. thank you very much for your consideration, BR Graham

Correspondence ID: 50810 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:44:44
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50811 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:46:09
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Potential impact on wildlife is not properly assessed.

The dEIS claims that removing the oyster farm would benefit harbor seals; that claim is false. Drakes Estero is currently home to one of the largest harbor seal populations on the California coast and the harbor seal population has remained constant for decades, according to Dr. Sarah Allen's Annual report on Harbor Seals at Drakes Estero.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50812 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:47:16
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company, especially the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

The dEIS includes much discussion about special-status species

It concludes that the oyster farm could potentially negatively impact these species

NONE OF THE SEVEN Endangered species mentioned in the dEIS live in the project area! ' NO Myrtle Silverspot Butterfly live IN project area they make their habitat nearby, but not IN the project area (dEIS pg 187) ' NO Red-legged frogs live in the project area: salt water kills them ' NO Ca Coho Salmon live in project area (dEIS pg 189) ' NO Central Ca Steelhead live in project area (dEIS pg 190) ' NO Leatherback Turtles live in project area (dEIS pg 191) ' NO Western Snowy Plovers live in project area (dEIS pg 192) ' NO Ca Least Terns live in project area (dEIS pg 192) The dEIS fails to provide an accurate assessment of the oyster farm's proven ability to operate without harming wildlife or wildlife habitat.

The final document should reconsider all wildlife issues and provide a data based assessment.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50813 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:47:47
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50814 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:48:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50815 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:48:13
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50816 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:48:18
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Environmental benefits are misrepresented and/or missing.

PRNS has been rebuked for misrepresenting the facts about the environmental benefits of oyster farming yet, the dEIS misrepresents those facts again, calling the removal of the oyster farm the "environmentally preferable" alternative.

The dEIS fails to address the important ecological services provided by oysters, including filtering water and reducing nitrogen in the water. Drakes Estero is one of the most pristine estuaries IN THE COUNTRY DUE TO THE PRESENCE OF THE OYSTERS.

The dEIS fails to address the environmental impacts of the following:

' Replacing a local, sustainable food source with 35,000 pounds of oysters that would have to be flown in from Asia each week to compensate ' Comparisons of the carbon footprint of the existing food source with the replacement food source must be analyzed in the dEIS. ' The dEIS fails to consider world population food needs. o 1960 world population 3 BILLION PEOPLE o 2011 world population 7 BILLION PEOPLE, 2.33 times greater in 51 years I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50817 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:48:31
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50818 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:48:48
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50819 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:49:04
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50820 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:49:20
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Economic impacts are not adequately addressed.

The dEIS states, removing the oyster farm would cause "major, long-term, adverse effects to the California shellfish market" but ' The dEIS does not provide a complete analysis of these MAJOR, LONG-TERM, ADVERSE IMPACTS! ' The dEIS does not include these impacts in the overall analysis. ' The dEIS does not analyze the impacts of eliminating one of the largest employers in West Marin. The dEIS must assess and address the economic impacts of eliminating the production of nearly 40% of California's oysters and the subsequent impact on the economy.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50821 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:49:20
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50822 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:49:33
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50823 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:49:49
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50824 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:50:07
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50825 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:50:21
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50826 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:50:31
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Socioeconomic impacts are not properly addressed furthermore the analysis is flawed.

Geographic parameters used throughout this chapter

' Switch back and forth from Inverness proper, to greater West Marin, to Marin in general, to Multi-County, to Statewide, and even to Nationwide. ' This switching of parameters is used to argue that the job losses would be minimal. Considered properly:

' DBOC is one of the largest employers in the area. ' West Marin is a community isolated 20 miles away from the main population of the county by farms, ranches, open space and parkland therefore, these job losses would be anything but minimal

The analysis presented here is insufficient.

This section should be reformulated and corrected for the dEIS.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50827 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:50:35
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50828 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:50:54
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50829 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:51:12
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50830 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:51:23
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Impacts to local habitat restoration efforts and endangered species are not addressed

' The oyster shell byproduct from the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm cannery is the sole, critical resource for reestablishing native oyster beds, and for restoring CA Least Tern and Western Snowy Plover habitat, in San Francisco Bay. ' The California Least Tern is a U.S. federally listed endangered species ' The Snowy Plover is in decline due to habitat loss. ' If Drakes Bay Oyster farm were shut down, the restoration operations could also be shut down. ' The d EIS does not address the impacts to wildlife or the environmental issues surrounding the loss of these restoration efforts. ' The dEIS should correct these flaws. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50831 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:51:28
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50832 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:51:42
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50833 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:51:56

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50834 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:52:25
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50835 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Babinecz, John
Outside Organization: Wade- Townend Pediatrics Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:52:32
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50836 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:52:44
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50837 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:53:01
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50838 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:53:15
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50839 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Siegal, Andrew
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:53:20
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

In the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, Congress recognized Drakes Estero as a unique recreational and biological resource and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

Your own draft environmental impact statement reveals the extensive damage that the existing operation has caused to Drakes Estero and Point Reyes National Seashore's beaches. As you know, commercial operations of any kind are not permitted in designated wilderness areas because of such damage. Further, the Park Service's Organic Act mandates protection of park resources and values and strictly limits commercial operations.

Your approval of the proposal to extend the oyster company's permit would be contrary to the Point Reyes Wilderness Act and would establish a dangerous precedent at a time when America's public lands and environmental laws are already under widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

We've been waiting long enough. It is time to allow that permit to expire and to honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Correspondence ID: 50840 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:53:34
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50841 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:53:47
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50842 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:53:59
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50843 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:54:13
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50844 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Babinecz, John
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:54:24
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Potential impact on wildlife is not properly assessed.

The dEIS claims that removing the oyster farm would benefit harbor seals; that claim is false. Drakes Estero is currently home to one of the largest harbor seal populations on the California coast and the harbor seal population has remained constant for decades, according to Dr. Sarah Allen's Annual report on Harbor Seals at Drakes Estero.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

Correspondence ID: 50845 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:54:27
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50846 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:54:40
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50847 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:54:55
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50848 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:55:09
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50849 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:55:24
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50850 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:55:37
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50851 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:55:50
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50852 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:56:07
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50853 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:56:25
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50854 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Babinecz, Valerie
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:56:27
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company, especially the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

The dEIS includes much discussion about special-status species

It concludes that the oyster farm could potentially negatively impact these species

NONE OF THE SEVEN Endangered species mentioned in the dEIS live in the project area! ' NO Myrtle Silverspot Butterfly live IN project area they make their habitat nearby, but not IN the project area (dEIS pg 187) ' NO Red-legged frogs live in the project area: salt water kills them ' NO Ca Coho Salmon live in project area (dEIS pg 189) ' NO Central Ca Steelhead live in project area (dEIS pg 190) ' NO Leatherback Turtles live in project area (dEIS pg 191) ' NO Western Snowy Plovers live in project area (dEIS pg 192) ' NO Ca Least Terns live in project area (dEIS pg 192) The dEIS fails to provide an accurate assessment of the oyster farm's proven ability to operate without harming wildlife or wildlife habitat.

The final document should reconsider all wildlife issues and provide a data based assessment.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and

regulatory authority

Correspondence ID: 50855 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:56:42
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50856 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:57:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50857 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:57:14
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50858 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:57:28
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50859 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:57:47
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50860 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:58:02
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50861 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:58:19
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50862 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Blake, Keren A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:58:26
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50863 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:58:37
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50864 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:58:56

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50865 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:59:12
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50866 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:59:30
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50867 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:59:49
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50868 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Babinecz, John
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 18:59:58
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Socioeconomic impacts are not properly addressed furthermore the analysis is flawed.

Geographic parameters used throughout this chapter

' Switch back and forth from Inverness proper, to greater West Marin, to Marin in general, to Multi-County, to Statewide, and even to Nationwide. ' This switching of parameters is used to argue that the job losses would be minimal. Considered properly:

' DBOC is one of the largest employers in the area. ' West Marin is a community isolated 20 miles away from the main population of the county by farms, ranches, open space and parkland therefore, these job losses would be anything but minimal The analysis presented here is insufficient.

This section should be reformulated and corrected for the dEIS.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company I support the Collaborative Management Alternative proposed by Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses under the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases and regulatory authority.

7

Correspondence ID: 50869 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 19:00:04
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50870 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 19:00:19
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50871 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Bosch, Ken

Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 19:06:29
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50872 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: McCarren, Stephanie
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 19:06:40
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50873 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Nicholls, Sara L
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 19:16:11
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I am appalled to hear that the Johnson Oyster company is in jeopardy! It's about the only private thing out there any more, and though I love the parks as much or more than the next person, I can't believe you would prevent a family owned and operated institution, that we have been patronizing for generations to be cut out of reality for yet another park. I believe in keeping the parks so there wont be more building on the ocean and so we can all enjoy it, but when Johnson's is gone, it will take a great part of the fun out of going to the coast. PLEASE STOP WHATEVER LEGISLATION IS PUTTING THIS GOOD OL MOM AND POP IN DANGER!!!! We need our Johnson's like we need our beaches. It's free right to exist should not be in peril.

Correspondence ID: 50874 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Ludlum, Suzanne
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS (as proposed by the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm). Thank you.

Correspondence ID: 50875 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Long, Jan E
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 19:22:31

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I strongly support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

To date there is no science upon which to determine most of the alleged impacts. As well, the EIS has yet to comprehensively assess the economic impact of eliminating the production of 50% of California's oysters.

Having personally known some of the dedicated people residing in West Marin County who worked very hard to bring about a realistic and sustainable collaboration in the region between environmentalists and the families making their livelihoods through agriculture, I know I speak for them when I say that closing down Drakes Bay Oyster Company in the way currently proposed is simply wrong. It flies in the face of all that was so thoughtfully and carefully put into place. I am wondering if it would be worthwhile to bring in a few qualified individuals working for the Nature Conservancy as this organization has done a stellar job over the past five years in successfully creating the sort of collaboration that will probably be a very good fit in this situation.

Correspondence ID: 50876 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Wehrhan, Tobias G
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 19:30:54
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I am writing in regards to the Drakes Bay Oyster Company (DBOC) special use permit and lease renewal on NPS land in West Marin County California. I support of the Collaborative Management Alternative (CBA) as the preferred alternative to the final DBOC SUP EIS.

The CBA alternative permits Drakes Bay Oyster Company (DBOC) to continue to utilize onshore facilities within the Seashore (PRNS) pastoral zone to support shellfish cultivation in Drakes Estero pursuant to its leases from the California Department of Fish and Game [CDFG].

Please note that the DBOC locally produces a sustainable, renewable, ecologically beneficial food source that provides jobs for 30 local workers. The continued presence of DBOC in West Marin is a good thing for the planet and a good thing for the locals and the local economy.

Drakes Estero is one of the most pristine estuarine systems in the nation where eelgrass has doubled and harbor seals find refuge during the pupping season. It is a sanctuary well protected by the oyster operation and its workers.

Thank you for your attention in this important matter.

Sincerely,

Tobias G. Wehrhan 718 Oak Ave. Davis, CA 95616 twehrhan@yahoo.com

Correspondence ID: 50877 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 19:31:31
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company."

Correspondence ID: 50878 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: VASSER, CHRISTOPHER
Outside Organization: Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 19:36:59
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I am writing to urge the National Park Service to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year as long-intended. The American public deserves to have the West Coast's only marine wilderness protected for future generations to enjoy. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish spawn. It deserves the highest level of protection as Congress long-intended. As someone who enjoys our nation's spectacular national parks, I urge you to not undermine protections at Drakes Estero and succumb to special interests seeking to commercialize these special places.

I urge the National Park Service and the Department of the Interior to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness and is the environmentally preferred alternative. The NPS is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources, as stated in the Seashore's legislation, and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are for the people and wildlife protection, not commercial exploitation. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other wildlife and plants. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and it is irreplaceable, while oysters can be grown elsewhere.

National Parks and wilderness areas are treasured by the majority of Americans and are for the public interest, not for private commercial exploitation. By protecting wilderness, the National Park Service will set a positive policy example while commercializing it will set a negative example and help others seek their special exemptions from national park laws.

Correspondence ID: 50879 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Adess, Nancy
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company Special Use Permit are appropriate.

I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50880 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Aquila-Tickler, Angela M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 19:49:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50881 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Hammond, Stacy
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 20:06:45
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50882 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gale, Ali
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 20:06:50
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50883 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Poissant, Barbara
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec,07,2011 20:08:22

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I support the wilderness designation for Drakes Estero within the Point Reyes National Seashore. I urge the National Park Service and Department of the Interior to uphold the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act and select alternative A, which protects this important marine wilderness and is the environmentally preferred alternative.

