

**Correspondence ID:** 31000    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mock, Howard  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:22:06  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31001    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sears, Kathleen  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:22:06  
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**Correspondence ID:** 31002    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Bulger, Paul  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
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**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

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**Correspondence ID:** 31003    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Palladine, Michelle  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:22:06

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

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**Correspondence ID:** 31004    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Waterman, Glenna

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:22:10

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

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**Correspondence ID:** 31005    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** V, J

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:22:19

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

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**Correspondence ID:** 31006    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Goulding, Judith

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:22:19

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

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**Correspondence ID:** 31007    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sodoro, Tommy  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:22:20  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

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**Correspondence ID:** 31008    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, Arvetta  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:27:22  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** I have been going to Drake's Oyster Farm with my Family all of my life. It has always been a beautiful and magical place for us to visit, not to mention that their oysters are delicious; a wonderful treat for any palette.

I ask that you allow them to gain a renewable permit, so that they can continue to go on and provide the Bay Area with oysters. It would be such a great loss to our community if they would have to close their doors.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Arvetta M.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31009    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mapes, Ed  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:28:38  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31010    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Harris, Stephanie  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:29:05  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31011    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** O'Connor, Dorothy L  
**Outside Organization:** United States Citizen Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:32:48  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I am disturbed by the effort of the National Park Service to set aside so much land from usage by ordinary citizens. In the interests of keeping our public lands safe, it seems to me that you have gone overboard so that you will eventually have land that no one, save politicians or other favored few, can use. The oysterbeds are a case in point. They pose no threat to the land or the water. They are clean and they provide a good source of nutritional, healthy food. I believe that the Lunny family have gone to great lengths to operate their oyster business in a responsible manner. I also believe that the National Park Service has lost their common sense in this and other aspects. What good are forests that no one can enter or enjoy? What good are seashores that no one can tread on? What is good about all the rules and regulations that empower YOU and deny everyone else their rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness? Have you become beauracrats who lord it over everyone just because they can? Has the friendly Forest Ranger of my childhood now become the fierce dictator? I hope you will reconsider your opposition to the Lunny Oysterbeds. It is good to protect the environment but in doing so, the citizen, the ordinary guy who wants to use it, should also be considered and protected in his endeavors.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31012    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** LaKind, Joshua  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:34:05  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31013    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Cumming, Marie  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:36:58  
**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:** 31014    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Weingart, Larry  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:37:42  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31015    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hersh, Sarah  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:38:10  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31016    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** McNulty, Richard  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:40:03  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31017    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Castro, Jody  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:48:35  
**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:** 31018    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Laughlin, Albert R  
**Outside Organization:** Laughlin Family Trust Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:49:52  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** The oyster farm has been there forever and is a part of Point Reyes history. Let them continue.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31019    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Clary, Michael  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:50:29  
**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:** 31020    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Matra, Robyn  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:52:29  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31021    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lenoir, Judy  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:52:39  
**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

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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31022    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kessler, Jesse  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:54:38  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31023    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Bulger, Paul  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:57:43  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31024    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Fiday, Norma  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 12:58:48  
**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:** 31025    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Browne, Patricia  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:02:35  
**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:** 31026    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Trufan, Hal  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:17:24  
**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:** 31027    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Couch, Sandra  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:22:44  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31028    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Axtell, Marilyn  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:22:44  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31029    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Scott, Ashley  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:22:50  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31030    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Golden, Michael  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:22:50  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31031    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Chriss, Shawna  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:22:50  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31032    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lopez, Andria  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:24:32  
**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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widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31033    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Burtch, Robert  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:26:45  
**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:** 31034    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** BARLUPO, DAN & JENNIFER  
**Outside Organization:** NONE Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:31:14  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31035    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Judd, Gabriel  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:33:55  
**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:** 31036    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sykes, Robert  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:48:44

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31037    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Esteve, Gregory

**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:49:49

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31038    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Phillips, Jack

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:53:07

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31039    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Polsgrove, Robert

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:53:07

**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

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**Correspondence ID:** 31040    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hubbard, Thomas  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:53:08  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:**

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**Correspondence ID:** 31041    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** O'Connell, Kathleen  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:53:11  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:**

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**Correspondence ID:** 31042    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Boulton, Jenny  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:53:15  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31043    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Curci, Marjorie

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:53:16

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31044    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Ocker, Tammi

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:55:08

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31045    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** dewitt, rafe b

**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,16,2011 13:56:28

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** This community NEEDS Drakes Bay Oyster. They are doing no damage to our enviroment if anything they are making it better. Oysters are filters and do nothing but good.I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31046    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Vinson, Dolores  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 14:05:04  
**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:** 31047    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** caplan, Leslie  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 14:14:22  
**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:** 31048    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Michaelis, Elke  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 14:18:51  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31049    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Dodd, Marianne  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 14:21:22  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31050    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kobel, Shari  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 14:23:19  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31051    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Distasi, Mia  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 14:23:19  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31052    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Chaney, Darlene  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 14:23:19  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31053    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Gakeler, Debra A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 14:23:23  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31054    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Rodin, Nick  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 14:26:15  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31055    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lee, Laura  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 14:29:05  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31056    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Morris, Jennifer  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 14:37:29  
**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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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31057    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lepkowski, Cynthia  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 14:40:27  
**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.

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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31058    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Heaser, Eileen  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 14:45:19  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31059    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Canary, Emerald  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I value the unspoiled beauty of this unique wilderness and all of Point Reyes. Drakes Estero, part of Point Reyes National Seashore, was slated for protection as a Wilderness Area by Congress in 1976, at which time it stipulated that the oyster factory could continue to operate only until 2012. There is no reason to change this.

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 REPEAT. DO NOT ALLOW THE OYSTER FACTORY TO CONTINUE BEYOND 2012, AS ORIGINALLY MANDATED.

This wilderness is precious and of great value to all. Commercial oyster growing can occur elsewhere, and is intended only for the profit of the owners.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31060    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Magee, John  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 14:53:23  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31061    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Richardson, Joan  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 14:53:29  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31062    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kasak, Barbara  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 14:53:29  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31063    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Andrews, Carolyn  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** Please, just look at it, it is such a sacred and beautiful place. Interrupting the benefit it provide the eco system is well worth protecting. It is depressing to the human spirit to lose such a place. I strongly 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31064    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Yarnell, Stephanie  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 14:53:29  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31065    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Hance, Jeremy  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 14:53:40  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31066    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Schadow, Karen  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 14:53:44  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31067    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hull, Dianne L  
**Outside Organization:** Art On The Farm Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 14:55:41  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I visited Drakes Bay Oyster Farm with my painting group, Art on the Farm. We were able to meet the people who run it and we're given a very interesting talk about the operation there. They are dedicated to preserving the estuary there and are actively perusing a green way of oyster production. We need to encourage such practices, not shut them out.

Please allow this Oyster farm to continue to work at this location.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31068    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sapp, Cynthia E  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 15:02:13  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** We have enjoyed visiting Drake's Bay Oyster Farm for many years and enjoy their oysters very much. We feel that they are providing a sustainable product and are not endangering or polluting the area. They are good stewards of the waters. We support keeping their business running after the 2012 date in question for cessation. It is important to realize that much of the oyster farming in the Gulf of Mexico was destroyed by the BP spill, and that Eastern supplies are dwindling. Drake's Bay Oyster Farm is even more of a major source of oysters now that these other sources are not producing as much. We also like the idea of eating local - not having our oysters shipped in from distant areas which requires using vehicles and greater amounts of fuel to get them here than local production does.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31069    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Delaney, Sean

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 15:09:47  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31070    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Harold, Geoffrey  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 15:11:32  
**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:** 31071    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mitchell, Terry  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 15:11:49  
**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:** 31072    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** delpuech, de la mata  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 15:14:59  
**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:** 31073    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hart, Mary  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 15:23:23  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31074    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Andea Kerivan, John  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 15:23:23  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31075    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Pevoto, Mary  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 15:23:23  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31076    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Connors, Jen  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** Please protect Drakes Estero wilderness in 2012.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31077    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Pineda, Jacqueline  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 15:23:27  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31078    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sprouse, Sharon  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 15:23:27  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31079    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Morgan, Kathryn  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 15:36:36  
**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:** 31080    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lupo, Jack  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 15:38:00  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31081    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Chiles, James  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 15:40:17  
**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:** 31082    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Velasquez, Shirley  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 15:43:01  
**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:** 31083    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Spratt, Savannah  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 15:53:26  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31084    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Spinazzola, Linda  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 15:53:26  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31085    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Diamond, Marian  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 15:53:26  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31086    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Esposito, Susan  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 16:12:59  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31087    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Maranowski, Erica  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 16:17:05  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31088    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Binkley, Peter  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 16:20:52  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31089    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sousa, Amanda  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 16:23:30  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31090    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Murphy, Michael  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 16:23:30  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31091    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Russell, Paul  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 16:36:08  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31092    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hastings, Kerry  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 16:36:55  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31093    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Chidester, Kyle  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 16:53:15  
**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.

