

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION IX  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

December 5, 2011

Ms. Cicely A. Muldoon, Superintendent  
National Park Service  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
1 Bear Valley Road  
Point Reyes Station, California 94956

Subject: Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company Special Use Permit in Point Reyes National Seashore, Marin County, California (CEQ#20110328)

Dear Ms. Muldoon:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the above action. Our review is pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and our NEPA review authority under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

The Draft EIS analyzes four alternatives for issuance of a special-use permit for a commercial oyster operation in Drakes Estero in Point Reyes National Seashore. The intent of the EIS is to assist the National Park Service (NPS) in evaluating the environmental impacts of considering expiration or issuance of the special-permit. NPS has not identified a preferred alternative. EPA has rated all the alternatives in the Draft EIS as Lack of Objections (LO) (see enclosed "*Summary of Rating Definitions*").

We appreciate the opportunity to review this Draft EIS. When the Final EIS is released for public review, please send one hard copy and one CD to the address above (mail code: CED-2). Should you have any questions regarding our comments, please contact me at (415) 972-3521, or contact Stephanie Skophammer, the lead reviewer for the project. Stephanie can be reached at (415) 972-3098 or [skophammer.stephanie@epa.gov](mailto:skophammer.stephanie@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

/s/

Kathleen Martyn Goforth, Manager  
Environmental Review Office  
Communities and Ecosystems Division

Enclosures: Summary of Rating Definitions

Cc: Brannon Ketcham, Point Reyes National Seashore  
Melissa Stedeford, Project Manager

Kirsten Ramey, CA Dept of Fish and Game, via email  
Bryan Matsumoto, US Army Corp of Engineers via email  
Diane Windham, National Marine Fisheries Service via email