Drakes Estero is a unique and ecologically significant wildlife area. It is an important stop on the flyway for migrating birds, a refuge and birthplace for harbor seals and a critical native fish nursery. Congress and the public have long intended that Drakes Estero be given the highest federal level of protection as a wilderness area when the commercial oyster lease expires in 2012.

This can only be accomplished by selecting Alternative "A" and ending commercial use of this sensitive wildlife refuge. Alternative A is the most consistent with National Park Service laws and policies. The Park Service's environmental review shows that alternative "A" best protects wildlife and the National Park experience.

Our national parks are for the people and wildlife protection, and wilderness areas with our parks should not prioritize commercial exploitation. The American public deserves to have this unique marine wilderness protected in a natural state for future generations to enjoy.

Drakes Estero is the only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be grown elsewhere.

As someone who enjoys our spectacular national parks, I urge you to not undermine protections at Drakes Estero and succumb to special interests seeking to commercialize these special places.

Correspondence ID:	50884	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Schreiber, Julia				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 00:00:00				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVE: A Ten-Year Special Use Permit with Option for Extension; Rehabilitation of Existing Facilities; and Construction of New Processing Facilities This alternative permits Drakes Bay Oyster Company (DBOC) to continue to utilize onshore facilities within the Seashore (PRNS) pastoral zone to support shellfish cultivation in Drakes Estero pursuant to its leases from the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). DBOC would pay "fair market value" for use of the on-shore facilities, which would take into account the value of interpretive services provided and the investment needed to rehabilitate existing facilities and construct new processing facilities. The rehabilitation and construction work would be as described in the discussion of Alternative D. Under this alternative, DBOC will collaborate with relevant organizations, including but not limited to the NPS, the CDFG, the UC SeaGrant program and other educational and research agencies and in developing interpretive programs and scientifically valid research projects as recommended by the NRC and MMC. This alternative provides educational opportunities for people of all ages, including Seashore visitors, students and researchers, relating to estuarine ecology and mariculture. This alternative is consistent with the "national interest" expressed in President Clinton's May 26, 2000 Executive Order 13158 directing the Departments of Commerce (DOC) and Interior to expand and strengthen the "Nation's system of marine protected areas." It respects the California Fish and Game Commission designation, effective May 2010, of Drakes Estero as a State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA), a protected area in which recreational clam digging and shellfish cultivation pursuant to CDFG leases are permitted. DBOC's operation within a SMCA and PRNS presents a unique opportunity for collaborative research that supports the policies of the National Shellfish Initiative [Initiative] announced by NOAA and DOC in June 2011, and responds directly and positively to NRC and MMC recommendations regarding collaborative efforts to inform adaptive management of Drakes Estero. This alternative supports the goals of the Initiative, which are to increase domestic seafood production, create sustainable jobs and restore marine habitats. It provides opportunities for research as called for by the Initiative, "...on the interactions between shellfish and the environment in terms of climate change, ocean acidification, naturally occurring pathogens and parasites, and other factors . . ." This alternative supports DBOC's efforts to restore native oysters in Drakes Estero and to study the potential for native oysters to withstand the effects of global ocean acidification now beginning to affect all Pacific coast shellfish. This alternative sustainably supports the local economy by continuing to attract thousands of ethnically diverse visitors to West Marin every year and continuing to provide over half of the San Francisco Bay Area's sustainably farmed shellfish. It protects desperately needed affordable housing for farmworkers on remote Point Reyes ranches. Under this alternative, DBOC will continue to provide essential oyster shell for environmental programs, such as the San Francisco Bay Native Oyster Restoration Project, the SF Bay Bird Observatory Snowy Plover Habitat Enhancement Project and the California Department of Fish and Game Least Tern Habitat Enhancement Project. This alternative supports a landscape that is ecologically and economically sustainable. It is consistent with the natural resource management provisions in the PRNS General Management Plan, and enables the Seashore to collaboratively integrate ecosystem science and natural and cultural resource management to better understand and manage relationships among the physical, biological, and cultural elements of a working land and seascape, while maintaining its distinctive "sense of place and character."

2. NPS should support a renewable permit. Please support the issuance of a renewable permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company. DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses pursuant to the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases in place since 1934. 3. NPS should adhere to its existing management policies, which support the continuation of the oyster farm. The current NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore, adopted in 1980, supports the continued operation of the oyster farm, as do all of the relevant Marin County planning documents. The draft EIS does not include justification for the decision to overturn the existing General Management Plan and Marin County's planning processes. The

failure to address these issues is unacceptable. 4. NPS must consider the environmental benefits of the oyster farm and correct the misrepresentations. PRNS has misrepresented the facts about the environmental benefits of oyster farming. The draft EIS misrepresents those facts again, calling the removal of the oyster farm the "environmentally preferable" alternative. This fails to address the important ecological services provided by oysters, including filtering water. It also fails to address the environmental impacts of replacing a local, sustainable food source with the alternative of importing oysters in order to meet the current demand. The nation currently suffers a \$10 billion seafood deficit; any loss in domestic production correlates to an increase in international imports. Comparisons of the carbon footprint of the existing food source with the replacement food source must be analyzed in the EIS.

5. NPS must fully address the economic impacts of the oyster farm - the draft study fails to provide a complete analysis. The draft EIS mentions that removing the oyster farm would cause "major, long-term, adverse effects to the California shellfish market" but does not provide a complete analysis of these impacts, nor does it include these impacts in the overall analysis. Further, it does not analyze the impacts of eliminating one of the largest employers in West Marin County and the last remaining oyster cannery in California. The EIS must address the economic impacts of eliminating the production of nearly 40% of California's oysters and the subsequent impact on the economy.

6. NPS must fully address the socioeconomic impact of the oyster farm - this draft study section should be reformulated to address impacts on West Marin itself. The discussion of the socioeconomic impact of the alternatives is seriously flawed. Different geographic parameters are used throughout that chapter seemingly at random, switching from Inverness proper, to greater West Marin, to Marin, to multi-county, to statewide, to nationwide. This switching of parameters is used to argue that the job losses caused by shutting down the oyster farm would be minimal. Considered properly, in the context of West Marin, these job losses would be anything but minimal, as DBOC is one of the largest employers in the area. This section should be reformulated and corrected for the EIS.

7. NPS must fully address the historical cultural role of oyster farming in Drakes Estero - the draft study is inadequate. The EIS should assess the cultural impacts of eliminating an institution that has been in operation for generations and that is important to park visitors, local restaurants, and the local foodshed.

8. NPS must properly assess impacts (both actual and potential) on wildlife - the draft study makes claims of harm based on weak or non-existent evidence. The draft EIS claims that removing the oyster farm would benefit harbor seals; that claim is not supported by science. This issue has been reviewed by various agencies and individuals, including the National Academy of Sciences and many prominent scientists, with the conclusion that the impact of the oyster farm on the harbor seals cannot be determined. What is known, however, is that Drakes Estero is currently home to one of the largest harbor seal populations on the California coast and that the population seems to be stable.

The draft EIS also includes a tremendous amount of discussion about special-status species and concludes that the oyster farm has or could have a negative impact on these species - yet most of the species mentioned in the report don't even exist in the estero (plovers, terns, red-legged frogs, and leatherback turtles). The final EIS should reconsider all wildlife issues and provide a data-based assessment. 9. NPS must address the oyster farm's contributions to local habitat restoration and endangered bird restoration efforts - the draft study ignores these restoration services provided by the oyster farm. The oyster shell byproduct from the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm cannery is a critical resource for re-establishing native oyster beds and for restoring Least Tern and Snowy Plover habitat, both in the San Francisco Bay. The California Least Tern is a U.S. federally listed endangered species and the Snowy Plover is in decline due to habitat loss. These two restoration projects have relied very heavily on the philanthropic contributions of Drakes Bay Oyster Company and it is unlikely these projects would continue if shell were to be sourced out of state. The draft EIS does not address the impacts to wildlife or the environmental issues surrounding the loss of these restoration efforts. 10. NPS must address national aquaculture policies when considering the oyster farm - the draft study does not discuss the various government and private efforts to encourage shellfish aquaculture around the country and around the world. Shellfish aquaculture is widely recognized nationally and globally as having a valuable role in the protection of wild fish resources. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is encouraging aquaculture for this and many other reasons. The EIS should take these policies into account.

Correspondence ID:	50885	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Boucke, Barbara				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 20:32:56				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I'm commenting on the alternative I consider in the best interests of all of us regarding the Drakes Bay Oyster Company Special Use Permit EIS. I am in favor of selecting Alternative B, issuing a new special use permit for existing facilities and offshore operations for 10 years. I will not give all the pros and cons since they have been aired well especially in the Marin County media. But, what is important to me (as a founder of the Marin Environmental Forum, a past Board member of the Marin Conservation League, a long time Board member of the Yosemite Association and a member and contributor to the PRNS Association) is that we don't forget people. If the estero were to become true wilderness, no hikers and no kayakers - no people - should be allowed there. I live in Stinson Beach - close to the haul out for seals in Bolinas Lagoon. Those guys exist pretty well with Highway One cars whizzing by and kayakers snooping around. The wildlife in the Drakes Bay Estero have it easy. Plus, the oysters filter the run off from the surrounding farms and the Oyster Company provides jobs for 30+ individuals. For goodness sake, what is the harm in extending the lease? I assume the National Park Service will be vigilant in monitoring wildlife and you all will continue to monitor any impact Kayak companies have on disturbing wildlife as you will for the DBOC. Please, let's compromise for all parties (wildlife and humans) and continue a successful, environmentally sound, economically prudent plan that gives back something to everyone including wildlife.				

Correspondence ID: 50886 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Nelson, Eric
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 20:36:14
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."

Correspondence ID: 50887 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Poel, Susan L
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company."

1. All proposed alternatives put the oyster farm out of business - NPS should create a new alternative that supports oyster farming and maintains the renewal option. While the NEPA process mandates the consideration of a "no-action alternative," there are no alternatives here that qualify as "no-action." Alternative A forces DBOC out of business next year and the other alternatives shut DBOC down in ten years. The draft EIS fails to provide a valid status-quo baseline, which would include a lease with a renewal option. A new set of alternatives must be created that meet the actual criteria for this process.

2. NPS should support a renewable permit. Please support the issuance of a renewable permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company. DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses pursuant to the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases in place since 1934.

3. NPS should adhere to its existing management policies, which support the continuation of the oyster farm. The current NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore, adopted in 1980, supports the continued operation of the oyster farm, as do all of the relevant Marin County planning documents. The draft EIS does not include justification for the decision to overturn the existing General Management Plan and Marin County's planning processes. The failure to address these issues is unacceptable.

4. NPS must consider the environmental benefits of the oyster farm and correct the misrepresentations. PRNS has misrepresented the facts about the environmental benefits of oyster farming. The draft EIS misrepresents those facts again, calling the removal of the oyster farm the "environmentally preferable" alternative. This fails to address the important ecological services provided by oysters, including filtering water. It also fails to address the environmental impacts of replacing a local, sustainable food source with the alternative of importing oysters in order to meet the current demand. The nation currently suffers a \$10 billion seafood deficit; any loss in domestic production correlates to an increase in international imports. Comparisons of the carbon footprint of the existing food source with the replacement food source must be analyzed in the EIS.

5. NPS must fully address the economic impacts of the oyster farm - the draft study fails to provide a complete analysis. The draft EIS mentions that removing the oyster farm would cause "major, long-term, adverse effects to the California shellfish market" but does not provide a complete analysis of these impacts, nor does it include these impacts in the overall analysis. Further, it does not analyze the impacts of eliminating one of the largest employers in West Marin County and the last remaining oyster cannery in California. The EIS must address the economic impacts of eliminating the production of nearly 40% of California's oysters and the subsequent impact on the economy.

6. NPS must fully address the socioeconomic impact of the oyster farm - this draft study section should be reformulated to address impacts on West Marin itself. The discussion of the socioeconomic impact of the alternatives is seriously flawed. Different geographic parameters are used throughout that chapter seemingly at random, switching from Inverness proper, to greater West Marin, to Marin, to multi-county, to statewide, to nationwide. This switching of parameters is used to argue that the job losses caused by shutting down the oyster farm would be minimal. Considered properly, in the context of West Marin, these job losses would be anything but minimal, as DBOC is one of the largest employers in the area. This section should be reformulated and corrected for the EIS.

7. NPS must fully address the historical cultural role of oyster farming in Drakes Estero - the draft study is inadequate. The EIS should assess the cultural impacts of eliminating an institution that has been in operation for generations and that is important to park visitors, local restaurants, and the local foodshed.