Thank you.

Kyle Chidester

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**Correspondence ID:** 31094    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hickman, Tina  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 16:53:32  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31095    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Martin, Janet  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 16:53:32  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31096    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hill, Joy  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 16:53:32  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31097    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Loomis, Cindy  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 16:53:36  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31098    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Herrera, Bill  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 16:53:37  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31099    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Duff, Lawrence  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 17:06:28  
**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:** 31100    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Smith, Heather  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 17:06:34  
**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:** 31101    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Powell, Ds  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 17:07:33  
**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:** 31102    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Braecklein, Angela  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 17:08:04  
**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:** 31103    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Rau, Ron  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 17:09:14  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31104    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Clearwater, Iris  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 17:09:24  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I am writing to support that the oyster permit is allowed to expire, that Drakes Estero be given wilderness designation within Point Reyes National Seashore, and that the 1976 Point Reyes Wilderness Act is upheld.

Please select Alternative A, to protect this area as a significant marine wilderness, to provide critical habitat for birds and wildlife.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31105    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** belacic, ladislav  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 17:11:08  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31106    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Levario, Rachel  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 17:23:33  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31107    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sdano, Ryan  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** As a liberal citizen of faith who supports preserving our wildlife from pollution & private commercial use, urges 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31108    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Penaherrera, Roberto  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 17:23:36  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31109    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 17:24:06  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I believe Drakes Bay Oyster company should be allowed to continue doing business in Drakes Bay as they have been long time advocates and stewards of the local eco-system, and they provide permanent jobs and support their local economy.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31110    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Collins, Merl and Judy  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 17:40:10  
**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.

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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31111    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** shore, jeanne  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 17:43:15  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a Renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

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**Correspondence ID:** 31112    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Evans, D  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 17:46:24  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31113    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Doerring, Beth Ann  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 17:53:35  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31114    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mataja, m  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:06:34  
**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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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:** 31115    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Beard, Lara  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:07:53  
**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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back.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31116    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Smith, Edwina  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:17:59  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31117    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Green-McGann, Joy  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:23:42  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31118    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Anderson, Stephen  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:23:42  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31119    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Curry, Amanda  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:23:42  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31120    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Martin, Margie  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:23:43  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31121    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hervert, Vicki  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:23:46  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31122    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Claypoole, Tina  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:36:15  
**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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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31123    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Chapon, v  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:37:02  
**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:** 31124    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** conway, carole  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:37:07  
**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:** 31125    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** conway, carole  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:37:29  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31126    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Harris, Jennifer  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:38:21  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31127    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Douglas, Joan  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:39:04  
**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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**Correspondence ID:** 31128    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Zollweg, Arden  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:39:57  
**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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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31129    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** ZUR, ROBERTA  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:41:17  
**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.

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widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31130    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Zakin, Eric S  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:43:08  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31131    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Bennett-Allen, Beth  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:47:58  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31132    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Gilbert, Jacqueline  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:49:11  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31133    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Atkinson, Cheryl  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:53:42  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31134    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Whalen, Patricia  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** Please protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year, as long intended. It is in all of our best interest to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the enjoyment and health 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. It is vitally important that we preserve intact wilderness areas. 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31135    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Weber, Nicole  
**Outside Organization:** Care2 Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 18:55:54  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31136    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** castanier, louis m  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 19:14:21  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** i fully support dboc . Over 25 years of visiting point reyes, i have enjoyed their natural oysters and have seen no adverse effect of their operations on the park. if anything their stewardship of the land and sea is exemplary. Alternative D should be your choice sincerely

louis m castanier and elisabeth genevois

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**Correspondence ID:** 31137    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Ehrlich, Joan  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 19:15:11  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I want Drake's Bay Oyster Farm to stay with a renewable permit. As a native Californian born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area I feel very strongly about this. I have been to Drake's Bay Oyster Farm and seen it 1st hand- it should stay and with a renewable permit !

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**Correspondence ID:** 31138    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kolodziej, Paul  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 19:19:05  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31139    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Steiner, Angela  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 19:19:05  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31140    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Newton, Kelley

**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,16,2011 19:19:52

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31141    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Mann, Janet

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,16,2011 19:21:17

**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:** 31142    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Crockett, Wanda

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,16,2011 19:22:21

**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.

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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.

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---

**Correspondence ID:** 31143    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Valdes, Jacqueline  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 19:49:03  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31144    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Briand, Melanie  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 19:49:12  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31145    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Dixon, Roberta  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 19:49:16  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31146    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Taveras, Rebecca  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 19:50:41  
**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.

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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31147    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Dolph, Eric  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 19:51:45  
**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:** 31148    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Styles, Cheryl

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,16,2011 19:52:28

**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:** 31149    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Helman, Mark

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,16,2011 19:54:03

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31150    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Hernandez, Isabel

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,16,2011 19:54:37

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31151    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hicks, Philip  
**Outside Organization:** ALSA Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 20:07:23  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Dear Sirs:

The oyster farm provides an excellent resource to filter/clean the water of Drake's Estero, to provide much needed jobs for multi-ethnic families, and to provide a reasonable source of food to people who actually live in the area.

Your research is either flawed or misrepresented.

As a California native and Marin resident for over 50 years, I know the history of the park and all of the changes. I even helped excavate and write the reports for the archaeological salvage on Limantour Spit. I lived in one of the houses there before they were torn down.

This park was NEVER supposed to be a wilderness area and it never CAN be.

Yours, Philip Hicks San Anselmo, CA

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**Correspondence ID:** 31152    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Imrie, Russell F  
**Outside Organization:** Costanoan Indian Research Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 20:17:54  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:**

Hello I am totally for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company staying. I support a special use permit. have family in Pt Reyes Station. I personally know the Lunny family and they attended our wedding in Inverness. Oysters from the Estero were a unique and very special part of the celebration and reception at the Inverness Yacht Club. I have hiked around Pt Reyes National Seashore sine the 1970's. I see absolutely no reason that the oyster operation be removed. Furthermore, the oysters are a sustainable and relatively natural food source, something rare on California. Thank You

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**Correspondence ID:** 31153    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Spradlin, Michael  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 20:19:16  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31154    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Spradlin, Michael

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 20:19:20  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31155    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lines, Nick  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 20:20:43  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I want the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm to stay in business with a renewable permit.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31156    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Milloy, Melissa  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 20:23:21  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31157    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Milbrandt, Marilyn  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 20:49:44  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31158    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Raper, Connie  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 20:49:44  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31159    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Fast, Linda  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 20:49:44  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31160    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sander, Olof  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 20:51:51  
**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:** 31161    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Roberts, Laura  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 20:52:09  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31162    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** M. Celadhan, Rev Leslie  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 20:52:59  
**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:** 31163    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Frazier, Shelley  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 21:19:56  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31164    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hill, Anna  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 21:19:56  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:**

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**Correspondence ID:** 31165    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Bradbury, Jennifer  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 21:19:56  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:**

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**Correspondence ID:** 31166    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Clarke, Jo A  
**Outside Organization:** Merced Group Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 21:20:21  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:**

I urge you to support alternative A, no action, which would allow the original intent of congress to make Drakes Bay wilderness upon the expiration of the lease in 2012. The 1976 Pt. Reyes Wilderness Act established Drakes Bay as potential wilderness until the commercial lease expired. Pt. Reyes and Drakes Bay are lands of national interest. Federal lands that belong to all Americans, not just one businessman who has profited from it. It is not fair for an individual to profit from a public asset that is

funded by taxpayers. Please let the lease expire and provide permanent protection by designating this special place as wilderness for all Americans. A decision to allow a private enterprise to continue within a federally protected wilderness for another decade could set a dangerous precedent for all of our national parks and wilderness by opening them up to commercialization. National Park policies make management of natural resources for maximum protection and restoration a priority to benefit the public and future generations, not for private business. This special place, Drakes Estero, is the ecological heart of Point Reyes National Seashore. It is the only marine wilderness on the West Coast. It is home to one of the largest colonies of harbor seals in California. This oyster operation has a significant impact on this delicate ecosystem by littering the area with DBOC PVC spacer tubes and by cutting the Eelgrass beds with their motor boat propellers, causing erosion and displacement. Allowing the oyster operations to continue for another decade would have long-term adverse impacts on wilderness due to the violation of wilderness values and could prevent a wilderness designation in 2012 as congress intended. Please take the no action alternative of the Draft EIS which would terminate the current oyster company permit to produce oysters commercially for ten more years in Drakes Estero. Uphold the law and allow Drakes Estero to become full wilderness in 2012 when the lease expires. Thank you, JoAnne Clarke

