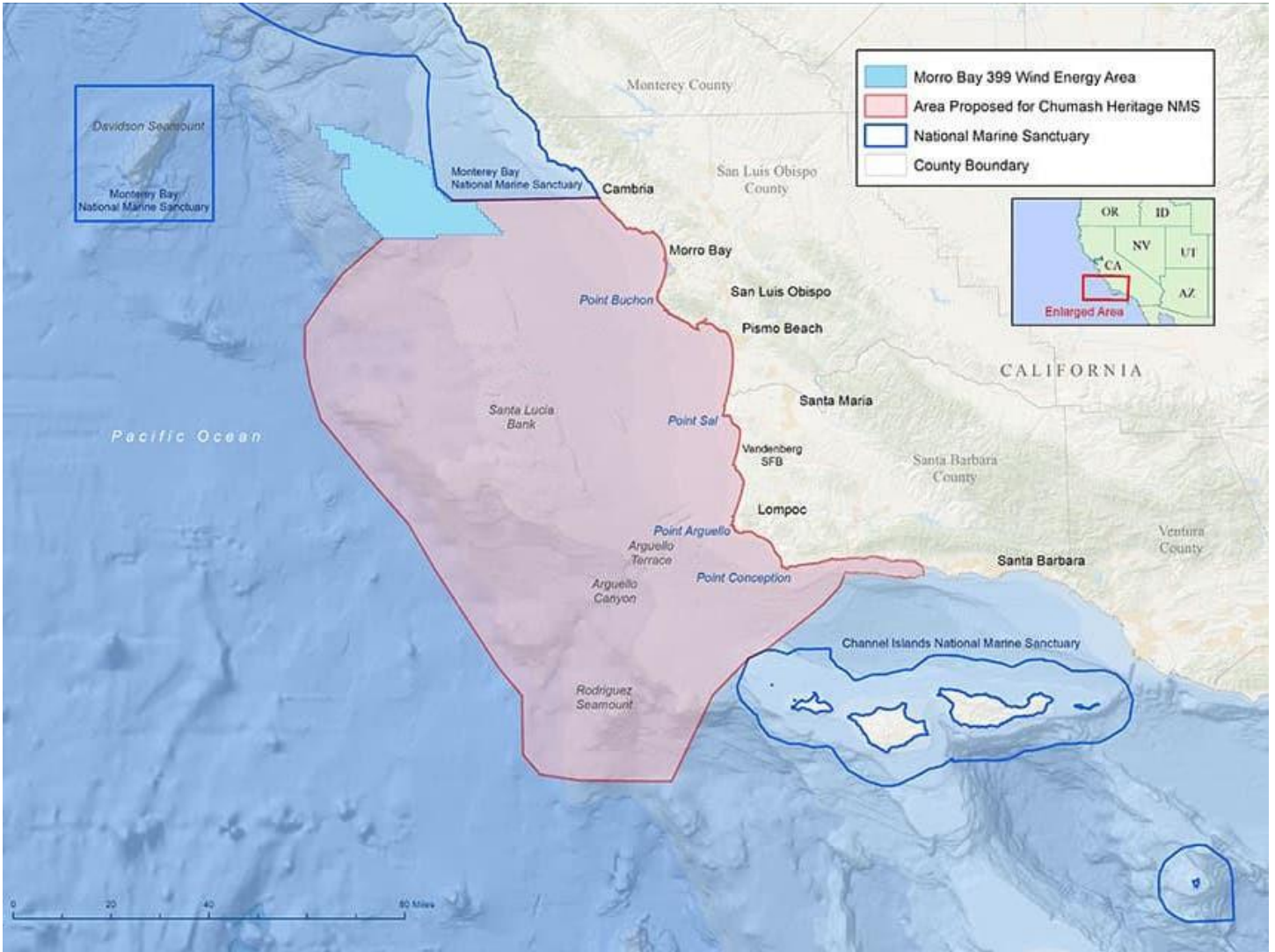


NCTC's Chumash Sanctuary Messaging Guidance

<p>NOAA's Boundary Alternatives</p>	<p>Support the largest possible contiguous boundaries, as seen in the Initial Boundary Alternative combined with the Gaviota Coast Extension (Sub-Alternative 5b), because it would provide the most protection to this important area. We do NOT support NOAA's Alternatives 2, 3, and 4, because they reduce the size and protection of the sanctuary by some 2,000 square miles, eliminating connectivity with the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, leaving out important cultural sites, including Morro Rock/Lisamu', and removing critical protections for marine habitat and species, including the threatened Southern sea otters.</p>
<p>Sanctuary Name</p>	<p>Support the name "Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary" to recognize people that have lived on this coast since time immemorial, by Western estimates over 10,000 years; protect the heritage of the Chumash, an ocean-going band among the First People of the Pacific Coast; recognize people who have been denied recognition in so many other ways; and honor the late Chief Fred Collin's nomination and vision for the Sanctuary and the 10 years of work that the Northern Chumash Tribal Council did to campaign for the Sanctuary.</p>
<p>Tribal Collaborative Management</p>	<p>Support equitable collaborative management that includes all local Tribal groups who would like to be involved. Support the creation of a Tribal Sanctuary Advisory Council made up of all interested local Tribal groups as well as a NOAA Tribal Liaison.</p>
<p>Offshore Wind</p>	<p>Support the largest proposed boundary, the Initial Boundary Alternative with the Gaviota Coast Extension (Sub-Alternative 5b), to ensure a contiguous buffer of ocean protection while directing Offshore Wind development to more suitable areas further offshore where wind energy is optimal and ecological and cultural impacts can be reduced. The sanctuary will also allow for robust monitoring and research needed to understand the long-term impacts of Offshore Wind. Any Offshore Wind transmission cables proposed for this area as part of future offshore wind development should require permits from the National Marine Sanctuary Program to ensure that they are planned and sited in a thoughtful, consolidated manner to reduce and mitigate impacts to the ocean. We ask for meaningful and long lasting collaboration with conservation and marine protection.</p>
<p>Vandenberg Offshore Wind Projects</p>	<p>Oppose the proposed projects off of Vandenberg based on serious environmental, cultural and permitting-process issues. The projects are irresponsibly sited too close to the shore, in a uniquely biodiverse location, with highly significant fisheries and unacceptable impacts to critical cultural sites.</p>
<p>Water Quality</p>	<p>Support Sanctuary water quality programs and regulations that reduce pollution, by preventing harmful discharges and excessive runoff of sediments, oils, nutrients, pesticides, and pathogens.</p>
<p>Outreach & Education</p>	<p>Support multilingual and multicultural education and outreach for the Sanctuary that centers engagement with local underserved communities. Support partnering with Tribal and community groups, local area schools, and educators to share information about local marine science, conservation, and Chumash history and culture.</p>
<p>Rodriguez Seamount</p>	<p>Support strong and permanent regulations to protect the Rodriguez Seamount because it provides critical habitat for an extremely diverse and abundant array of marine life.</p>

2023 Public Comment



The Initial Boundary Alternative with the Gaviota Coast Extension (Sub-Alternative 5b).