8. NPS must properly assess impacts (both actual and potential) on wildlife - the draft study makes claims of harm based on weak or non-existent evidence. The draft EIS claims that removing the oyster farm would benefit harbor seals; that claim is not supported by science. This issue has been reviewed by various agencies and individuals, including the National Academy of Sciences and many prominent scientists, with the conclusion that the impact of the oyster farm on the harbor seals cannot be determined. What is known, however, is that Drakes Estero is currently home to one of the largest harbor seal populations on the California coast and that the population seems to be stable.

The draft EIS also includes a tremendous amount of discussion about special-status species and concludes that the oyster farm has or could have a negative impact on these species - yet most of the species mentioned in the report don't even exist in the estero (plovers, terns, red-legged frogs, and leatherback turtles). The final EIS should reconsider all wildlife issues and provide a

data-based assessment.

9. NPS must address the oyster farm's contributions to local habitat restoration and endangered bird restoration efforts - the draft study ignores these restoration services provided by the oyster farm. The oyster shell byproduct from the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm cannery is a critical resource for re-establishing native oyster beds and for restoring Least Tern and Snowy Plover habitat, both in the San Francisco Bay. The California Least Tern is a U.S. federally listed endangered species and the Snowy Plover is in decline due to habitat loss. These two restoration projects have relied very heavily on the philanthropic contributions of Drakes Bay Oyster Company and it is unlikely these projects would continue if shell were to be sourced out of state. The draft EIS does not address the impacts to wildlife or the environmental issues surrounding the loss of these restoration efforts.

10. NPS must address national aquaculture policies when considering the oyster farm - the draft study does not discuss the various government and private efforts to encourage shellfish aquaculture around the country and around the world. Shellfish aquaculture is widely recognized nationally and globally as having a valuable role in the protection of wild fish resources. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is encouraging aquaculture for this and many other reasons. The EIS should take these policies into account.

Correspondence ID:	50888	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 20:40:30				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	We support the permit that allows Drakes Bay Oyster co to continue operating! For many reasons, which includes the job & food it creates! We vacationed there & enjoyed seeing the working farms.				

Correspondence ID:	50889	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Sullivan, Carley R				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 20:45:13				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.				

Correspondence ID:	50890	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	N/A, N/A				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 21:10:10				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.				

Correspondence ID:	50891	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Palmiter, Dick				
Outside Organization:	NRDC Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 21:12:21				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.				

In the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, Congress recognized Drakes Estero as a unique recreational and biological resource and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

Your own draft environmental impact statement reveals the extensive damage that the existing operation has caused to Drakes Estero and Point Reyes National Seashore's beaches. As you know, commercial operations of any kind are not permitted in designated wilderness areas because of such damage. Further, the Park Service's Organic Act mandates protection of park resources and values and strictly limits commercial operations.

Your approval of the proposal to extend the oyster company's permit would be contrary to the Point Reyes Wilderness Act and would establish a dangerous precedent at a time when America's public lands and environmental laws are already under widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

We've been waiting long enough. It is time to allow that permit to expire and to honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Correspondence ID:	50892	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Dworsky, Michael S				
Outside Organization:	Stanford University Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,07,2011 21:19:07				

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: To whom it may concern:

I recently became aware of the upcoming ruling regarding the operating license for DBOC. I have been a frequent hiker and camper at Pt Reyes over the past four years, and I want to report that DBOC operations have never in any way interfered with my appreciation of the majesty of Pt Reyes. Quite to the contrary: a post-hike visit to DBOC for fresh oysters has been the much-anticipated ending of many of my visits to the park. In closing, I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS. Sincerely,

Michael Dworsky Ph.D. Candidate Department of Economics Stanford University

Correspondence ID: 50893 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Rilla, Victoria J
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 21:19:33
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50894 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Boyles, Thomas G
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 21:24:53
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS. Additionally, you appear to be inadvertently distributing a virus called Trojan.Malscript (http://securityresponse.symantec.com/security_response/writeup.jsp?docid=2010-102800-4814-99) through your site. You may want to have someone fix that. Thanks,

Thomas Boyles

Correspondence ID: 50895 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Chevalier, Jamie D
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 21:30:50
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: The local people as well as national environmental organizations have worked hard to forge a management scheme that protects the integrity of the bay as a functioning ecosystem. Please do not disturb this balance. Please help this stand as an example of what is possible if we work together. I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50896 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Stein, Nancy R
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 21:33:07
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the collaborative management alternative to the draft EIS. I am dismayed that the Park has made such an effort to rid themselves of the ranches, and has ignored this unique opportunity to REWARD the Lunny's for their stewardship of Drakes Estero. The FACT that the estero has been farmed for 60 years without pollution should count! In the world we live in, indeed, in the National Park System, these partnerships are rare, and in the coming climate chaos, they are NECESSARY! As a personal friend to Sarah Allen, and Don Neubacher, I do not blame the individuals for this unfortunate and unnecessary fight. I blame the leadership of the park, starting from the top. There has been no incidence of seal disturbance, an increase in eel grass. In fact, the whole incident has made the Park look just as disingenuous and dishonest as the rest of the federal government. PLEASE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO LISTEN TO THOSE WHO WOULD CARE FOR THE ESTERO AND STILL PRODUCE FOOD. I WANT THE REMAINING RANCHES TO STAY!

Correspondence ID: 50897 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Chien-Eriksen, Nancy
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 21:35:03
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company. I support environmental causes, but this oyster company does the job correctly. Political environmentalists may learn from them. Please renew the permit to continue operating."

Correspondence ID: 50898 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Brannan, Nicholas
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 21:36:56
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50899 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name:

davison, Margaret

Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec.07,2011 21:38:03

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence:

Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

In the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, Congress recognized Drakes Estero as a unique recreational and biological resource and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

Your own draft environmental impact statement reveals the extensive damage that the existing operation has caused to Drakes Estero and Point Reyes National Seashore's beaches. As you know, commercial operations of any kind are not permitted in designated wilderness areas because of such damage. Further, the Park Service's Organic Act mandates protection of park resources and values and strictly limits commercial operations.

Your approval of the proposal to extend the oyster company's permit would be contrary to the Point Reyes Wilderness Act and would establish a dangerous precedent at a time when America's public lands and environmental laws are already under widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

We've been waiting long enough. It is time to allow that permit to expire and to honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Correspondence ID: 50900 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name:

Wood, Angela D

Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec.07,2011 21:43:44

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence:

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

My husband and I chose to live where we do because of proximity to the Tomales Bay and its communities. We have visited there for over 40 years, enjoying the protection of nature AND the sympathetic business ventures that encouraged our outings. These businesses may also be the destination of people who may "accidentally" learn of the precious delicacy of natural environments. Just as children learn about subjects which later become their passion and life's work by exposure on a "field trip", adults benefit from the same privilege.

To be viable, certain urban-proximate nature preserves must allow the diversity of nature-sensitive businesses. These areas, then, will NOT be shut down in times of tax shortages, as state parks have been recently. Tomales Bay has been vital for generations with dedicated and passionate inhabitants and visitors alike. If the inhabitants cannot make a living and must move on, the dynamic changes. We would all lose.

We support the Drakes Bay Oyster Company in being secured a renewable permit. Their presence ensures the balance of nature and mankind, continuing the foresight of the Johnson family and providing shellfish aquaculture into the future.

Correspondence ID: 50901 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name:

Cline, Kathy

Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 21:51:37
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

In the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, Congress recognized Drakes Estero as a unique recreational and biological resource and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

Your own draft environmental impact statement reveals the extensive damage that the existing operation has caused to Drakes Estero and Point Reyes National Seashore's beaches. As you know, commercial operations of any kind are not permitted in designated wilderness areas because of such damage. Further, the Park Service's Organic Act mandates protection of park resources and values and strictly limits commercial operations.

Your approval of the proposal to extend the oyster company's permit would be contrary to the Point Reyes Wilderness Act and would establish a dangerous precedent at a time when America's public lands and environmental laws are already under widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

We've been waiting long enough. It is time to allow that permit to expire and to honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Correspondence ID: 50902 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Wood, Earl
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 22:00:13
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

My wife and I chose to live in San Anselmo because of the proximity to the Tomales Bay and its communities. We have visited there for over 40 years (over 50 years in my case!), enjoying the protection of nature AND the sympathetic business ventures that encouraged our outings. These businesses may also be the destination of people who may "accidentally" learn of the precious delicacy of natural environments. They may not visit if they think this is a Nature Theme Park. Just as children learn about subjects which later become their passion and life's work by exposure on a "field trip", adults benefit from the same exposure.

To be viable, certain urban-proximate nature preserves must allow the diversity of nature-sensitive businesses. These areas, then, will NOT be shut down in times of tax shortages, as state and county parks have been recently. Tomales Bay has been vital for generations with dedicated and passionate inhabitants and visitors alike. If the inhabitants cannot make a living in time-honored farming activities and must move out, the dynamic changes. The Nature Theme Park moves in, with gainful employment limited to souvenir sales. We would all lose.

We support the Drakes Bay Oyster Company in being secured a renewable permit. Their presence ensures the balance of nature and mankind, continuing the foresight of the Johnson family and providing shellfish aquaculture into the future.

We appreciate your consideration of our most heartfelt comments.

Correspondence ID: 50903 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Estrada, Suehan
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 22:00:52
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS

Correspondence ID: 50904 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gildersleeve, Stephen J
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 22:03:02
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Bay Oyster Farm is one of the great treasures of the Bay Area. The beneficial effects of oysters to the marine ecosystem is well documented. Any assertion that such a place is environmentally detrimental, in an area surrounded by cattle farms, is ludicrous. Please implement the "Collaborative Management Alternative" as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS. I would seriously consider leaving the Bay Area if Drakes Bay Oyster farm were to be closed as a result of any alternate implementation.

Correspondence ID: 50905 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Fabian, Bob
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 22:04:13
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence:

I'm familiar with the oyster farming in Drakes Bay, I am also a dedicated and life long environmentalist. I do not agree with attempt to shut the farming down. It was grandfathered in and deserves to continue without undue interference.

I say 'undue' because they do not have carte blanche to do as they wish, but as long as they stay within the National Park rules for oyster farming they should be left alone.

Thank you,

Bob Fabian

Correspondence ID: 50906 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Gross, Steven
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 22:06:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence:

Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

In the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, Congress recognized Drakes Estero as a unique recreational and biological resource and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

Your own draft environmental impact statement reveals the extensive damage that the existing operation has caused to Drakes Estero and Point Reyes National Seashore's beaches. As you know, commercial operations of any kind are not permitted in designated wilderness areas because of such damage. Further, the Park Service's Organic Act mandates protection of park resources and values and strictly limits commercial operations.

Your approval of the proposal to extend the oyster company's permit would be contrary to the Point Reyes Wilderness Act and would establish a dangerous precedent at a time when America's public lands and environmental laws are already under widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

We've been waiting long enough. It is time to allow that permit to expire and to honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Correspondence ID: 50907 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: SAULS, SUSAN
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 22:07:04
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence:

Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50908 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Erickson, Janeann
Outside Organization: Erickson Ranch Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec,07,2011 22:10:35
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support adoption of the Collaborative Management Alternative that includes a ten-year Special Use Permit with Option for Extension as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."

Families on the Point have been raising local food products for over a hundred years - long before there was a national park there. We can not have a viable local food system if we start to shut down our local producers. Agriculture needs to remain an important part of the landscape of the national seashore.

Correspondence ID: 50909 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Lanatti, David
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 22:10:38
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative with a ten year special use permit, with an option for extension of the special use permit for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS. I feel the Drakes Bay Oyster Company has been unfairly treated by the Park Service in efforts to close the company. I believe it is a serious mistake to close Drakes Bay Oyster Company, because it is a truly unique food production facility that cannot be replaced. DBOC provides an excellent example of how business can work effectively with the Park Service to maintain a food production facility while protecting the natural environment, and providing employment, educational, and recreational opportunities. The Park Service would benefit from adopting a business-friendly attitude towards aquacultural and agricultural businesses that are good environmental stewards. The Park Service should not engage in taking sides in political or social debate, because that is not what their job is about. The Park Service's job is to maintain the park, and that is all it should be doing.

Correspondence ID: 50910 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Doeppers, James
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 22:11:08
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

In the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, Congress recognized Drakes Estero as a unique recreational and biological resource and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

Your own draft environmental impact statement reveals the extensive damage that the existing operation has caused to Drakes Estero and Point Reyes National Seashore's beaches. As you know, commercial operations of any kind are not permitted in designated wilderness areas because of such damage. Further, the Park Service's Organic Act mandates protection of park resources and values and strictly limits commercial operations.