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**Correspondence ID:** 31167    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Noble, Linda  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 21:22:44  
**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:** 31168    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Dellsy, Marlene  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 21:22:48  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31169    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Ray, Gary & Rita

**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 21:46:51  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31170      **Project:** 33043      **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Ray, Gary & Rita  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 21:46:57  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31171      **Project:** 33043      **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Tabin, Jnd  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 21:50:01  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31172      **Project:** 33043      **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Johnson, Michael  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 21:50:01  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31173    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Dollar, Ellen  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 21:50:01  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:**

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**Correspondence ID:** 31174    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Grant, David  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 21:50:34  
**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:** 31175    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Grant, David  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,16,2011 21:50:34  
**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:** 31176    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Stouffer, Carine  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 22:06:41  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company. Thank you

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**Correspondence ID:** 31177    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lyman, Nora  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 22:16:36  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31178    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Co, Anna  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 22:16:52  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31179    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Michaelis, Marylynn  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 22:20:40  
**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. We are in grave danger of making a mess we can never clean up. Clean places must be kept clean and protected.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31180    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Ahles, Leona  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 22:20:40  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31181    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Komisarof, Jeff  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 22:20:40  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

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**Correspondence ID:** 31182    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Pickett, Phillip  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 22:21:51  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31183    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Pila, Bernadette  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 22:22:07  
**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:** 31184    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hart, Karen  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 22:23:00  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31185    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Wolf, Lynn  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 22:23:06  
**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:** 31186    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Howard, Linda  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 22:23:18  
**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:** 31187    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** D, P  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,16,2011 22:23:46  
**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:** 31188    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lauren, Nicole Lauren  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 22:49:15  
**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:** 31189    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Leung, Jason  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 22:52:07  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31190    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kalman, Janet  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 22:52:07  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31191    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Rauchwerk, Susan  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 23:18:04  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31192    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Heuert, Rachel  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 23:19:14  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31193    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Olmstead, kenny  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 23:20:31  
**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:** 31194    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Olmstead, kenny  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 23:20:39  
**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.

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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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31195    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Burke, Patricia  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 23:22:16  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31196    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 23:49:44  
**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.

Sincerely, Kaylee Draper

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**Correspondence ID:** 31197    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Fedorov, Karen  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 23:50:30  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31198    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Pyke, Brittany  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,16,2011 23:52:31  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31199    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Jobling, Cynthia  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 00:17:15  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31200    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mccarren, Stephanie  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 00:22:38  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31201    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Joy, CrystaLin  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 00:46:48  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31202    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Magaldi, Jessica  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 00:50:13  
**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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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31203    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Healy, Ethel  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 00:00:00  
**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.

Please save the only marine wilderness area on the whole west coast. Marine life in so many other areas is disappearing because of: elevated water temperatures from nuclear reactors, rerouting of water sources, invasion of suffocating marine plants due to excess nitrogen from farmlands, death and deformity from toxic chemical runoff from contaminated land and rivers, etc. Allow this area to become a fully protected marine wilderness as was promised and planned.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31204    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Yarrobino, Erin  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 00:53:23  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31205    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lupenko, Andy  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 01:16:55  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31206    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Makowski, Patricia  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 01:20:17  
**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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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:** 31207    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Walker, Elizabeth  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 02:23:42  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31208    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Ormondroyd, Joan & Edward  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 03:12:52  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** Dear Sirs: It has come to our attention that Pt Reyes Nat'l Seashore administration is contemplating shutting down the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm. We find that an appalling thought, not only because of our annual visits to the area and joyful consumption of Drakes Bay oysters, but also because we understand that the oyster farm is a major employer in the area. At a time when so many people are out of work, when the economy is in freefall, it's very hard to understand why anyone would want to remove jobs instead of creating them. In addition, as nature lovers, we both are appalled at the bad "science" put forth by the Park administration. It has always been our understanding, backed by scholarship, that shellfish aquaculture is GOOD for the environment. The Park has put forward NOTHING to make us think otherwise. We urge you to issue a renewable permit to the oyster farm at Drakes Bay, where we plan to be, eating our favorite oysters, this coming February. Sincerely, Joan and Edward Ormondroyd

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**Correspondence ID:** 31209    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Maltz, Esta  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 03:19:45  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31210    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Fox, Gardia  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 04:50:30  
**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:** 31211    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 05:30:07  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31212    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Reid, Dan  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 05:50:18  
**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:** 31213    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Smith, Deborah  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 05:50:57  
**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:** 31214    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Chan, Betty  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 05:54:31  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31215    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Cassidy, Paul  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 05:58:15  
**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:** 31216    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Baldinger, Barbara  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 06:24:31  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31217    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** BAXTER, LOU  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Dear National Park Service,

As a biologist concerned about biodiversity, I support Alternative A in the draft Environmental Impact Statement: full wilderness designation for the entire Drakes Estero within Point Reyes National Seashore.

Drakes Estero is a significant and unique wildlife area that is connected to critically important marine habitat for both endangered leatherback sea turtles and protected marine mammal species. Moreover Drakes Bay is part of the Leatherback Conservation Area and is also proposed as critical habitat for the endangered Pacific leatherback sea turtle. Consequently Alternative A forms an environmentally preferred alternative that would expand and provide the best habitat protections within the only marine wilderness on the west coast.

Sincerely,

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**Correspondence ID:** 31218    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hetherington, Bidde

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 06:54:44  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31219    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Moore, Jerry D  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 06:57:55  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** As a committed environmentalist and advocate for cultural heritage, I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company. This outstanding business demonstrates the importance of careful use of natural resources in a sustainable and environmentally sensitive manner. It demonstrates this to visitors to Point Reyes in a way that no other NPS facility does. The Drakes Bay Oyster Company is one of the reasons my family and I now make an annual visit to Point Reyes. I strongly urge the National Park Service to grant a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Jerry Moore, Ph.D. Department of Anthropology California State University Dominguez Hills 1000 E. Victoria St. Carson, CA 90747

Member, Register of Professional Archaeologists.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31220    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** seeler, rita  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 07:32:47  
**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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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31221    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kroehler, Corbett  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** It is in the public interest to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness at Drakes Estero for the enjoyment of all and as a

zealous conservationist and American taxpayer, I exhort you to do so. The American 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31222    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Chambadal, Phil  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 08:08:25  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31223    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Glaeser, Joseph  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 08:08:36  
**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:** 31224    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** gee, allan  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 08:10:32

**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:** 31225    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Dresser, Connie

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,17,2011 08:13:04

**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:** 31226    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Gifford, Andrew R

**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,17,2011 08:40:18

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** I was personally involved with Point Reyes National Seashore in the early and mid 1970's as a Ranger stationed in the area. Much of the land comprising the Tomalas and Drakes Bay area was still private and was actively being purchased by the government for Point Reyes National Seashore.

The enabling legislation for the Seashore stated that this was a National Recreational area that allowed business, ranching and farming to take place. The Seashore was not classified a National Park but was open space for public use adjacent to the San Francisco Metro area. Permissible uses also included: hunting, fishing, raising oysters, etc.

The National Park Service, early on, took a dim view of Drakes Bay Oyster Co. At that time it was owned and operated by a very colorful character named Charlie Johnson. He was married to a Japanese lady whose relatives ran and harvested oysters in the Bay.

The NPS feeling was that this operation was not compatible with NPS philosophy and that it should be terminated. Rangers continually watched the Oyster farm looking for any violation or other activity that might be used by the NPS to terminate the

permit and thus get rid of the Oyster Co. Continual inspections were utilized to force the Oyster Co. out of the Seashore; however, Mr. Johnson complied with NPS directives and cleaned up his operation and the disposal of oyster shells, etc.

