



## H.R. 1187 – Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries Boundary Modification and Protection Act

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### FLOOR SITUATION

H.R. 1187 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Lynn Woolsey (D-CA) on February 16, 2007. The House Committee on Natural Resources ordered the bill to be reported as amended by voice vote on March 12, 2008.

H.R. 1187 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on March 31, 2008.

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### SUMMARY

H.R. 1187 the bill expands the size of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary. Additionally, the legislation prohibits certain activities within the Farallones Sanctuary and the Cordell Bank Sanctuary. Prohibited activities include the leasing, exploration, development, production, or transporting by pipeline of minerals or hydrocarbons (i.e. oil and gas drilling); certain activities negatively impacting the salinity levels of the Sanctuary; and the conducting of aquaculture within the Farallones, Cordell Bank, and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

The legislation requires the Secretary of Commerce to complete an interim supplemental management plan for each sanctuary focusing on protective resource management in the areas added by this Act, as well as a revised comprehensive management plan for each of the sanctuaries. Additionally, the bill requires an assessment of necessary revisions to the regulation practices of marine sanctuaries. H.R. 1187 requires the Secretary to review the operations of the Farallones Sanctuary to determine whether area added to it by this Act should be designated as a new and separate National Marine Sanctuary.

The bill authorizes \$3 million for each fiscal year 2009 through 2013 for uses other than construction and acquisition projects. The bill also authorizes \$3.5 million for fiscal year 2009 to be used towards construction related projects and such sums as may become necessary for fiscal years 2010 through 2013.

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### BACKGROUND

The Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary is located off of the northern coast of California, near San Francisco. The Farallones National Marine Sanctuary is approximately 1,250 square miles in size and is home to numerous and diverse species of migratory and native marine life. Commercial and recreational fishing, boating, and tourist industries also utilize the Farallones Sanctuary waters.

The Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary waters border the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary to the north and covers approximately 530 square miles. Located below the waters of the Cordell Bank Sanctuary is a granite bank 4.5 miles wide by 9.5 miles long, and is 6 miles off shore. The Cordell Bank Sanctuary is also home to man migratory marine animals, including birds and fish.

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### COST

The Congressional Budget Office has not yet scored this legislation.

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### STAFF CONTACT

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