Your approval of the proposal to extend the oyster company's permit would be contrary to the Point Reyes Wilderness Act and would establish a dangerous precedent at a time when America's public lands and environmental laws are already under widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

We've been waiting long enough. It is time to allow that permit to expire and to honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Correspondence ID: 50911 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Boyer, Kevin
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 22:18:07
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50912 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Pueringer, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 22:19:38
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50913 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Patterson, James
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 22:20:28

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

In the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, Congress recognized Drakes Estero as a unique recreational and biological resource and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

Your own draft environmental impact statement reveals the extensive damage that the existing operation has caused to Drakes Estero and Point Reyes National Seashore's beaches. As you know, commercial operations of any kind are not permitted in designated wilderness areas because of such damage. Further, the Park Service's Organic Act mandates protection of park resources and values and strictly limits commercial operations.

Your approval of the proposal to extend the oyster company's permit would be contrary to the Point Reyes Wilderness Act and would establish a dangerous precedent at a time when America's public lands and environmental laws are already under widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

We've been waiting long enough. It is time to allow that permit to expire and to honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Correspondence ID: 50914 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Marchese, John
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 22:22:28
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

In the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, Congress recognized Drakes Estero as a unique recreational and biological resource and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

Your own draft environmental impact statement reveals the extensive damage that the existing operation has caused to Drakes Estero and Point Reyes National Seashore's beaches. As you know, commercial operations of any kind are not permitted in designated wilderness areas because of such damage. Further, the Park Service's Organic Act mandates protection of park resources and values and strictly limits commercial operations.

Your approval of the proposal to extend the oyster company's permit would be contrary to the Point Reyes Wilderness Act and would establish a dangerous precedent at a time when America's public lands and environmental laws are already under widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

We've been waiting long enough. It is time to allow that permit to expire and to honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Correspondence ID: 50915 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Torres, Sandivel
Outside Organization: Dominican University of California Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 22:24:46
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: In reality, the government does not have the time or money to maintain national parks. In San Rafael, China Camp is a place where people go to enjoy the beautiful views and to re-connect with nature. Unfortunately, soon China Camp will not be open to the public, because the government cannot maintain it. For this reason, I believe that Drakes Bay Oyster Company should be given a chance to renew the lease for shoreline use; at least there is someone looking after the place, they are providing jobs and contributing to the environment. For the company, keeping the beach in a good condition is beneficial, because the beach will attract visitors. According to Alliance for Local Sustainable Agriculture the lease expired in 2010, and it will not be renewed ? this should change. The website: Save the Point Reyes Wilderness says that it is not fair to change the rules now so they (Drakes Bay Oyster Company) can make a profit from a public asset funded by taxpayers. Drakes Bay Oyster Company is not being selfish, they are sharing the land with visitors; their website explains: "Visitors are thrilled to experience the farming and processing operation, witness the history, learn about the estuarine ecosystem and bring home some of the fabulous shellfish grown in these beautiful tidelands." This is what can happen if the oyster farm is stopped: Since no one is maintaining a balance in the amount of oysters that are in the water the oysters will over populate; because oysters are not local, they will not have any predators. When the oysters run out of food, they will die off, and the water will be polluted. Bacteria will reproduce, and use up the oxygen in the water, and there will be a dead zone ? with no living organisms. The Drakes Bay Oyster Farm lease should be renewed because Drakes Bay Oyster Farm is more than 50% of the leased aquaculture in the State of California, provides jobs,

housing, income, and is a significant part of the history and diversity of this thriving agricultural community, produces an environmentally sustainable source of high-quality, locally marketed protein at a fraction of the carbon inputs of an average ranch and is a long-term carbon sink; this is according to Alliance for Local Sustainable Agriculture. Even though there's an oyster farm, people are still welcome to go to Drakes Bay to enjoy the beauty of nature.

Correspondence ID: 50916 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: yesil, magdalena
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 22:26:46

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I feel that Drakes Bay Oyster farm is one of the unique assets of the Point Reyes area. I, my family and friends have enjoyed the area for over 40 years and one of the highlights is Drakes Bay Oyster company. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company and I hope to enjoy their oysters for years to come. Thank you, Magdalena Yesil

Correspondence ID: 50917 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: fisher, stella
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 22:31:57

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: oyster farming is a sustainable, low impact business, and drakes bay oyster company is a local operation which should be supported

western marin county has a heritage of farming and ranching, and we should be doing all we can to encourage sustainable agricultural practices in the county

Correspondence ID: 50918 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: Rilla, Megan
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 22:35:24

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50919 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: Wentling, Martha
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 22:42:40

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

In the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, Congress recognized Drakes Estero as a unique recreational and biological resource and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

Your own draft environmental impact statement reveals the extensive damage that the existing operation has caused to Drakes Estero and Point Reyes National Seashore's beaches. As you know, commercial operations of any kind are not permitted in designated wilderness areas because of such damage. Further, the Park Service's Organic Act mandates protection of park resources and values and strictly limits commercial operations.

Your approval of the proposal to extend the oyster company's permit would be contrary to the Point Reyes Wilderness Act and would establish a dangerous precedent at a time when America's public lands and environmental laws are already under widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

We've been waiting long enough. It is time to allow that permit to expire and to honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Correspondence ID: 50920 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: Lausman-Diedrich, Kim
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 22:44:22

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50921 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Wright, Joe
Outside Organization: Harvard Medical School Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 22:45:57
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I am currently a physician in the Boston area, but grew up and lived for many years as an adult in Northern California and continue to return whenever possible to the Point Reyes area. Point Reyes, and in particular, the Limantour spit, is one of the places I treasure most in the world. I especially love harbor seals, and in particular the colony of seals who haul out in that area. I should also add that I proposed marriage to my now-wife while we were eating oysters at a series of oyster farms in the Point Reyes and Tomales Bay region.

Therefore I have deep personal investments in the question that faces you. In short, I am a member of the public who loves Point Reyes, its harbor seals, and its area's oyster farms in a deep and enduring way. And I see no reason that these three things can not co-exist.

The environmental impact statement essentially assumes that a pre-modern state of wilderness is the preferred state of the landscape in Point Reyes, using a specific generic intent of Congress in favor of wilderness to create a foregone conclusion for what is actually a unique area of the Park Service's territories. Point Reyes is unique in its blend of wilderness and sustainable agriculture. The promotion of sustainable agriculture is an important element of environmental stewardship, and has always been an element of what makes Point Reyes special.

The analysis uses a paucity of data to posit a direct and stable relationship between disturbance by oyster farming activity and decreased mating and pup numbers; and assumes that the absence of oyster farming could not have a negative effect, while using a small amount of data and controlling for very few potential confounders. The report assumes that a larger oyster harvest is directly related to amount of human behavior, and that increases in harvest must therefore be associated with events that disrupt seal reproduction. It does not seem to account for the likelihood that both harvest yields and seal reproduction are doubtlessly affected by many factors unrelated to motorboat routes or disruptions of seal mating events, including variances in channels, water temperature, plant growth, and other ecological conditions that will also affect seals in the area. There is no apparent exploration of the reasonable possibility that shellfish yields and seal populations might be inversely related in this small ecosystem, even in the absence of oyster farmers.

If the oyster farm is replaced by an increased number of campers, hikers or boaters, or alternatively an increased number of coyotes or other predators or disruptive animal species, this is not necessarily good for harbor seals. The report assumes that the absence of oyster farming will represent a kind of harbor seal nirvana when in fact there is no way to predict what that set of conditions will do for harbor seals. Finally, the possibility of the creation and testing of improvements to oyster farming in the area that could benefit seals--for instance, using electric pontoon boats with quieter engines and less wake--is not considered.

I hope you will consider an approach to this issue that allows oyster farming, as well as other sustainable agriculture, in Point Reyes for decades to come.

Sincerely,

Joe Wright, MD Cambridge, Massachusetts

Correspondence ID: 50922 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Livingston, Kerry M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 22:54:32
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I want to add my name to the list of community members opposing the closing of DBOC in 2012. I strongly feel that this document is not a complete study of the many issues involved in shutting down a vibrant, useful, productive and culturally

important establishment in the Pt Reyes Natl Seashore. I feel the park has done a lot of damage to the communities involved by having supposed information evenings where one could not comment on any of the Park's policies. The set up led to skewed data and bad feelings all around. This document adds to the misinformation and only makes for more questions that you are not answering. How can you close down food production in such a time of need. Don't you see the future before us of food shortages? Do you think it is smart to take away so many families' incomes.? Is this consciable? I think not! I think you will be making a big mistake. How are you going to police the kayakers and the disturbances they create? How will you keep the fennel and thistles away ? Please honor the founding of the Park. Pt Reyes national Seashore was meant to be a park that incorporated ranches and other appropriate uses. It is very important for the future of our planet that we make smart decisions about our future. Keeping food production and jobs for people seems pretty basic and very worth fighting for.

Correspondence ID: 50923 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Belsky, Elena
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 22:55:07
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: As a local resident, I have used the PRNS frequently as an individual, field trip guide and elementary school instructor. Overtly commercial activities within the Park boundaries should not be allowed, as they diminish the wilderness experience for the public. We have so few opportunities to have such an experience, any possibility of protecting and enhancing wilderness must be taken. Drake's Estero is unique and extremely important, being the only marine wilderness area left on the West Coast. I strongly support returning the Estero to the public and completing the vision for wilderness designation in 2012.

Correspondence ID: 50924 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Goldsmith, Steve
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 22:59:24
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."

Correspondence ID: 50925 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Matsumoto, Kenneth M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 23:02:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."

Save OUR OYSTERS! Really, the oysters are loved and part of any trip to the area. A long standing tradition. A canary in the coal mine, oysters must have clean water!

Correspondence ID: 50926 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: andrew, andrea
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 23:05:11
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

In the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, Congress recognized Drakes Estero as a unique recreational and biological resource and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

Your own draft environmental impact statement reveals the extensive damage that the existing operation has caused to Drakes Estero and Point Reyes National Seashore's beaches. As you know, commercial operations of any kind are not permitted in designated wilderness areas because of such damage. Further, the Park Service's Organic Act mandates protection of park resources and values and strictly limits commercial operations.

Your approval of the proposal to extend the oyster company's permit would be contrary to the Point Reyes Wilderness Act and would establish a dangerous precedent at a time when America's public lands and environmental laws are already under widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

We've been waiting long enough. It is time to allow that permit to expire and to honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Correspondence ID: 50927 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: jones, stephen c
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 23:06:08
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special use permit for Drake's Bay Oyster Company,

Correspondence ID: 50928 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Jaskot, Susan
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 23:16:11
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Please reconsider and let this family continue their lifelong business that benefits a hard working, well liked family, our country's economy, local residents, tourists & workers who work there. They are not harming the environment. They bring a good local product & enjoyment to our community. Please focus instead on blocking oil drilling along our coast. This is where a real threat lies.

Correspondence ID: 50929 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Herrmann, Heidi B
Outside Organization: Strong Arm Farm Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 23:36:41
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the excellent work the Lunny's do in protecting our shared tidal sanctuary. The Drakes Bay Oyster Farm is unique and I wish for it to be allowed in the State Parks Marine Sanctuary.

I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS. -Heidi Herrmann

Correspondence ID: 50930 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Goodman, Margaret
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 23:37:15
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50931 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Davis, Collin
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 23:39:49
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

In the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, Congress recognized Drakes Estero as a unique recreational and biological resource and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

Your own draft environmental impact statement reveals the extensive damage that the existing operation has caused to Drakes Estero and Point Reyes National Seashore's beaches. As you know, commercial operations of any kind are not permitted in designated wilderness areas because of such damage. Further, the Park Service's Organic Act mandates protection of park resources and values and strictly limits commercial operations.

Your approval of the proposal to extend the oyster company's permit would be contrary to the Point Reyes Wilderness Act and

would establish a dangerous precedent at a time when America's public lands and environmental laws are already under widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

We've been waiting long enough. It is time to allow that permit to expire and to honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Correspondence ID: 50932 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Sanders, William
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 23:40:26
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50933 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Spencer, Hannah
Outside Organization: National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 23:42:08
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year, as long intended. It is in the public interest to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the enjoyment of all. The public has waited nearly four decades for these protections to be implemented, which is an immense compromise in itself. Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish take shelter in eelgrass. As someone who enjoys our nation's national parks and their wildlife, I urge you to uphold the longstanding plan to convert this very special resource to wilderness.