I am not sure when the Lunny family purchased the Oyster Co. from Charlie Johnson's family but apparently the NPS philosophy has not changed over the years. They want to get rid of the Oyster Co! They have recently accused the Lunny's of disturbing harbor seals in the Bay, which would be laughable, if this situation were not so serious.

I've investigated many complaints of wildlife and marine mammal harassment while stationed in Alaska. Harbor seals exist in most all bays and inlets along the West Coast of the U.S.. They become very used of mans activities often watching what is going on out of curiosity not fear. The activity that would severely stress a harbor seal would be a kayak gliding quietly up close to a resting seal and suprising him. This would create a panic/flight situation which raises heart rates and blood pressure in the seal to high levels. Outboard motors used on oyster collection scows do not surprise, the seals hear and then casually move out of the way while the boat passes.

It is my firm belief that the Oyster farm should be allowed to continue operation. The farm provides a valued food commodity utilized all over the Bay Area and the West Coast of California. The farm provides employment and pays taxes, all necessary in todays economic climate. The farm does not pollute or disturb the morphology of the bay where the oysters are raised. And finally there is little conflict with the public while operating the Oyster farm.

Lastly, I believe the The National Park Service should stop harassing these people. This has been going on for well over 40 years and needs to stop. The enabling Seashore legislation allows business activity such as the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm to operate. If the NPS can not abide by the law then the Seashore should be transferred to another agency that is more adept at managing land in cooperation with business activities.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31227    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** De Groat, Raymond  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 08:43:40  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31228    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Wilk, April  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 08:43:40  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31229    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Barry, Laura  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 08:43:40  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31230    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Erickson, Michael  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 08:43:40  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31231    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Russell, Laura  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 08:47:51  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31232    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Rabin, Kyle  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 08:48:04  
**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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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31233    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Bowen, Joyce  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 09:13:57  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31234    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Vandermeer, Denise  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 09:13:57  
**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. Honor your promise.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31235    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Rosen, Michael  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 09:13:57  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31236    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Webb, Beth  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 09:16:40  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31237    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Swails, Janet  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** The Drakes Estero is in danger from special interests seeking to commercialize this special place, and I am writing to urge the National Park Service to protect the west coast's only marine wilderness as long intended. The American public deserves to have this wonderful area 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 long intended by Congress. As someone who enjoys our nation's spectacular national parks, I urge you to not undermine protections at Drakes Estero and succumb to these special interests.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31238    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** McMenamin, Sharon  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 09:20:43  
**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:** 31239    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Moore, Nathan L  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 09:33:47  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** To whom this may concern, My family has been going up to Drakes Bay for years, enjoying both the delicious oysters they farm, and the natural setting in which their operation is placed. I do realize, that with mankind's steady encroachment on the few places in the world that are still mostly "natural", it could be argued that the National Park Service should be going to great lengths to make sure that the places under its jurisdiction stay as natural as possible.

Drakes Bay however, is a place that has successfully blended business and sustainability, a balance that many people see as an impossible one to reach. If we had more places like Drakes Bay, you could show people that going green doesn't gimp the bottom line.

It is my strong belief that preserving Drakes Bay, and even advertising its success, would encourage businesses to make the change from business as usual, to environmental awareness.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31240    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Davey, Leonard J  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** I wholly support extending the special use permit of the Drakes Bay Oyster Company

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**Correspondence ID:** 31241    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Porter, Mark  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 09:47:20  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31242    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Rivers, Roseanne  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 09:47:20  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Please protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year for all people. 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31243    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Preece, Fal  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 09:47:20  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31244    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Piekut, Jennifer  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 09:47:20  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31245    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 09:49:08  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** The fog would be even heavier over the estero if Drakes Bay Oyster Company were to be shut down. The Lunny Family and the Oyster Co. are true Marin County treasures. Please grant them the Special Use Permit!

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**Correspondence ID:** 31246    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Ballinger, Andrea  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 09:53:34  
**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:** 31247    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** B, Mark  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 10:00:59  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Dear National Park Service,

I support Alternative A in the draft Environmental Impact Statement -- full wilderness designation for the entire Drakes Estero within Point Reyes National Seashore.

Alternative A is the environmentally preferred alternative that would expand and provide the best habitat protections within the only marine wilderness on the west coast. Drakes Estero is a unique wildlife area that is connected to critically important marine habitat for endangered leatherback sea turtles and protected species of marine mammals. Drakes Bay is part of the Leatherback Conservation Area and is also proposed as critical habitat for the endangered Pacific leatherback sea turtle.

Sincerely, Mark B.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31248    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Przemielewski, Sara L  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 10:12:53  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** " I support a Renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company".

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**Correspondence ID:** 31249    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Cass, Stephen  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 10:19:00  
**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 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31250    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Benson, Joan  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 10:19:16  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31251    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Gfellers, Micki  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 10:24:08  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31252    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Killough, Sherrie  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 10:24:08  
**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.

Estuaries are sensitive ecosystems that are vital for not only the wildlife that live there, but for humans as well.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31253    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Forbes, J.D.  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 10:24:09  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31254    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hale, Susan  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 10:25:55  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31255    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sun, Autumn  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 10:26:01  
**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

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**Correspondence ID:** 31256    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sun, Autumn  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 10:26:15  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31257    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Maslany, Irene  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 10:31:35  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31258    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lotts, Margaret  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 10:39:20  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** I am in favor of letting the oyster contract expire in 2012, as it is supposed to. Point Reyes should return to be wilderness. Our parks and wilderness areas are precious to the Earth and future generations. We should not allow commercial ventures to spoil

our parks.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31259    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Stevenson, Robert  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 10:54:47  
**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:** 31260    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Anderson, Julie  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 10:55:49  
**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:** 31261    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Macy, Virginia  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 10:58:36  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31262    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Putnam, Pamela  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 10:58:41  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31263    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Howington, Jan  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 11:02:37  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31264    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Graffius, Glen  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 11:18:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** The coastline of California is a national treasure and I find so much enjoyment there that 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31265    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** vanDommelen, David  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 11:21:13  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** PEPC:

MY wife & I moved to San Francisco in the summer of 1972; our first visit to Johnson's Oyster Farm to buy & barbeque oysters was in 1973, & we have barbequed oysters every year since.

We stopped going to Johnson's early on, as the proprietor was 'less than' social, & the grounds were 'less than' well kept; we began going to Tomales Bay, & other vendors.

When the Lunny family took over the site, & established Drake's Bay Oyster Co., we happily returned to the old Johnson's; to a friendly family operation, to a clean, & environmentally sound business.

I shouldn't need to remind you of this family's history in the Point Reyes area; they have consciously been a part of this delicate environment for generations.

I strongly urge you approve a special use permit, keep Drake's Bay Oyster CO. intact, and allow this local family to continue their contribution to the community, & their dedication to the environment that they live in.

Respectfully,

David vanDommelen

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**Correspondence ID:** 31266    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Tannen, Peter S  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 11:26:29  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** As a forty year resident of the SF Bay Area, who has hiked, backpacked, and bicycled in Point Reyes National Seashore more than 25 times, I strongly support the Draft EIS No Action alternative (Alternative A) - the Environmentally Preferred Alternative.

I strongly oppose allowing the current oyster company to continue operations at Drakes Estero, the only West Coast marine wilderness. This would subject this unique natural resource to many negative effects, as listed in the Draft EIS, especially the effects of invasive species. It would degrade the Point Reyes National Seashore wilderness experience, since commercial operations are inconsistent with the Wilderness Act.

Congress previously legislated Drakes Estero's full wilderness protection by 2012, when the current oyster company use permit expires, so that it would return to its natural state. Therefore I am appalled that its extension is even being considered. While I enjoy consuming oysters, there are other sites outside of Point Reyes National Seashore where they could be raised. Since the Drakes Bay Oyster Company bought the business in 2005, knowing the permit expired in 2012, I do not see any reason why the permit should be extended.

Lastly, but very importantly, if this permit is extended, it would open door for similar industrial incursions into our wilderness areas and national parks across the country.

Thank you for your consideration.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31267    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Norton, Jeff

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 11:32:18  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31268    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sims, Patricia  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 11:32:21  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31269    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Santos, Rae  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 11:35:50  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a Renewal Special use Permit for Drakes Bay oyster Company

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**Correspondence ID:** 31270    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Burnett, Molly  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 11:36:21  
**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.

