

Received: Dec,08,2011 15:13:23
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: 51095 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Engelkes, Lyn
Outside Organization: resident Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 15:15:08
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: 51101 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Prescott, Tanya L
Outside Organization: Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 15:30:52
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: 51102 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: mcdonald, margie
Outside Organization: marin organic Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 00:00:00
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support adoption of the collaborative management that includes a special ten year use permit with option for extension as the preferred alternative in the final DBOC SUP EIS.

margie mcdonald

Correspondence ID: 51103 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Bava, Philip
Outside Organization: Caff Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 15:34:57
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: I support the CMA alternative!

Correspondence ID: 51105 **Project:** 33043 **Document:** 43390
Name: Manarik, Laurie
Outside Organization: Point Reyes Outdoors Unaffiliated Individual
Received: Dec,08,2011 15:45:42
Correspondence Type: Web Form
Correspondence: As the three largest and longest operating local kayaking companies, that consistently provide the majority of kayaking tours on Drakes Estero, we feel it important to provide a statement of our experiences of Drakes Estero and Drakes Bay Oyster Company. Between our 3 companies we operate at least 85% of the public kayaking tours on Drakes Estero. We feel the paragraph below misrepresents the wilderness experience that we have consistently encountered over the years and that we have been misrepresented within this section of the impact statement.

During our many kayak outings on the estero, the "soundscape" of the wilderness area has not been impacted by the noise of the farm. The use of power tools can be heard while one is on shore preparing to launch, but the noise quickly fades after leaving the shore in Schooner Bay paddling toward the potential wilderness area. While kayaking on Home Bay and Creamery Bay, any noise of farm operation is undetectable. Over many years of operating tours on the estero, we have never had guides or clients comment on the pneumatic drills negatively impacting their experience while kayaking or hiking within the estero.

Oyster boats are rarely seen in action and if we do encounter boats, they are always very respectful of our presence, making sure

not to disturb us or wildlife in any way. "I have been guiding on the estero for four years and only once have I encountered a motor boat. And it was on purpose. Kevin Lunny was meeting our group at the oyster beds to discuss the history of aquaculture, and his oyster farming techniques." Tressa Bronner, Point Reyes Outdoors

We feel that the above section of the DEIS does not accurately represent our experience of Drakes Estero or Drakes Bay Oyster Company and infers that we have stated these complaints to the park or others when we have not. Nor have we been contacted directly by the park for feedback on our experiences concerning either Drakes Estero or Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Below you will find comments from the owners of the individual companies that collectively signed the above statement.

Thank you.

Laurie Manarik, Mike Rudolph, Tressa Bronner - Point Reyes Outdoors Bob Licht, Steve Hayward - Sea Trek Kayaking Center John Granatir, Pamalah MacNeily - Blue Waters Kayaking

Point Reyes Outdoors Individual Statement: I have kayaked and hiked Drakes Estero personally and professionally since 1992 and have never been disappointed with the wilderness experience. The launching experience however, has been much improved since the Lunny family took over operation of the Oyster Farm. Not only have they cleaned and improved the physical location but they offer an educational and historical component that enhances our client's experience of the area. Their willingness to share information on sustainable aquaculture and its history in the area has been a terrific addition to tours for school groups and scout troops.

Having the DBOC operation means there is an emergency phone and boats within the estero and accessible to us which provides a welcome level of comfort, knowing help is available in an area that is hard for rescue operations to get to quickly. While this is not a component of wilderness, their generous assistance did help us get a client who was having trouble breathing back to shore quickly and without incident.

- Laurie Manarik, Owner Point Reyes Outdoors ? Point Reyes Station www.pointreyesoutdoors.com (415)663-8192

Sea Trek Company Statement:

I have always felt that the Oyster Company adds rather than distracts from the paddling experience. It is rare that people get to see an environmentally conscious operation and they like to find out the story of how oysters are grown. It is similar to MALT taking people on educational tours of the Strauss Dairy. We have never heard any complaints from our clients about the noise or distraction of motorboats. The expectation is that one is entering a working Bay which only adds to the experience and we still see the requisite amount of wildlife, seals and waterfowl. We haven't noticed that they are disturbed by the operation.

Bob Licht/Owner - Sea Trek Kayak and Paddleboard Center www.seatrek.com (415) 332-8494

Blue Waters Kayaking Company Statement:

We at Blue Waters Kayaking feel that the presence of Drake's Oyster Farm has not been of any detriment to Blue Waters Kayaking or any of our clients. On the contrary, we feel that it has positive cultural and historical significance, is of economic importance to the local community, is a significant example of benign, non-harmful aquaculture, is a safety resource for recreation users, and is in general a model and well run company that should have the option of continued presence on Drake's Estero. We do not feel that the "wilderness" aspect of the Estero is compromised by the presence of the Oyster farm.

John Granatir, Owner - Blue Waters Kayaking www.bwkayak.com 415-669-2600

Correspondence ID:	51106	Project:	33043	Document:	43390
Name:	Granatir, John				
Outside Organization:	Blue Waters Kayaking Business				
Received:	Dec,08,2011 00:00:00				
Correspondence Type:	Web Form				
Correspondence:	We at Blue Waters Kayaking feel that the presence of Drake's Oyster Farm has not been of any detriment to Blue Waters Kayaking or any of our clients. On the contrary, we feel that it has positive cultural and historical significance, is of economic importance to the local community, is a significant example of benign, non-harmful aquaculture, is a safety resource for recreation users, and is in general a model and well run company that should have the option of continued presence on Drake's Estero. We do not feel that the "wilderness" aspect of the Estero is compromised by the presence of the Oyster farm, which issue shall be addressed below. We have been running trips to Drake's Estero for over 10 years. It is our opinion that neither Drakes Oyster Farm or Johnson's Oyster Farm detracted from our customer's experience. In fact, the oyster farm, along with the surrounding ranches, has become an organic part of the PRNS. As a local company, our vision is PRNS working co-operatively with locals. We see us all as part of a team to help preserve, protect and promote this amazing place we all live in. We would like to see PRNS be a model for how locals, and business and the environment can co-exist. To make our position clear: we do not believe that the departure of Drakes Oyster Farm will enhance or improve the experience of recreational use of Drake's Estero. We are ardent environmentalists, and we really don't see the point of removing Drake's Estero. The argument that this is				