I urge you to select alternative "A", which protects marine wilderness next year and is the Environmentally Preferred Alternative. The National Park Service is mandated to provide maximum protection to the natural resources at Drakes Estero and selecting this alternative is the most consistent with the laws and policies affecting this park. Our national parks are set aside for the public and for wildlife protection, and after waiting nearly 40 years for private commercial use rights to expire, it's time to give the estuary the protection it needs. The environmental review shows that alternative "A" is best for public policy, and best protects harbor seals, fish, birds and other natural resources. Drakes Estero is our only marine wilderness on the West Coast, and is irreplaceable, while oysters can be commercially grown elsewhere.

Please honor the promise made for a protected marine wilderness at Drakes Estero. In doing so, you will set a good policy example and reward the public with an enduring legacy feat found nowhere else on the West Coast.

Correspondence ID: 50934 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: White, J
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.07,2011 23:43:33
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50935 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: O'Neill, Cara
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 23:46:33
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50936 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Battaglia, Alisa
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 23:52:19
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50937 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Wolohan, Sheila A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 23:52:43
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence:

My husband and I have been visiting the Point Reyes Peninsula since the 1950's. I have been a full-time resident of Inverness for almost 10 years, and my husband for nearly four. My father, his parents and their relatives were visitors to this area since the 1920's. I remember what the Point Reyes Peninsula was like before the Point Reyes National Seashore was established. The dairy farms and the oyster operation were an integral part of this place then, as they continue to be today. When it was created, PRNS was envisioned as both a sanctuary and a preserve of this unique environment, where dairy farms, oyster cultivation, and people working the land and the sea have been a way of life. It is from this perspective that I would like to offer the following comments on the draft EIS concerning the future of the Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

My greatest concern is that none of the proposed alternatives in the draft EIS is acceptable, because each one would put the oyster farm out of business. I whole-heartedly support a renewable Special Use Permit for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company. NPS should create a new alternative that supports oyster farming and maintains a renewal option.

A new set of alternatives should be created for the EIS that meet the actual criteria specified in the NEPA process. There are no alternatives in the draft EIS that qualify in fact as "no-action." Alternative A forces DBOC out of business next year and the other alternatives shut DBOC down in ten years. The draft EIS fails to provide a bona fide status-quo alternative, i.e., one which includes a lease with a renewal option. DBOC should be allowed to continue the existing uses pursuant to the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases, which have been in place since 1934.

Additionally, NPS should adhere to its own existing management policies, which support the continuation of the oyster farm. The current NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore adopted in 1980 supports the continued operation of the oyster farm, as do all of the relevant Marin County planning documents. The draft EIS does not include justification for the decision to overturn the existing General Management Plan and Marin County's planning processes.

NPS should also consider the environmental benefits of the oyster farm and correct numerous misrepresentations. PRNS has misrepresented the facts about the environmental benefits of oyster farming several times in the past, and now the draft EIS misrepresents those facts again, calling the removal of the oyster farm the "environmentally preferable" alternative. This fails to address the important ecological function provided by oysters, including filtering the water. It also fails to address the environmental impacts of replacing a local, sustainable food source with the alternative of importing oysters in order to meet the current demand. Any loss in domestic production will most likely lead to an increase in international imports. Comparisons of the carbon footprint of the existing food source with the replacement food source should be analyzed in the EIS.

NPS should also fully address the economic impacts of the oyster farm. The draft EIS does not provide a complete analysis. It states that removing the oyster farm would cause "major, long-term, adverse effects to the California shellfish market" but does not provide a complete analysis of these impacts, nor does it include these impacts in the overall analysis. Further, it does not analyze the impacts of eliminating one of the largest employers in West Marin County and the last remaining oyster cannery in California. The EIS should address the economic impacts of eliminating the production of nearly 40% of California's oysters and the subsequent impact on the economy.

NPS should also fully address the socio-economic impact of the oyster farm. NPS should properly analyze the economic value of the oyster farm in terms of the state, county and local economies. The draft EIS should be reformulated to address impacts on West Marin itself. The discussion of the socio-economic impact of the alternatives has serious flaws. Different geographic parameters are used throughout that chapter, switching from the local town of Inverness, to West Marin, to Marin County as a whole, to statewide and nationwide. Such mixing of parameters is used to argue that the job losses caused by shutting down the oyster farm would be minimal. Considered properly, in the context of West Marin, these job losses would be anything but minimal, as DBOC is one of the largest employers in West Marin. This section of the EIS should be reformulated and corrected. Furthermore, DBOC provides affordable workforce housing and employment for low-income families and individuals—those with the least financial means living in the midst of an affluent region. The oyster farm provides both a living wage and affordable workforce housing for its employees. The oyster farm also makes a significant contribution to the local economy of West Marin, which benefits from the commerce of buying and selling oysters and from the employees who live and spend in the community. And most importantly, the oyster farm provides steady employment and affordable workforce housing for many of the families and individuals who work there. In this era of high unemployment and lack of affordable housing, NPS should acknowledge and support the preservation of existing employment and affordable housing that DBOC provides, in a community we all care deeply about and want to protect and preserve.

NPS should also fully address the historical cultural role of oyster farming in Drakes Estero. The current draft is inadequate. The EIS should assess the cultural impacts of eliminating an institution that has been in operation for generations and that is important to park visitors, local restaurants, and the local community. The EIS should also assess the removal of an activity that reflects the historical and cultural past of the Native American Coastal Miwoks who first harvested oysters in Drakes Estero and piled the shells along the shore. The EIS should assess the impact of removing the last operating oyster cannery in the State. I believe that NPS has failed to adequately analyze the importance of the historic and cultural value of the oyster farm, as well as the interpretive services it provides for visitors to the Park, and the tremendous potential it offers for expanding this service in the future.

NPS should also properly assess impacts on wildlife, both actual and potential. The draft EIS makes claims of harm based on weak or non-existent evidence. It claims that removing the oyster farm would benefit harbor seals. That claim is not supported

by science. This issue has been reviewed by various agencies and individuals, including the National Academy of Sciences and many prominent scientists, with the conclusion that the impact of the oyster farm on the harbor seals cannot be determined. What is known, however, is that Drakes Estero is currently home to one of the largest harbor seal populations on the California coast and that the population seems to be stable. The draft EIS also includes a significant amount of discussion about special-status species and concludes that the oyster farm has or could have a negative impact on these species. However, most of the species mentioned in the report do not inhabit the estero (e.g., plovers, terns, red-legged frogs and leatherback turtles). The final EIS should reconsider all wildlife issues and provide an accurate assessment. Finally, NPS should address the oyster farm's contributions to local habitat restoration and endangered bird restoration efforts. The draft EIS ignores the restoration assistance provided by DBOC. The oyster shell by-product from DBOC is a critical resource for re-establishing native oyster beds and for restoring Least Tern and Snowy Plover habitat in San Francisco Bay. These restoration projects have relied heavily on the contributions of DBOC and it is unlikely they would continue if shell had to be imported from out of state. The draft EIS should address the impacts on wildlife and the environmental issues related to the loss of these restoration efforts.

I strongly support a renewable Special Use Permit for the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm. I urge the NPS to create a new set of alternatives in the EIS that provides for a renewable lease. A renewable Special Use Permit will allow the farm to continue to operate as a living and working example of a sustainable fishery that exemplifies best practices of the industry, interprets the ecology of the Estero to the public, and co-exists in harmony with the Point Reyes National Seashore.

Correspondence ID: 50938 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Eickhoff, Barbara
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 23:55:10
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

In the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, Congress recognized Drakes Estero as a unique recreational and biological resource and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

Your own draft environmental impact statement reveals the extensive damage that the existing operation has caused to Drakes Estero and Point Reyes National Seashore's beaches. As you know, commercial operations of any kind are not permitted in designated wilderness areas because of such damage. Further, the Park Service's Organic Act mandates protection of park resources and values and strictly limits commercial operations.

Your approval of the proposal to extend the oyster company's permit would be contrary to the Point Reyes Wilderness Act and would establish a dangerous precedent at a time when America's public lands and environmental laws are already under widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

We've been waiting long enough. It is time to allow that permit to expire and to honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Correspondence ID: 50939 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Dawason, Danielle c
Outside Organization: Geology Student at Sierra college Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,07,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: It has come to my attention that this really nice farm has come under attack therefore. I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS

thank you

Correspondence ID: 50940 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Wolohan, Sheila A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I have been a full-time resident of West Marin for nearly 10 years. I whole-heartedly support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS, because it would provide for a 10-year Special Use Permit with an option for extension as well as rehabilitation of existing facilities and construction of new processing facilities. I strongly support this Collaborative Management Alternative because it would permit Drakes Bay Oyster Company (DBOC) to continue to utilize onshore facilities within the Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS) pastoral zone to support shellfish cultivation in Drakes Estero pursuant to its leases from the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). DBOC would pay "fair market value" for use of the on-shore facilities, which would take into account the value of interpretive services provided and the investment needed to rehabilitate existing facilities and construct new processing facilities. Under this alternative DBOC will collaborate with relevant organizations, including but not limited to the NPS, the CDFG, the UC SeaGrant program and other educational and research agencies and in developing interpretive programs and scientifically valid research projects as

recommended by the NRC and MMC. This alternative provides educational opportunities for people of all ages, including Seashore visitors, students and researchers, relating to estuarine ecology and mariculture. I firmly endorse this Collaborative Management Alternative because it is consistent with the "national interest" expressed in President Clinton's May 26, 2000 Executive Order 13158 directing the Departments of Commerce (DOC) and Interior to expand and strengthen the "Nation's system of marine protected areas." It respects the California Fish and Game Commission designation, effective May 2010, of Drakes Estero as a State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA), a protected area in which recreational clam digging and shellfish cultivation pursuant to CDFG leases are permitted. DBOC's operation within a SMCA and PRNS presents a unique opportunity for collaborative research that supports the policies of the National Shellfish Initiative [Initiative] announced by NOAA and DOC in June 2011, and responds directly and positively to NRC and MMC recommendations regarding collaborative efforts to inform adaptive management of Drakes Estero. I strongly support this Collaborative Management Alternative because it supports the goals of the Initiative, which are to increase domestic seafood production, create sustainable jobs and restore marine habitats. It provides opportunities for research as called for by the Initiative, "?on the interactions between shellfish and the environment in terms of climate change, ocean acidification, naturally occurring pathogens and parasites, and other factors . . ." This alternative supports DBOC's efforts to restore native oysters in Drakes Estero and to study the potential for native oysters to withstand the effects of global ocean acidification now beginning to affect all Pacific coast shellfish. I wholeheartedly endorse this Collaborative Management Alternative because it supports the local economy by continuing to attract thousands of ethnically diverse visitors to West Marin every year and continuing to provide over half of the San Francisco Bay Area's shellfish, farmed in a sustainable manner. It protects desperately needed affordable housing for its farm workers. Furthermore, under this alternative, DBOC will continue to provide essential oyster shell for environmental programs, such as the San Francisco Bay Native Oyster Restoration Project, the SF Bay Bird Observatory Snowy Plover Habitat Enhancement Project and the California Department of Fish and Game Least Tern Habitat Enhancement Project. I strongly support this Collaborative Management Alternative because it supports a unique landscape that is both ecologically and economically sustainable. It is consistent with the natural resource management provisions in the PRNS General Management Plan, and it enables PRNS to collaboratively integrate ecosystem science and natural and cultural resource management to better understand and manage relationships among the physical, biological, and cultural elements of a working landscape and seascape, while maintaining the Seashore's distinctive "sense of place and character."