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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:** 31271    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Olden, Anne  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 11:44:14  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** The current commercial operators knew of the intention to close this area to commercial harvesting in 2012 when they took over the business. They should abide by the original agreement and not receive an extension.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31272    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** gura, marion  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 11:45:14  
**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:** 31273    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Shlisselberg, Aviva  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 11:45:47  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31274    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sims, Patricia  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 11:52:27  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31275    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Frakes, Melissa  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 00:00:00  
**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 lived in the San Francisco Bay Area for 18 years, 3 of which were in Sonoma County, while I worked in Stinson Beach (just below Point Reyes). Point Reyes is magnificent and must be protected and become the pristine place that it is intended to be.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31276    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Pagan, Peter  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 11:54:02  
**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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widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31277    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Cahill, Biffy  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 11:54:38  
**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:** 31278    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Schreiber, Janet  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 11:56:00  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31279    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Matts, Lynn  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 12:01:15  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31280    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Schlatter, Larry  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 12:04:42  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31281    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Alterman, Shana  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 12:10:11  
**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:** 31282    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Brendel, M  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,17,2011 12:11:26  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31283    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Castle, Judy  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 12:14:41  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31284    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Dittmann, William  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:**

The message below, provided to me by the Sierra Club misrepresents the situation in Drake's Estero. It is the outlet of a watershed that is fed by dairy ranches and other human agricultural activity. I have been visiting Pt Reyes National Seashore for over 50 years, and I travel there regularly. I visited the Johnson's Oyster Company before the Lunneys bought it. I have since visited the Drakes Oyster site. My wife and I have hiked in the area, especially for bird watching. We see very little conflict between the operation of the oyster farm and marine activity in the estero. Their might be. Strict adherence to environmental practices should mitigate any negative effects. Their operation should be regulated. A large majority of Marin County citizens, a large number of whom are members of the Sierra Club and the National Parks Conservation Association support the extension of the Lunney's lease. This particular branch of the Sierra Club does not represent the general membership.

THE BELOW STATEMENT ONLY PARTLY REPRESENTS MY OPINION:

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31285    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Higuera, John  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 12:18:12  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31286    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 12:38:28  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** I support a Renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company. The Lunny family have an outstanding oyster business and hope to continue for years to come. It is amazing how well this business is conducted and I am hoping that the visitors to the National Park have the pleasure of stopping off at the Oyster Farm and buying the very best oysters from the very fine Lunny family

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**Correspondence ID:** 31287    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Viau, Samantha  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 12:50:04  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31288    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Prior, Gertrude  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 12:50:04  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31289    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Schinkel, Eric  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 12:50:04  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31290    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Fong, Joanna  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 12:51:39  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31291    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sims, Patricia  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 12:59:06  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31292    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mathews, Barbara  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 13:01:47  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31293    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Steckervetz, Lori L  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 13:05:50  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31294    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Plock, Raymond S  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 13:12:19

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** The DEIS is seriously flawed. It should be sent back to the PRNS for revision and reissue to correct the six inadequacies cited in the ALSA website.

I support a renewable special permit for the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31295    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lindsay, Tammy/DUANE  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 13:18:18  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31296    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Cooper-Tognoli, Sarah  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 13:20:24  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31297    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Gaskins, Melissa  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 13:21:37  
**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:** 31298    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Gaskins, Melissa  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 13:26:22  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31299    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Siegmann, Margaret  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 13:26:47  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** I SUPPORT A RENEWABLE SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR DRAKES BAY OYSTER COMPANY. WE ARE VERY FORTUNATE TO HAVE THAT WELL-MAINTAINED AND SPECIAL OYSTER FARM. WHEN I AM UNABLE TO GO DIRECTLY TO THE FARM FOR FRESH OYSTERS, I CAN OFTEN BUY THEM AT WHOLE FOODS IN SAN FRANCISCO. IT SHOULD, WITHOUT QUESTION, BE ABLE TO RENEW IT'S PERMIT! THANK YOU.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31300    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hermonat, Karl  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 13:37:12  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31301    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Raisky, Kat  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 13:37:41  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31302    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Newman, Roberta E.  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 13:48:13  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31303    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Uurtamo, Rebecca  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 13:50:14  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31304    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hogan, Eileen  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 13:50:24  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31305    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mueller, Lynda  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 13:50:52  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31306    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A

**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 13:53:40  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31307    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Davenport, George

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,17,2011 13:57:11

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31308    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Oleson, Pamela

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,17,2011 00:00:00

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** As a frequent visitor to Point Reyes 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31309    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Montuori, John R  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 14:00:44  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31310    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Gilin, Cheryl  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 14:02:01  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** To Whom It May Concern,

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.

Sincerely, Cheryl Gilin

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**Correspondence ID:** 31311    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Center For Biological Diversity Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 14:02:49  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31312    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Ryan, David  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 14:03:08  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** To Whom It May Concern,

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.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

David Ryan

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**Correspondence ID:** 31313    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 14:07:00  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31314    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Todd, Drs. Sher and Randall  
**Outside Organization:** Center for Biological Diversity Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** We support the wilderness designation for Drakes Estero within the Point Reyes National Seashore. We 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 individuals who enjoy our spectacular national parks, we urge you to not undermine protections at Drakes Estero and succumb to special interests seeking to commercialize these special places.

Drs. Sher and Randall Todd

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**Correspondence ID:** 31315    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Milhaupt, Shannon M  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 14:11:01  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31316    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Cecil, Jon  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 14:11:12  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31317    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 14:15:13  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31318    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kline, James  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 14:17:59  
**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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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31319    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** White, Karen  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov.17,2011 14:20:04  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31320    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Dawdy, Kenneth  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov.17,2011 14:22:00  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31321    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Verdicchio, Giuliano  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov.17,2011 14:27:22  
**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.

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commercial exploitation. The American public deserves to have this unique marine wilderness protected in a natural state for future generations to enjoy.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31322    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lazar, Vera  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 14:27:59  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31323    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hutchison, Lillian  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 14:30:56  
**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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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:** 31324    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 14:35:51  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31325    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Rollin, Lindsey  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 14:36:12  
**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:** 31326    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Zuena, Pauline  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 14:37:26  
**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:** 31327    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Nayfield, Alicia  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 14:39:41  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31328    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 14:45:50  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31329    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Shaffer, Barbara  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 14:53:22  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31330    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Struble, Daniel  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 14:59:41  
**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.

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---

**Correspondence ID:** 31331    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Perales, Hugo  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 14:59:41  
**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.

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---

**Correspondence ID:** 31332    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 15:07:04  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31333    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** ANONYMOUS Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov.17,2011 15:11:55  
**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.

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Act Now, or Expect Us ...!

Sincerely,

One of Many... ANONYMOUS

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**Correspondence ID:** 31334    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Buckingham, Laurence  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov.17,2011 15:13:42  
**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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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.

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---

**Correspondence ID:** 31335    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Poerschke, Annette  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 15:15:54  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31336    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Rossi, Patricia A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 15:18:20  
**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.

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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31337    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Curatola, Kacey  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 15:27:24  
**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.

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<b>Correspondence ID:</b>	31338	<b>Project:</b>	33043	<b>Document:</b>	43390
<b>Name:</b>	N/A, N/A				
<b>Outside Organization:</b>	Unaffiliated Individual				
<b>Received:</b>	Nov,17,2011 15:29:05				
<b>Correspondence Type:</b>	Web Form				
<b>Correspondence:</b>	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.

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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.

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<b>Correspondence ID:</b>	31339	<b>Project:</b>	33043	<b>Document:</b>	43390
<b>Name:</b>	Nasser, Matthew S				
<b>Outside Organization:</b>	Citizen for Clean Invironment Unaffiliated Individual				
<b>Received:</b>	Nov,17,2011 15:34:42				
<b>Correspondence Type:</b>	Web Form				
<b>Correspondence:</b>	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.				

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<b>Correspondence ID:</b>	31340	<b>Project:</b>	33043	<b>Document:</b>	43390
<b>Name:</b>	Christensen, Jill				
<b>Outside Organization:</b>	Unaffiliated Individual				
<b>Received:</b>	Nov,17,2011 15:38:47				

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31341    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 15:40:45  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Just because one oyster "farmer" wants to ruin the last remaining west coast marine reserve, does not mean they have the right to do so.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31342    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 15:51:06  
**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. Thank you for considering my comments

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**Correspondence ID:** 31343    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Bossi, Paul  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 15:59:18  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** We would like to continue supporting and patronizing Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31344    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Perales, Hugo  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,17,2011 16:01:41

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31345    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** O'Sullivan, Joseph

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,17,2011 16:02:39

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31346    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Glenn, Julie

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,10,2011 13:13:51

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31347    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Longstreth, John P

**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,17,2011 16:16:08

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** Two comments:

1. The Wilderness Act is one of the great cornerstones of environmental legislation of the last half of the 20th Century. It is quite specific about what a wilderness is, in terms of the law, and what can be done in a designated wilderness area. Commercial and similar uses are not permitted. The legislation for the Point Reyes Seashore wilderness echoes those specifics, although it allowed the 40 year reservation of use for the Johnson Oyster Farm.