Correspondence ID: 50941 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Wolohan, Sheila A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence:

I have been a fulltime resident of West Marin for nearly 10 years. I wholeheartedly endorse the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS, because it would provide for a 10-year Special Use Permit with an option for extension as well as rehabilitation of existing facilities and construction of new processing facilities. I strongly support this Collaborative Management Alternative because it would permit Drakes Bay Oyster Company (DBOC) to continue to utilize onshore facilities within the Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS) pastoral zone to support shellfish cultivation in Drakes Estero pursuant to its leases from the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). DBOC would pay "fair market value" for use of the on-shore facilities, which would take into account the value of interpretive services provided and the investment needed to rehabilitate existing facilities and construct new processing facilities. Under this alternative DBOC will collaborate with relevant organizations, including but not limited to the NPS, the CDFG, the UC SeaGrant program and other educational and research agencies and in developing interpretive programs and scientifically valid research projects as recommended by the NRC and MMC. This alternative provides educational opportunities for people of all ages, including Seashore visitors, students and researchers, relating to estuarine ecology and mariculture. I firmly endorse this Collaborative Management Alternative because it is consistent with the "national interest" expressed in President Clinton's May 26, 2000 Executive Order 13158 directing the Departments of Commerce (DOC) and Interior to expand and strengthen the "Nation's system of marine protected areas." It respects the California Fish and Game Commission designation, effective May 2010, of Drakes Estero as a State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA), a protected area in which recreational clam digging and shellfish cultivation pursuant to CDFG leases are permitted. DBOC's operation within a SMCA and PRNS presents a unique opportunity for collaborative research that supports the policies of the National Shellfish Initiative [Initiative] announced by NOAA and DOC in June 2011, and responds directly and positively to NRC and MMC recommendations regarding collaborative efforts to inform adaptive management of Drakes Estero. I strongly support this Collaborative Management Alternative because it supports the goals of the Initiative, which are to increase domestic seafood production, create sustainable jobs and restore marine habitats. It provides opportunities for research as called for by the Initiative, "?on the interactions between shellfish and the environment in terms of climate change, ocean acidification, naturally occurring pathogens and parasites, and other factors . . ." This alternative supports DBOC's efforts to restore native oysters in Drakes Estero and to study the potential for native oysters to withstand the effects of global ocean acidification now beginning to affect all Pacific coast shellfish. I wholeheartedly endorse this Collaborative Management Alternative because it supports the local economy by continuing to attract thousands of ethnically diverse visitors to West Marin every year and continuing to provide over half of the San Francisco Bay Area's shellfish, farmed in a sustainable manner. It protects desperately needed affordable housing for its farm workers. Furthermore, under this alternative, DBOC will continue to provide essential oyster shell for environmental programs, such as the San Francisco Bay Native Oyster Restoration Project, the SF Bay Bird Observatory Snowy Plover Habitat Enhancement Project and the California Department of Fish and Game Least Tern Habitat Enhancement Project. I strongly support this Collaborative Management Alternative because it supports a unique landscape that is both ecologically and economically sustainable. It is consistent with the natural resource management provisions in the PRNS General Management Plan, and it enables PRNS to collaboratively integrate ecosystem science and natural and cultural resource management to better understand and manage relationships among the physical, biological, and cultural elements of a working landscape and seascape, while maintaining the Seashore's distinctive "sense of place and character."

Correspondence ID: 50942 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Fiday, Norma
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 00:14:05

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

In the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, Congress recognized Drakes Estero as a unique recreational and biological resource and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

Your own draft environmental impact statement reveals the extensive damage that the existing operation has caused to Drakes Estero and Point Reyes National Seashore's beaches. As you know, commercial operations of any kind are not permitted in designated wilderness areas because of such damage. Further, the Park Service's Organic Act mandates protection of park resources and values and strictly limits commercial operations.

Your approval of the proposal to extend the oyster company's permit would be contrary to the Point Reyes Wilderness Act and would establish a dangerous precedent at a time when America's public lands and environmental laws are already under widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

We've been waiting long enough. It is time to allow that permit to expire and to honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Correspondence ID: 50943 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Lux, Sarah E
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 00:14:27
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Please support wilderness for Drakes Estero -- Drakes Bay Oyster Company has got to go. Allowing a commercial business to profit off our wilderness -- that should be protected -- sets an extremely dangerous and slippery slope for our entire country.

Drakes Bay Oyster Company knew full well the terms of their agreement, which has run its due course. The time has come for them and us to honor the terms of the original agreement. With so little wilderness remaining, it is critical we protect this fragile ecosystem -- especially this piece of land, the ONLY marine wilderness on the West Coast that serves also as critical habitat for numerous plant and animal species, including endangered species.

Drakes Bay Oyster Company adversely impacts this ecosystem, and allowing them to remain on these lands adversely impacts our planet -- as well as our responsibility to its inhabitants. Wilderness is for the planet and for the public -- it is for our children. It is not for a for-profit company's personal gain. As their bank accounts fill, they spread plastic debris, damage to this sensitive habitat, and invasive nonnative species around this magnificent and crucial area.

Please, make this Marin resident proud. Let's plan for the future and for the correct path. We are a progressive community that honors the planet and the people. Oysters are optional -- but flourishing ecosystems are not.

Correspondence ID: 50944 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: thompson, sheila
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 00:21:22
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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back.

Correspondence ID: 50945 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Taylor, Anita
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 00:24:44
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50946 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Barth, Don
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 00:30:07
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50947 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Lyn, Jean
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 00:35:42
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID:	50948	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Pfister, Charles				
Outside Organization:	Unaffiliated Individual				
Received:	Dec,08,2011 00:38:07				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	Draft EIS DBOC SUP c/o Superintendent Cicely A. Muldoon Point Reyes National Seashore 1 Bear Valley Road Point Reyes Station, California 94956				

RE: Special Use Permit for commercial oyster operation in Drakes Estero Designated Wilderness- Draft EIS DBOC SUP

Dear Superintendent Muldoon:

I have a M.S. degree in Natural Resource Ecology; have studied shorebirds in Alaska, Massachusetts, North Carolina, and California; and have published a scientific article on human disturbance of migrating shorebirds (Pfister et al. 1992) and other articles and reports on shorebird conservation biology. For over 10 years, the Estero & Sunset Beach trails have been my favorite hike in the Bay Area, where for a few hours I can experience the isolation, changing vistas of the interface of land and water, and the sheer power of nature that is reminiscent of the Arctic.

I strongly support Alternative A, Conversion to Wilderness, so that the Special Use Permit held by DBOC be allowed to expire as originally intended and as understood by the lessee when it entered into an agreement with the NPS in 2005.

In the following portions of these comments I will make miscellaneous comments concerning various aspects of the EIS.

LIMITATIONS TO NRC STUDY

The EIS states that the "main resource" used in the development of the EIS was the NRC study (EIS, 235). Subsequently, however, there is a section entitled "Assumptions" that lists some limitations of the NRC study.

This section should also include the following.

? NRC concluded that the human activities associated with mariculture represent a much more significant threat to wildlife and the environment than the activity of mariculture itself. If this conclusion is accurate, then the tasks agreed upon for the NRC study had an insufficient scope for use in the EIS. For example, one of the four tasks was: "What effects can reasonably be inferred from research conducted in similar ecosystems? (NRC, 114)," the scope of which is far too limiting concerning the issue of human disturbance of wildlife. Almost any disturbance or biological study related to species present in Drake's Estero or any other similar species would be potentially relevant. Disturbance issues are mostly not related to a specific ecosystem but to other factors, such as frequency and type of disturbance, distance from the disturbance, the landform of the habitat, and the biology of the affected species. NPS should try to fill in the scope deficiencies by doing a broader literature review and analysis. The claim that the NRC report allegedly provides an "intensive" review of relevant scientific literature (EIS p. 23) is not true related to a review of relevant studies regarding the impact of human disturbance on birds (and regarding other issues). The section, The Effects of Mariculture on Birds, provides an extremely scant discussion of potential impacts compared to what could be reasonable drawn from relevant literature.

? The NRC study does not conform to Department of the Interior Departmental Manual part 305, chapter 3, "Integrity of Scientific and Scholarly Activities," according to Section 3.3 defining the scope of the regulation to include: ". . . professional conduct and management of scientific and scholarly activities, and the use of scientific and scholarly information, by and on behalf of the Department." Although this regulation apparently was implemented after the NRC study was done, the EIS should nevertheless address the shortcomings of the NRC study per the regulations. The potential violations of the regulations include:

o Lack of transparency of method and sources in drawing conclusions; o Failure to provide information on possible financial interests in the mariculture industry by the study authors to allow evaluation of potential bias or conflict of interest; o Failure to

provide background information on study authors to allow assessing professional qualifications for various sections of the study; o Failure to perform a thorough and professional literature review and analysis in some areas, including the effects of mariculture on birds and on visitor experience, and failing to justify and explain conclusions drawn, including effects on visitor experience; o Emphasis on alleged benefits of mariculture that appear to be trivial, of little significance, or dubious, including: the alleged biogeochemical and filtering benefits; the alleged creation of shorebird roosting and feeding habitat; and the implied ecological or historical importance of oysters as a "keystone" species.

The standards of scientific certainty used by NRC to evaluate past local research in the Estero is at times unrealistic, inappropriate and even bizarre, and NPS must take this into consideration in interpreting NRC "recommendations." NRC states that "there is a lack of strong scientific evidence that shellfish farming has major adverse ecological effects on Drakes Estero?" According to NRC itself in this same report (NRC, 49), no relevant studies that would address the issue of whether short-term disturbance of harbor seals documented in the Estero would have long-term population consequences "have yet been conducted anywhere." The sophistication of the studies needed would have to surpass anything previously done in the history of science, according to the standards apparently required by NRC to constitute "strong scientific proof." NRC criticizes the study by Becker et al. (2009) as "having limited value for understanding long-term trends in seal counts in Drakes Estero" and generally states that disturbance monitoring by NPS "is limited by the lack of critical information on how individual fitness and population consequences may vary with disturbance type" (NRC, 78). Therefore, according to NRC disturbance monitoring "is inadequate for rigorous inferences on the impacts of mariculture on harbor seals." Such a high standard of proof is bizarre to use in this context. It is extremely rare for any study of wild populations of birds or mammals to achieve understanding of individual fitness.

I co-authored a study (Pfister et al. 1992) that has been cited for two decades regarding the need to protect shorebird migration staging areas from human disturbance. This study appears to be similar to Becker et al (2009) in terms of methods, based on the NRC description of it. Documentation of local short-term impacts of disturbance along with a biological understanding of why such impacts may cause long-term population impacts should be sufficient under the cautionary principle to react and protect the species at risk without requiring documentation of long-term population impacts.

NRC claims that previous studies in Drake's Estero of the impact of mariculture on seals have been insufficient to show a cause and effect relationship and that: "Consequently, research that has been conducted within Drakes Estero cannot be used either to directly demonstrate any effects of the oyster farm on harbor seals or to demonstrate the absence of potential effects" (NRC, 47 ? italics added). However, the studies have done what is more important to the NPS decision-making process: they have demonstrated potential effects. Generally that is what field studies do. In very few cases can a field study directly demonstrate a cause-effect relationship or demonstrate the absence of such an effect. Again, the fantasy "gold standard" of such an unreachable level of proof does not help the NPS decision making process. ? By subjecting previous analyses and studies on the impacts of mariculture to such a withering fantasy level-of-proof analysis, NRC is in effect shifting the burden of proof on NPS to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that mariculture has specific impacts before taking any action regarding mariculture. In fact, common sense and the precautionary principle would dictate that the burden should be on DBOC to show that its mariculture operation, legislatively contemplated for removal under PL 94-544 and PL 94-567 and under NPS management policies, does not impair Park resources. NPS must interpret the recommendations of the NRC study in light of the use of inappropriate burden of proof and scientific evidence standards.

INTERPRETATION OF DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENTAL MANUAL PART 305, CHAPTER 3

NPS rejected the use of approximately 250,000 photos of the study area, apparently based on NPS standards for "Integrity of Scientific and Scholarly Activities" (EIS, 295). While I do not have enough information to fully evaluate this decision, the use of the regulation in this case seems to be potentially arbitrary. I would like a more detailed explanation of the application of the standards. In addition I am concerned with the distinction between "primary" and "secondary" sources (EIS, 23).

It seems that the overall goals of the standards are to protect the "integrity" of the use of science rather than to set out specific criteria to filter data. While I am in favor of any attempt to maintain scientific integrity, I caution against the danger of a rigid adherence to the "peer review" standard while missing obvious common sense impacts that have not been specifically studied or are difficult to prove. For example, there is little need to do local studies of the impacts of human disturbance on wildlife when a body of scientific literature suggests general impacts that can be inferred through an assessment of Park resources.

One danger of filtering scientific information using specific standards is that those standards may be applied in a way to exclude or disparage evidence in a biased manner in order to further some viewpoint. The NRC study appears to be a good example of this danger. In this study the overall pro-mariculture bias appears in the application of unrealistically severe standards of scientific proof to evidence of impacts on, for example, seals. The study generally disparages the potential of those impacts by being hyper-critical of local studies, yet champions some fantasy world of an oyster "baseline" ecosystem, in which oyster restoration and oyster education projects would dominate the visitor experience at the Estero -- while there is no proof that an oyster baseline system ever existed or would be desirable for the future.