I am very worried that extending the life of the oyster farm beyond the allowed reservation of use in the designated "potential" wilderness area is going to lead to a slippery slope where other commercial, and perhaps industrial, operations will be allowed in wilderness areas across our country.

2. More locally, the California Coastal Commission has recently required a landowner along Tomales Bay, who wished to repair his dock, to install expensive translucent planking so that the eelgrass could grow under and around it. This dock is several hundred square feet.

In the EIS, the "8.5 linear miles" of eelgrass destruction by DBOC motorboats is classified as only "moderate." Because the boats probably don't take exactly the same route every time, we are probably talking about hundreds of thousands of square feet of eelgrass habitat destruction and fragmentation.

The EIS description of "moderate" does not jibe with how serious the California Coastal Commission views this problem.

Thank you.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31348    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** seeburger, john  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 16:28:18  
**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

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**Correspondence ID:** 31349    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** DeMarinis, Dennis  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 16:32:41  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31350    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Darweesh, Perri  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 16:32:41  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31351    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Tiaven, Marilyn  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 16:32:41  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31352    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mackiewicz, Frances  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 16:32:41  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31353    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Foran, Kieran  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 16:32:57  
**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.

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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31354    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Pilson, Charles  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 16:33:38  
**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.

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:** 31355    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Shrewsbury, Laura  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 16:34:50  
**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:** 31356    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Beaty, Katherine  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 16:35:49  
**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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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.

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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31357    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Causey, Wendy  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 16:36:18  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31358    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Longacre, Dona J  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 16:36:29  
**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

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**Correspondence ID:** 31359    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Vollmer, Alex  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 16:43:18  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:**

As a frequent visitor to the Point Reyes peninsula, I strongly 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31360    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** golden, jade  
**Outside Organization:** planet earth survival Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 16:46:01  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:**

In 1976, in recognition of its environmental significance, Congress committed that Drakes Estero within the Point Reyes National Seashore would have full wilderness protection in 2012, when an existing commercial oyster farm use permit expires. Drakes Estero shelters twenty percent of the mainland breeding population of harbor seals in California, and its wetlands, mudflats and eelgrass beds are home to numerous shorebirds, waterfowl, native fish and endangered species. Drakes Bay Oyster Company purchased the remaining 7 years on a 40-year non-renewable permit in 2005.

Since then, they have lobbied aggressively to overturn the wilderness designation, with backing from interests which would like to commercialize our national parks.

The National Park Service recently released a draft Environmental Impact Statement with the best available science on the oyster operation impacts.

It is clear allowing the private, commercial oyster operation to exploit Drakes Estero for ten more years would have numerous adverse impacts on eelgrass habitat, native fish, harbor seals, resident and migratory birds, endangered species, wilderness values and the National Park experience. The commercial oyster operations involve 3700 disruptive and noisy motorboat trips per year through harbor seal and eelgrass habitat, promote the spread of invasive species and litter remote beaches with

thousands of pieces of plastic trash.

There are more appropriate places to grow oysters. It is time to return Drakes Estero to all Americans as marine wilderness, as Congress intended.

Please submit comments in support of the environmentally preferred No Action alternative (Alternative A), which would allow the oyster permit to expire in 2012. This is the only alternative compatible with federal wilderness law and National Park Service policies on natural resource conservation and restoration.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31361    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Wilkinson, Sharon

**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,17,2011 00:00:00

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:**

I have visited the oyster farm at Drake's Estero many times and must say I feel fortunate to have access to oysters that are farmed by sustainable methods at Drake's Bay. When you consider the demand for seafood consumption and the fact that the US imports over 80% of the seafood it consumes, we must consider the impact of shutting down a production facility that benefits many. As environmentalists we must also consider the carbon footprint of many of our foods being shipped from other countries.

None of the reports and studies I have read convince me of any negative impact to the harbor seals, turtles, frogs, birds or other wildlife who live in the Estero, and I consider myself to be an environmentalist----- also a realist!

It would be devastating if the Lunny family's lease is not renewed and their farming operations cease to exist. West Marin and the entire nation will be the losers.

Sincerely,

Sharon R. Wilkinson

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31362    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Becker, Mark

**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,17,2011 17:29:53

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:**

For the sake of our children, grandchildren, and the Earth -

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.

Mark Becker

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31363    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Ellett, Mary  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 17:30:14  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31364    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Berra, Carla  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 17:32:47  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31365    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Cole, Beth  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 17:34:59  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31366    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** price, donna l  
**Outside Organization:** freelancer Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 17:43:29  
**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.

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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31367    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Owens, Katherine  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 18:02:56  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31368    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Coogan, Joyce  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 18:07:25  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31369    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Squire, Julie  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 18:28:34  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31370    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Reynolds, Mary  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 18:31:03  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31371    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Neff, John  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 18:32:39  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** As a former longtime Marin County resident and years-long West Marin resident, I am very familiar with the Drakes Bay Oyster Company, and the Lunny family. I know Kevin Lunny has the greatest respect for the environment and is very conscientious in his oyster farming operation. I believe the Oyster Farm should be permitted to stay as long as the ranches and other commercial operations are permitted within the seashore. The oyster farm is a water ranch, after all, and its creatures do a

whole lot less to the environment than the land cattle do. As well, the oyster farm provides the best oysters in that section of the West Coast. Thank you.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31372    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hayhurst, Evelyn  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 18:33:06  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31373    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Baruch, Heidi  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 18:33:06  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31374    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Refsland, Lucie  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 18:33:09  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31375    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lynn, Candice  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 18:33:10  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31376    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Klass, David  
**Outside Organization:** National Park Service Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 18:34:29  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31377    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Thorne, Susan  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 18:34:48  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31378    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 18:34:56  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31379    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Johnston, Susan  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 18:35:21  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31380    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Micsunescu, Cora  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 18:55:31  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** I am writing this in support of a renewable Special Use Permit for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company. I have visited this place several times and have bought oysters at the main site as well as in restaurants in Pt. Reyes Station. I believe that local, sustainable agriculture is a vital part of the economy in California. It provides much needed jobs and tax revenue. In this recession, an economic enterprise such as Drakes Bay Oyster Farm should not be destroyed.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31381    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** McLain, Lisa  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 19:03:11  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31382    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Obrecht, Elizabeth  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 19:03:15  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31383    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Williams, Clifford  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 19:03:19  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31384    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Jones, Helen  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 19:05:39  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31385    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Avila, Ron  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 19:05:46  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31386    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Ryeck, Kevin  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 19:05:52  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31387    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Howard, Kristin  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 19:06:15  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31388    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Rosen, Barbara  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 19:33:19  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31389    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Heller, M.L.  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** To Whom it May Concern:

I'm writing in support of the wilderness designation for Drakes Estero within the Point Reyes National Seashore and 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.

As a student at Cal Berkeley in the early 1970's, I spent countless hours enjoying the rugged beauty of Point Reyes, filling my lungs with chilled air and sea spray. Committed to sustaining this pristine ecologically significant wildlife area, I urge you to protect Drakes Estero.

I have learned that it represents 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 achieved 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 exist to serve people and protect wildlife. Therefore, 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31390    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Bigelow, John

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,17,2011 20:03:34

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31391    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** McMullen, Susan

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,17,2011 20:03:34

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31392    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lacome, Michael  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 20:03:38  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31393    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Snouffer, Michael  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 20:03:38  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31394    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Carr, Barbara  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 20:05:23  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31395    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Vinson, Jane  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 20:29:13  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31396    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Simmons, Pat  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** Please protect Drakes Estero wilderness, as long intended and is 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. We need to protect our natural resources from commercial and other man-made destruction. Taking care of the Earth should be our number one priority as it is our home and the home for our precious wildlife.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31397    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Taqui, Imtiyaz  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 20:33:41  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31398    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hawkins, Hailey  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 20:35:08  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31399    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Bova, Cynthia  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Between accidental spills and deliberate polluting, marine life does not have a chance! After researching gray whale migrations following the recent wave of apparent starvation deaths, it became clear to these whale watchers what is probably happening. Since the beginning of time these massive creatures migrated along our coast feeding in and out of estuaries on mud and ghost shrimp. Today however, a powerful and greedy Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association somehow acquired a free pass since 1964 to chemically eradicate shrimp in Willapa Bay and Grays harbor, Wa. The shrimp populations have been decimated to near extinction! Take two large estuaries out of the equation and, well, your getting the pictures!(5 DEAD WHALES IN A WEEK) Here's the kicker; The state Department of Ecology is still giving out permits to aerial spray carbaryl for more shrimp control! PLEASE RESEARCH! We are not making this up! Save a whale and possibly yourself, DON'T EAT CHEMICAL FLAVORED OYSTERS! 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:** 31400    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** AUERBACH, David

**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 20:40:10  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31401    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** White', Michael P  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 20:52:37  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31402    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Bova, Steve B  
**Outside Organization:** Fisherman Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 21:13:38  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** SAVE THE WILDERNESS! ! Between accidental spills and deliberate polluting, marine life doesn't have a chance! After researching gray whale migrations following the recent wave of apparent starvation deaths, it became clear to these whale watchers what is probably happening. Since the beginning of time these massive creatures migrated along our coast feeding in and out of estuaries on mud and ghost shrimp. Today however, a powerful and greedy Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association somehow acquired a free pass since 1964 to chemically eradicate shrimp in Willapa Bay and Grays harbor, Wa. The shrimp populations have been decimated to near extinction! Take two large estuaries out of the equation and, well, your getting the pictures!(5 DEAD WHALES IN A WEEK) Here's the kicker; The state Department of Ecology is still giving out permits to aerial spray carbaryl for more shrimp control! PLEASE RESEARCH! We are not making this up! Save a whale and possibly yourself, DON'T EAT CHEMICAL FLAVORED OYSTERS! After hearing of the deliberate extermination of shrimp, juvenile crab and salmon through aerial chemical spraying of thousands of acres of estuaries by greedy and/or lazy oyster farmers, I drove to Olympia to voice our concerns. While there, my wife and I attended a Washington State Invasive species council meeting. This council is made up of The Nature Conservancy, Audubon Society, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service among others.

Although this council is very instrumental in controlling intrusive noxious non-indigenous plants and animals we feel that they are way off the mark concerning spartina grass. I signed the comment roster and asked the dozen or so council members "who and why did they label spartina grass noxious (harmful). As I waited, I looked into there eyes staring directly at each and every one of them waiting for an answer. Finally,after what seemed like a few minutes, a very nice lady from the Audubon Society said something to the effect of "If the grass covers the mud flats certain shore birds won't be able to get there beaks in the mud to feed" With that said, I was in shock , after a moment of regaining my composure,I asked her if our salmon and crab (Natural Resources) are less important, as thousands of them would be killed along with the spartina grass, not to mention other waterfowl and other birds caught in their chemical spray!(Pesticides in water are NOXIOUS and toxic to birds, fish and all invertebrates) After we got home, I googled "spartina grass" which educated me somewhat, about this erosion controlling non poisonous grass. Spartina is a shoreline stabilizer/natural protector against rising oceans. It is revered on the East and Gulf Coasts ,and demonized on the West Coast. Our ocean is at risk because of faulty regulatory controls influenced by special interests and biased science.After researching spartina grass, it hit me! The reason this oxygen producing plant is "noxious" is because a dozen or so misguided individuals want to "Harm" everything around it! Seriously, this grass has been around here 80-100+ years. The past and future efforts to kill this grass is probably one of the main reasons our salmon fishery is on the way of extincion. Our Government spends millions of tax dollars on salmon recovery, then it turns around and spends over \$25 million of taxpayers money pouring thousands of gallons of biocides(chemicals) onto the tidal flats killing spartina and juvenile salmon hiding in the grass! The "experts" ask us to avoid over-watering our lawns to prevent fertilizers and pesticides from entering our waterways then ironically promote the direct application of some of these same chemicals to our estuaries. Please call your elected officials and ask them to get our priorities straight! Tell them the shore birds will adapt and find other insects to eat and our coast needs this erosion controlling NON-NOXIOUS grass, especially during our earths rising ocean phases! Ask them to draft legislation outlawing the use of ALL chemicals that are deliberately sprayed in our oceans killing our fisheries! Ask oyster sellers if thier product was sprayed with chemicals and tell them you would rather eat oysters that did NOT filter chemicals! Thank You Steve Bova

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**Correspondence ID:** 31403    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sutton, Mary Jo  
**Outside Organization:** none Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 21:50:57  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Please do not extend the special use permit any longer for Drakes Estero to be used for commercial oyster farming. It compromises the habitat which has been designated to be a marine wildlife preserve.

thank you,

Sincerely, Mary Jo Sutton

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**Correspondence ID:** 31404    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Raybin, Daniel M  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 21:55:38  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I strongly recommend a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

I have lived in the San Francisco Bay area since 1967. I have frequently visited Pt. Reyes National Seashore, since it was first established. I am a member of many environmental organizations, including the Sierra Club and the Wilderness Society (Life Member). I appreciate the value of wilderness. However, wilderness is not the only value here. In my view, visiting Drakes Bay Oyster Company is also a valuable part of the Point Reyes visitor experience. I feel that the environment impact statement misses the point. This enterprise(DBOC) does not even moderately diminish the visitor experience. It enhances it. It is part of the valued Point Reyes experience. This is the reason that so many visitors petitioned our congressional representatives to allow the Secretary of the Interior to renew the lease.

Please, Mr. Secretary of the Interior, issue a RENEWABLE special use permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company Sincerely  
Daniel M Raybin MD

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**Correspondence ID:** 31405    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** McMurrian, Wesley  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 22:44:25  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31406    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** hakimbashi, milad  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov.17,2011 23:40:13  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31407    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Shah, Brijesh  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,17,2011 23:53:52  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31408    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Ward, Ralph

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 01:58:50  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31409    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Green, Anne  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Not everyone has had the opportunity to visit this beautiful area. I'm a National Park groupie, I have to admit it. But this National Seashore is so stunning, my husband and I sort of happened upon it in the 90's and just loved it. I feel so lucky to have experienced it.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31410    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sennello, Patrick  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 01:58:50  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31411    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Palmer, Janine  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 02:00:31  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31412    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Novak, Collette  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 02:00:35  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31413    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Dahlgren, Deborah  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 02:00:35  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31414    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Ahlschwede, Susan  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 02:00:36

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31415    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Young, Kim

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 00:00:00

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** I strongly urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year, as long intended. To allow this opportunity for wilderness slip away would be a travesty. Having once lived in Marin County and San Francisco I truly understand how important this area is. It is certainly in the public interest to create the West Coast's ONLY marine wilderness for the enjoyment of all, both residents and visitors. The public has waited nearly four decades for these protections to be implemented, which is an immense compromise in itself. Drakes Estero is a very 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 immensely, I urge you to uphold the longstanding plan to convert this very special resource to wilderness. It's simply the correct thing, the best thing to do for everyone concerned.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31416    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Teig, Mark

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 02:01:34

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31417    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Thompson, Veronica

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 00:00:00

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** Please make sure that the future generations get the benefit of a beautiful wilderness. We love Pacific Northwest, so we 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31418    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Sennello, Patrick

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 02:01:38

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31419    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Carlquist, Brad

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 00:00:00

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** As a park supporter, resource management and wilderness, park ranger for many yrs. I urge you to not allow private commercial use of this marine wilderness National Seashore. It will impact the park, the estuary value and the recreation and visitors experiences. 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.

Please protect this unique wilderness refuge as wilderness now. Raising oysters sounds like it will not be that impacting of the resources until you think about All of the significant interrelated and significant impacts to the resources and the visitors experience. It all comes down to do you really want to protect the marine environment and the wildlife, that is what the present and future generations want. Please support and fight for alternative A as in is the best to uphold the resource, the public's wild experience and the future. I believe oysters can be raised in several other locations which would not impact this protected marine resource and public National Seashore.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31420    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Anderson, Henry  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 02:01:42  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31421    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Heuertz, Rachel  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 02:01:47  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31422    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Nahill, Brad  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 02:06:12  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31423    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Congo, Elizabeth

**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 02:07:02

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31424    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Zimmerman, Sophi

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 02:09:06

**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31425    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Ericson, Rebecca

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 02:09:19

**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31426    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Palazzo, TANIA  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 02:10:18  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31427    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Dulemba, Lorie  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 04:27:46  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31428    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Moreira, Nancy  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 05:30:47  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31429    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 05:55:43  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Dear National Park Service,

I support Alternative A in the draft Environmental Impact Statement -- full wilderness designation for the entire Drakes Estero within Point Reyes National Seashore.