IMPACTS ? GENERAL ? DBOC BOAT OPERATION

Somewhere in the EIS, the issue of DBOC boat operations vs. recreational boating needs to be discussed. It seems absurd that the Estero can be closed to recreational boating from March 1 to June 30 yet open to DBOC boat operations year round. There needs to be an explanation of why the area is closed to the public for recreation in non-motorized craft yet open to a commercial operation using motorized craft probably with much greater impacts on wildlife and the environment. This state of affairs seems

surreal and needs to be addressed in the EIS.

IMPACTS -- SEALS

The NRC study notes that in Europe buffers of up to 500 to 1,500 meters have been established around seal haul-outs to protect them from disruption by human activities (NRC, 5). However, NRC did not provide a description of the scientific basis used for establishing that range of distances and the possible implications for the issues at hand. The EIS should provide an account of why buffer distances of that range were used in other locations. This range of distances suggests that the 100-yard buffer used in Alternatives B, C, and D would not provide meaningful protection for harbor seals. This possibility needs to be fully evaluated. I suggest that the 100-yard distance such as found in the MMPA is not appropriate for chronic, continuous ongoing disturbance events.

IMPACTS -- BIRDS

I generally agree with the assessment of impacts in the EIS. However, I would like to suggest that for some species of birds at times the impacts of mariculture activity could be "major" rather than "moderate." I also question whether any restrictions on DBOC operations as contemplated in Alternatives B, C, and D could significantly mitigate the impacts for many species.

A review of an annotated bibliography of studies of the impact of human disturbance on waterfowl (Dahlgren and Korschgen 2006) suggests that disturbance by boats would occur at a distance of hundreds of meters. Brant appear to be one of the more disturbance-sensitive species. Waterfowl seem to be more sensitive to disturbance with increasing flock size. I have noted this same phenomenon in shorebirds in various locations suggesting that disturbance from DBOC operations in the Estero could have serious impacts regarding flock structure and therefore lead to various other impacts, possibly creating "major" impacts on affected species.

Significant impacts could occur because of the frequency of DBOC boat operations. Ward et al. (1989) abstracted in Dahlgren and Korschgen 2006) indicated that in a disturbance study area boats were one of the two most severe forms of disturbance of brant and that ten daily disturbances reduced body weight by 4% from the expected departure weight. Disturbance of waterbirds at surprisingly low frequency can result in significant impacts. Goss-Custard et al. (2006) have used models based on an intensively studied population of oystercatchers to estimate that if the birds are disturbed more than between 1.0 and 1.5 times per hour in good feeding conditions or 0.2 to 0.5 times per hour in poor feeding conditions a reduction in fitness would result.

Continuous operation of the onshore DBOC facilities and daily boat operation is likely to create a disturbed zone that may essentially exclude sensitive bird species. Pfister et al (1992) and many other studies have indicated that sensitive bird species may abandon an area rather than attempt to avoid human disturbance. Berger (1977) abstracted in Dahlgren and Korschgen 2006) report that snow geese may avoid an area as large as 20 miles² around an operating drill rig and would not feed any closer than 1.5 miles from a device simulating noise made by a compressor station.

In regard to shorebirds, the NRC study discussed impacts primarily on shorebird feeding behavior, and although the EIS does mention the Estero as having potential value as resting habitat, it should be noted that resting and roosting flocks are often more sensitive to human disturbance than feeding flocks. It should be emphasized that under Alternative A, removal of DBOC facilities and activities would probably provide greater roosting and resting habitat for shorebirds and waterfowl over a large area.

The EIS did not discuss possible situations in which disturbance of birds could be especially intense, such as during northbound spring migration or when a waterfowl species is molting. Actively migrating flocks may be more susceptible to disturbance and more likely to simply leave an area when disturbed. Molting waterfowl may be more sensitive to disturbance with higher energetic costs in avoiding disturbance.

The EIS should engage in a broader literature review of human impacts on waterbirds and include literature from Britain and Northern Europe, where many sophisticated studies in this area have been done that would allow more specific potential impacts to be discussed.

IMPACTS -- VISITOR EXPERIENCE AND RECREATION

Many of the visitors who hike the Estero and Sunset Beach trails are especially seeking a wilderness experience. Few visitors who hike to the end of the trail system are casual hikers. In the winter, the experience from the trails looking out across the brilliant blue Estero teeming with wintering birds, pulsating with the cacophony of their shrieks and calls, with vistas modulated by the shifts of tide and light, is an experience of the majesty, beauty, and sheer force of nature that is to me reminiscent of the Arctic. Such a wilderness experience in the interplay of the Ocean and Land is to my experience unique in the Bay Area and unusual to find in this quality anywhere in the lower 48 states.

To those of us who seek the wilderness experience the impingement on the senses of sight and sound by DBOC activities can be more than just an irritant. The experience of the sight and sound of a motor boat on the surface of a vast Estero complex otherwise devoid of human sign is much like being at a wilderness campground and in the evening having to listen to a loud urban pop music radio station played by your neighbor. Vaske & Donnelly (2007) refer to "no tolerance norms" regarding visitor experience, indicating that for some visitors to natural areas there are basic elements of experience that cannot be

compromised without a qualitative change in experience. Vaske & Donnelly (2007) found evidence of such norms for visitors to a natural area whose experience was qualitatively changed by even one single encounter with negative behaviors associated with off-leash dogs. I do not have a similar reference for a study concerning wilderness values but believe that through my experience it can be said that for those of us seeking wilderness values in the Park, the activities of DBOC threaten "no tolerance" norms of the visitor experience, and I believe that the proportion of such visitors to the Estero is significant.

I believe that the EIS could and should discuss the "no tolerance norms" of visitors seeking wilderness experience and that for a certain group of those visitors the impact of DBOC activities is "major" not "moderate."

THE ROLE OF SCIENTIFIC IN THIS CONTROVERSY

Although I followed the DBOC SUP controversy occasionally in media reports, I had never taken a close look at the NRC study and the issues surrounding the SUP extension until reviewing the NRC study and the draft EIS to make these comments. The EIS and NRC study indicate a number of impacts of DBOC operations, any one of which should be enough to deny extending the SUP:

? 8% of the area of eel grass is either physically removed (1%) or scarred by propellers (7%); ? potential spread of non-native species (tunicates) with potentially serious impacts; ? moderate impacts on seals; ? moderate impacts on birds; ? moderate impacts on visitor experience; ? inappropriate activity in Potential Wilderness Area against non-impairment of Park resources mandate.

I believe some of the resource impacts should be considered potentially "major" rather than moderate.

The benefits to the public of allowing DBOC to operate in a National Park seem slim to non-existent. The economic activity associated with the operation could easily be replaced by and/or transferred to other areas where mariculture is a better fit. NPS could easily satisfy the 2.5% of visitors who are interested in the oyster tradition through some type of educational display at which NPS excels.

There does not appear to be any question what the NPS decision should be after balancing the results in the EIS.

What strikes me about the EIS process is how overall unhelpful the NRC study was and how wasteful were the resources expended for the EIS. DBOC operations clearly do not belong in a National Park Potential Wilderness Area. The scientific issues associated with mariculture were mischaracterized in the media after a biased and misleading NRC study. The EIS, produced by a consulting firm, apparently with no special expertise in the relevant issues or local knowledge of the resources, produced predictable boilerplate material that was not enlightening.

The request to involve the NRC in this controversy was a terrible model for the preservation of integrity in the use of science by NPS. The controversy was not really a scientific one ? it was only claimed to be one by pro-mariculture interests using a standard of plausible deniability to attack all science not in its favor. NPS should not have to engage in sophisticated studies to prove that, for example, short-term disturbance of wildlife is harmful. Such disturbance is codified as prohibited in, for example, MMPA and existing NPS law and policies, such as 36 CFR 2.2(a)(2). NPS should not have to be put in a position to prove to long-term consequences population consequences underlying the assumptions behind such laws. The future studies suggested by NRC to allegedly resolve the scientific issues involved in the pseudo-controversy (NRC, 83) would be a ludicrous waste of resources. It is not in the public interest or in the interest of science to see how far Park resources can be stressed by a harmful activity yet maintain some parameters of acceptability. By the precautionary principle and common sense, the harmful activity should be removed. NPS should be allowed to make a reasonable determination based on a reasonable professional assessment of scientific studies and the totality of circumstances (*Bicycle Trails Council v. Babbitt*, 1994 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 12805 (N.D. Cal. 1994) aff'd 82 F.3d 1445 (9th Cir. 1996)).

Sincerely,

Charles Pfister

REFERENCES

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Vaske, Jerry, & Donnelly, Maureen. 2007. Visitor Tolerances and Standards for Off Leash Dogs at Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks. (HDNRU Report No. 75). Report for Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks. Fort Collins: Colorado State University, Human Dimensions in Natural Resources Unit.

Correspondence ID: 50949 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Meek, June
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 00:42:27
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

In the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, Congress recognized Drakes Estero as a unique recreational and biological resource and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

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We've been waiting long enough. It is time to allow that permit to expire and to honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Correspondence ID: 50950 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: du Bois, Julie
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 00:42:53
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50951 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Meek, June
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 00:44:28
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50952 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Windinwood, Rebecca
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 00:52:50
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50953 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Carson, Sharon
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 00:53:52
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50954 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: Painter, Joanne

Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec,08,2011 00:57:46

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50955 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: beddia, christie

Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec,08,2011 01:01:13

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50956 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390

Name: Henderson, mark

Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

Received: Dec,08,2011 01:02:49

Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50957 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: ROBERTS, GARY R.
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.08,2011 01:05:08
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50958 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Hendricks, Jean
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.08,2011 01:06:51
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50959 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Oneil, Nicci
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.08,2011 01:15:35

Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50960 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: wolfenden, james otha
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 01:22:07
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50961 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Walling, Mike
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 01:29:39
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50962 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Ross, Alene
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 01:31:35
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50963 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Stork, Linda
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 01:50:33
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50964 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Valencour, Sandy
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 01:52:06
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50965 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Spinosa, Barbara
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.08,2011 01:58:45
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50966 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Bahris, Angie
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec.08,2011 02:03:49
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

In the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act, Congress recognized Drakes Estero as a unique recreational and biological resource and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

Your own draft environmental impact statement reveals the extensive damage that the existing operation has caused to Drakes Estero and Point Reyes National Seashore's beaches. As you know, commercial operations of any kind are not permitted in designated wilderness areas because of such damage. Further, the Park Service's Organic Act mandates protection of park resources and values and strictly limits commercial operations.

Your approval of the proposal to extend the oyster company's permit would be contrary to the Point Reyes Wilderness Act and would establish a dangerous precedent at a time when America's public lands and environmental laws are already under

widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

We've been waiting long enough. It is time to allow that permit to expire and to honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Correspondence ID: 50967 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Matkovits, George
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 02:16:59
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50968 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Sandell, Dwight
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 02:21:52
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50969 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Ross, Diana
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 02:22:58
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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and promised that this irreplaceable resource would formally become a wilderness area when non-conforming uses were eliminated. Your agency permitted a commercial oyster company to grow non-native oysters and clams on 1,050 acres in Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

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Correspondence ID: 50970 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Beatty, Stewart
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 02:29:36
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: "I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS."

Correspondence ID: 50971 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Crawford, John
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 02:48:48
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50972 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Crawford, John
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 02:50:02
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50973 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: carmick, suzanne
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 02:58:11
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50974 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Peterson, Sheri
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 03:00:38
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50975 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Williams, Thomas
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 04:02:13
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I've been an Inverness resident,homeowner and business owner since 1975. I share along with most of my neighbors a strong

concern for conservation of the abundant natural and environmental resources that surround us... and value my membership in the Point Reyes National Seashore Association.

I strongly urge you to grant a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

After consideration of all other alternatives proposed in the Draft EIS none seem appropriate or ensures continued operation of the Drakes Bay Oyster Company. I would view a closure of the DBOC as a tragic loss to both our economic and natural environment. It's a unique and historic industry, providing employment, harvesting a wonderful product and attracting park visitors. It's in the public's interest that it should be allowed to continue.

Respectfully,

Thomas Williams

Correspondence ID: 50976 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: frankel, jeff
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 06:16:16
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Correspondence ID: 50977 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Rice, John
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 06:58:03
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50978 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: weiner, paula
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 07:07:49
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50979 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Burton, Ben
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 07:07:56
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

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the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

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Correspondence ID: 50982 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Jones, Rebecca
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 07:51:44
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: NPS must fully address the historical cultural role of oyster farming in Drakes Estero - the draft study is inadequate. The EIS should assess the cultural impacts of eliminating an institution that has been in operation for generations and that is important to park visitors, local restaurants, and the local foodshed.

It would be a great injustice to just shut down a Company that has been part of the landscape and provides a healthy & affordable alternative to other proteins such as beef. We need to keep farming oysters, so as to keep the spices thriving & supporting the eco system. We have to help support our small marine farmer's, just as we have subsidized all the large rancher's and farmer's, not put them out out business.

Correspondence ID: 50984 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Hill, Sally
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 08:07:57
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

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Correspondence ID: 50985 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Merkli, Susan
Outside Organization: NRDC Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 08:11:58
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area. It has outstanding natural resources, including one of California's largest harbor seal colonies and tens of thousands of shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species that use its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds.

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Correspondence ID: 50986 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Munning, Erin M
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 08:15:52
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50987 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Zellner, Chris
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 08:35:25
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

The NPS should explore all possible alternatives to respect and retain legacy use permits whether in Tomales Bay, Jackson Hole or any other existing private use of NPS controlled land.

Respectfully submitted. Chris Zellner

Correspondence ID: 50988 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Brownworth, Aimee
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 08:40:13
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

Correspondence ID: 50989 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Christensen, Tennille
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 08:41:36
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I've taken several trips to this part of California for the privilege of eating raw oysters at the bay. It's always an enjoyable experience and visitors are often impressed with the wild landscapes on the drive as San Francisco slowly blends into the North Bay and then the parks.

To prohibit oyster farming would definitely deny people one of the best stereotypical Northern Californian experiences available.

Correspondence ID: 50990 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Smith, Leigh A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 09:07:15
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: Alternative A-conversion to wilderness, No Action. Do the right thing. This is a national treasure, not a national shellfish farm. The incredible natural potential of the Estero needs to be realized, and it all starts with non-renewal. Then removal. Then the healing hand of nature. Ask yourselves, "What would John Muir say?" Ask yourself, "What would the Miwoks say?" Let us not be remembered for caving in to the craven will of politicians-let us be known for bold action in defense of natural systems.

Alternative A is the best and only choice. Thanks for the opportunity to comment and good luck.

Correspondence ID: 50991 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: N/A, N/A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company and the Collaborative Management Alternative.

Correspondence ID: 50992 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Hess, Robert A
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 09:24:15
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: None of the proposed alternatives are appropriate. I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

It's quite hypocritical to allow cattle ranches that surround the oyster farm and on the other hand, target an entity that has to have a clean environment to function.

Correspondence ID: 50994 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: mart, alan
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 09:28:55
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: The collaborative management option seems to be the best alternative. It involves all stakeholders in managing this special ecosystem.

Correspondence ID: 50995 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: O'DEA, GAIL
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support this Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

DRAKES BAY OYSTER COMPANY SPECIAL USE PERMIT: Collaborative Management Alternative The Alliance for Local Sustainable Agriculture will submit the following proposed alternative to the National Park Service (NPS) with the recommendation that it be incorporated into and adopted as the "Preferred Alternative" in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on a Proposed Special Use Permit (SUP) for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company (DBOC). In 2009 Congress authorized the Secretary of the Interior to grant DBOC a SUP with the same terms and conditions as the Reservation of Use and Occupancy that expires in 2012, modified to take into consideration "recommendations of the National Academy of Sciences [NAS] Report pertaining to shellfish mariculture in Point Reyes National Seashore." The National Research Council (NRC) of the NAS found a lack of scientific evidence that shellfish cultivation has adverse effects on Drakes Estero. It proposed establishment of a "mariculture interpretive center" that would include exhibits on the ecology of the Estero, including its shellfish mariculture. Members of the Marine Mammal Commission (MMC) Panel convened in February 2010 to study the impact of shellfish cultivation in Drakes Estero encouraged a "collaborative and adaptive approach" to resolving questions about potential impacts of shellfish cultivation. The 2011 MMC report recommended development of a collaborative adaptive management approach to management of shellfish mariculture in the Estero. Members of the public who wish to show their support for this collaborative alternative are encouraged to submit comments to the NPS to urge adoption of the "Collaborative Management Alternative" as the "preferred alternative" in the final EIS. COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVE: A Ten-Year Special Use Permit with Option for Extension; Rehabilitation of Existing Facilities; and Construction of New Processing Facilities This alternative permits DBOC to continue to utilize onshore facilities within the Seashore (PRNS) pastoral zone to support shellfish cultivation in Drakes Estero pursuant to its leases from the California Department of Fish and Game [CDFG]. DBOC would pay "fair market value" for use of the on-shore facilities, which would take into account the value of interpretive services provided and the investment needed to rehabilitate existing facilities and construct new processing facilities. The rehabilitation and construction work would be as described in the discussion of Alternative D. Under this alternative, DBOC will collaborate with relevant organizations, including but not limited to the NPS, the CDFG, the UC SeaGrant program and other educational and research agencies and in developing interpretive programs and scientifically valid research projects as recommended by the NRC and MMC. This alternative provides educational opportunities for people of all ages, including Seashore visitors, students and researchers, relating to estuarine ecology and mariculture. This alternative is consistent with the "national interest" expressed in President Clinton's May 26, 2000 Executive Order 13158 directing the Departments of Commerce (DOC) and Interior to expand and strengthen the "Nation's system of marine protected areas." It respects the California Fish and Game Commission designation, effective May 2010, of Drakes Estero as a State Marine Conservation Area (SMCA), a protected area in which recreational clam digging and shellfish cultivation pursuant to CDFG leases are permitted. DBOC's operation within a SMCA and PRNS presents a unique opportunity for collaborative research that supports the policies of the National Shellfish Initiative [Initiative] announced by NOAA and DOC in June 2011, and responds directly and positively to NRC and MMC recommendations regarding collaborative efforts to inform adaptive management of Drakes Estero. This alternative supports the goals of the Initiative, which are to increase domestic seafood production, create sustainable jobs and restore marine habitats. It provides opportunities for research as called for by the Initiative, "...on the interactions between shellfish and the environment in terms of climate change, ocean acidification, naturally occurring pathogens and parasites, and other factors . . ." This alternative supports DBOC's efforts to restore native oysters in Drakes Estero and to study the potential for native oysters to withstand the effects of global ocean acidification now beginning to affect all Pacific coast shellfish. This alternative sustainably supports the local economy by continuing to attract thousands of ethnically diverse visitors to West Marin every year and continuing to provide over half of the San Francisco Bay Area's sustainably farmed shellfish. It protects desperately needed affordable housing for farmworkers on remote Point Reyes ranches. Under this alternative, DBOC will continue to provide essential oyster shell for environmental programs, such as the San Francisco Bay Native Oyster Restoration Project, the SF Bay Bird Observatory Snowy Plover Habitat Enhancement Project and the California Department of Fish and Game Least Tern Habitat Enhancement Project. This alternative supports a landscape that is ecologically and economically sustainable. It is consistent with the natural resource management provisions in the PRNS General Management Plan, and enables the Seashore to collaboratively integrate ecosystem science and natural and cultural resource management to better understand and manage relationships among the physical, biological, and cultural elements of a working land and seascape, while maintaining its distinctive "sense of place and character." - Alliance for Local Sustainable Agriculture

Correspondence ID: 50996 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Allen, April I
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form

Correspondence: I support the COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVE as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS .
Thank you . April Allen

Correspondence ID: 50997 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Bush, Kim
Outside Organization: National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 09:38:30
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence:

Drakes Estero is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore and a treasure that belongs to all Americans. In 1976, Congress promised that the Estero would receive full wilderness protection when the current lease for commercial oyster operations expires in 2012. I urge the Park Service to honor the wilderness promise and protect Drakes Estero for future generations.

Drakes Estero is home to 20 percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California and is used by tens of thousands of shorebirds and waterfowl and dozens of species of native fish. Your draft environmental impact statement makes clear that the existing commercial oyster operation is causing extensive damage to Drakes Estero and the Seashore's beaches, and that allowing these operations to continue would cause even more long-term harm.

Your environmental review also shows that alternative "A"--no new permit for commercial oyster operations and protection of the Estero as full wilderness--is the environmentally preferred alternative and the one that best protects harbor seals, birds, fish and other natural resources.

I urge you to return Drakes Estero to all Americans by selecting alternative "A" and ensuring full wilderness protection for Drakes Estero in 2012. It is time to protect Drakes Estero as Congress intended and to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the benefit of people and wildlife.

Correspondence ID: 50998 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Ram, Keren
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the Collaborative Management Alternative as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

In addition,

NPS should support a renewable permit. Please support the issuance of a renewable permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company. DBOC must be allowed to continue the existing uses pursuant to the existing California Department of Fish and Game leases in place since 1934.

NPS should adhere to its existing management policies, which support the continuation of the oyster farm. The current NPS General Management Plan for Point Reyes National Seashore, adopted in 1980, supports the continued operation of the oyster farm, as do all of the relevant Marin County planning documents. The draft EIS does not include justification for the decision to overturn the existing General Management Plan and Marin County's planning processes. The failure to address these issues is unacceptable.

NPS must consider the environmental benefits of the oyster farm and correct the misrepresentations. PRNS has misrepresented the facts about the environmental benefits of oyster farming. The draft EIS misrepresents those facts again, calling the removal of the oyster farm the "environmentally preferable" alternative. This fails to address the important ecological services provided by oysters, including filtering water. It also fails to address the environmental impacts of replacing a local, sustainable food source with the alternative of importing oysters in order to meet the current demand. The nation currently suffers a \$10 billion seafood deficit; any loss in domestic production correlates to an increase in international imports. Comparisons of the carbon footprint of the existing food source with the replacement food source must be analyzed in the EIS.

NPS must fully address the economic impacts of the oyster farm - the draft study fails to provide a complete analysis. The draft EIS mentions that removing the oyster farm would cause "major, long-term, adverse effects to the California shellfish market" but does not provide a complete analysis of these impacts, nor does it include these impacts in the overall analysis. Further, it does not analyze the impacts of eliminating one of the largest employers in West Marin County and the last remaining oyster cannery in California. The EIS must address the economic impacts of eliminating the production of nearly 40% of California's oysters and the subsequent impact on the economy.

NPS must fully address the socioeconomic impact of the oyster farm - this draft study section should be reformulated to address impacts on West Marin itself. The discussion of the socioeconomic impact of the alternatives is seriously flawed. Different geographic parameters are used throughout that chapter seemingly at random, switching from Inverness proper, to greater West Marin, to Marin, to multi-county, to statewide, to nationwide. This switching of parameters is used to argue that the job losses caused by shutting down the oyster farm would be minimal. Considered properly, in the context of West Marin, these job losses would be anything but minimal, as DBOC is one of the largest employers in the area. This section should be reformulated and

corrected for the EIS.

NPS must fully address the historical cultural role of oyster farming in Drakes Estero - the draft study is inadequate. The EIS should assess the cultural impacts of eliminating an institution that has been in operation for generations and that is important to park visitors, local restaurants, and the local foodshed.

NPS must properly assess impacts (both actual and potential) on wildlife - the draft study makes claims of harm based on weak or non-existent evidence. The draft EIS claims that removing the oyster farm would benefit harbor seals; that claim is not supported by science. This issue has been reviewed by various agencies and individuals, including the National Academy of Sciences and many prominent scientists, with the conclusion that the impact of the oyster farm on the harbor seals cannot be determined. What is known, however, is that Drakes Estero is currently home to one of the largest harbor seal populations on the California coast and that the population seems to be stable.

The draft EIS also includes a tremendous amount of discussion about special-status species and concludes that the oyster farm has or could have a negative impact on these species - yet most of the species mentioned in the report don't even exist in the estero (plovers, terns, red-legged frogs, and leatherback turtles). The final EIS should reconsider all wildlife issues and provide a data-based assessment.

NPS must address the oyster farm's contributions to local habitat restoration and endangered bird restoration efforts - the draft study ignores these restoration services provided by the oyster farm. The oyster shell byproduct from the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm cannery is a critical resource for re-establishing native oyster beds and for restoring Least Tern and Snowy Plover habitat, both in the San Francisco Bay. The California Least Tern is a U.S. federally listed endangered species and the Snowy Plover is in decline due to habitat loss. These two restoration projects have relied very heavily on the philanthropic contributions of Drakes Bay Oyster Company and it is unlikely these projects would continue if shell were to be sourced out of state. The draft EIS does not address the impacts to wildlife or the environmental issues surrounding the loss of these restoration efforts.

NPS must address national aquaculture policies when considering the oyster farm - the draft study does not discuss the various government and private efforts to encourage shellfish aquaculture around the country and around the world. Shellfish aquaculture is widely recognized nationally and globally as having a valuable role in the protection of wild fish resources. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is encouraging aquaculture for this and many other reasons. The EIS should take these policies into account.