Alternative A is the environmentally preferred alternative that would expand and provide the best habitat protections within the only marine wilderness on the west coast. Drakes Estero is a unique wildlife area that is connected to critically important marine habitat for endangered leatherback sea turtles and protected species of marine mammals. Drakes Bay is part of the Leatherback Conservation Area and is also proposed as critical habitat for the endangered Pacific leatherback sea turtle.

Sincerely,

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**Correspondence ID:** 31430    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Benvenuto, Elaine  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 06:00:52  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31431    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Johnson, Philip  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 00:00:00  
**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 am planning to visit this wonderful place in 2012. I have been to many of our National Parks and I believe they MUST all be protected, especially from commercial greed. Our Cape Hatteras National Seashore in NC presently suffers from over use and abuse by commercial fisheries and recreational fishing.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31432    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 06:37:24  
**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.

Welcome back! For your convenience, we have filled out your form with the information you provided previously from postal code 92104. Click to see and manage your information.

Not [judith@arts4change.com](mailto:judith@arts4change.com)? Please click here. Thank you! Email\* Sending your message, please wait ...

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**Correspondence ID:** 31433    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sternberg, Sherri  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 06:58:14  
**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:** 31434    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lawson, Debi  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 06:58:25  
**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:** 31435    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lawson, Debi  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 07:01:00  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31436    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Pallett, Deborah  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 07:28:02

**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31437    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Tillotson, Paula  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 07:52:29  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** We support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company. We have a group of people who visit Drakes Bay Oyster Company each year as an established tradition. We spend a week in the area as our last vacation trip of the year. Without Drakes Bay Oyster Company, we would probably not make the trip.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31438    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Haugen, Maria  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 07:57:57  
**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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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31439    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** enser, suzanne  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 07:58:10  
**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.

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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31440    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lee, dawn  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 07:58:29  
**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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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31441    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hanger, Gretchen  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 07:59:04  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31442    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Anway, M Susan  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 08:00:12  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31443    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Neal, Alex  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 08:04:41  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31444    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Finn, Jeffrey S  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 08:05:12  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I am opposed to the Drakes bay Oyster Company special use permit.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31445    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Moruzzi, David  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 08:25:40  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Please extend the permit for Drake's bay.

I find it hard to believe the fecal matter from cattle does not do more damage to the water and native animals that depend on the water ways.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31446    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Parker, Douglas  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 08:31:15  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31447    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Franchi, Irena  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 08:37:50  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31448    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** BAHNSON, Alfred  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 08:58:05  
**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:** 31449    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kaul, Edward  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 08:58:31  
**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:** 31450    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Fabing, Keith  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 08:58:37  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31451    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Paschall, Michael  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 08:59:22  
**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:** 31452    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Schmeh, Derek  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 08:59:28  
**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:** 31453    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kay, Shoshana  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 08:59:32  
**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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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.

I personally took school field trips and family outings to Point Reyes while growing up. My future children deserve to have the same opportunity. This should not be a privilege but something we take for granted. Stop ruining the beautiful wilderness with dirty and unnecessary schemes.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31454    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Hirsch, Harriet

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 09:01:20

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31455    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Barry, Laura

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 09:01:47

**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:** 31456    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Earley, Tim

**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 09:12:40

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:**

I support a new special use permit for drakes bay oyster company

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**Correspondence ID:** 31457    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Reznik, Aida

**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a renewable Special use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

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**Correspondence ID:** 31458    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sinitsyn, German  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a renewable Special use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

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**Correspondence ID:** 31459    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a renewable Special use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

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**Correspondence ID:** 31460    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Martin, Kai  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 09:28:39  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31461    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sleator, Richard  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 09:30:51  
**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.

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.

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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31462    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Silver, Margaret  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 09:31:21  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31463    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Carmichael, Robyn  
**Outside Organization:** National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 09:38:55  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31464    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Bartholomew, Alice  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 09:50:22  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I am writing in support of extending the lease for Drakes Bay Oyster Co. The Point Reyes National Seashore was intended not only to protect wild areas but to allow for sustainable agriculture. Oyster farming is very sustainable from all I have read. Environmental damage from cattle is much more extensive. We need to work to make any environmental damage as minimal as possible but the dairy farms and oyster beds are part of the charm and attraction of the area. Drakes Bay Oyster Co. is an icon and should be allowed to remain.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31465    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 09:53:01  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** Leave our local farms alone. Let the oyster farm stay.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31466    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Seamon, John  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 09:59:20  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31467    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Meneely, Tasha  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 10:00:58  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31468    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Swanson, Mary L  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 10:05:13  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Please allow the Oyster Company to continue its operations in the bay. This wonderful asset to our community has a positive presence and is a valuable asset to the area. As a Marin County native, I vote to save the oyster business. I hike and kayak in the area and see no problems. Lets keep our National Park and our oyster business. Thank you.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31469    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Baumgaertner, Michael  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 10:09:03

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31470    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hermann, Charles F  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 10:12:36  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I strongly support the extension of the lease for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

I believe oyster farming enhances the environment rather than detracting from it contributing to sustainable agriculture. In addition Drakes Bay has brought a lift to the economy bringing commerce and adds charm to West Marin. Sounds like, win, win, win to me.

Charles F. Hermann

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**Correspondence ID:** 31471    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 10:16:11  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I AM WITH SENATOR FEINSTEIN ON THIS ONE. VERY FEW FARMS LIKE THIS IN THE U.S, WITH SUCH A CLEAN AND ENVIORNMENTALLY CONSCIOUS PRODUCER.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31472    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Bowe, Paul  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 10:31:53  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31473    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Albers, Linda

**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 10:32:10  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31474    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Winter, Phyllis J

**Outside Organization:** retired Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 10:38:56

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** Hello, I would very much like to see the special use permit extended for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company. Their operation seems to be a natural fit for this area and the park so should remain.

I have been an occasional customer of the Oyster Co. through the years and it appears cleaner and more efficient now than ever and is a joy to visit!

The thought of seeing this beautiful serene area overrun with noisy seals and kayakers makes me shudder.

Please let this perfect operation remain there!

Thank you, Phyllis Winter

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**Correspondence ID:** 31475    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** McNeal, Jacob A

**Outside Organization:** Salmon Films Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 10:42:00

**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.

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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31476    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** de la Giroday, Francois  
**Outside Organization:** private citizen Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 10:59:31  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31477    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Champion, Judith  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 11:30:40  
**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:** 31478    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Coss, Shelley  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 11:32:29  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31479    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Misquez, Michael  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 11:32:33  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31480    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mcneal, Kim  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 11:32:38  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31481    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Ody, Nancy  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** When I go to San Francisco, one of my favorite side trips is to Point Reyes. I urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year. 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31482    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Bishop, Andrew  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 11:32:38

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31483    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Wreden, Frustuck

**Outside Organization:** 1 Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 11:41:27

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** You have accused the affected community of not knowing what is in its own best interest. YOU are the ones who are guilty of this specific ineptitude. Drake's Bay Oyster Company is a jewel, a gift to those of us fortunate enough to partake of the amazing results of their efforts. It is a destination, it is a place of learning and community, it is GOOD for the environment, it provides the BEST food imaginable, and it is utterly unique in the state of California for a long list of reasons. Shutting them down would be a crime. Shame on you for what you have done to Kevin Lunny and his colleagues.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31484    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** quigley, patty

**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 11:43:42

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** I support a renewable special use permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31485    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Houseman, David

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 12:00:03

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31486    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Pouliot, David M

**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 12:18:15

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company. As a Siera Club Member and avid hiking at Point Reyes for 35 years, I see no harm in allowing the Oyster Company, which pre-dated the park in existence, from continuing its use. When legislation was introduced to create the park, it was specifically intended to permit the ongoing cultivation of oysters in Drakes Bay. Current park administrators have been proven to lie and manipulate scientific data against the Oyster Company. Their prejudice should not decide this issue.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31487    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Parker, Kathleen M  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 12:21:42  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Please don't close it.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31488    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kirschman, Richard  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 12:23:23  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** The Drakes Bay Oyster Company is a valued and long established resource providing sustainable food, and employment for dozens of families. It is part of our community and the landscape, as are our ranches and farms.

It should be allowed to continue in operation indefinitely.

Arguing that harbor seals are being disturbed, or that other wilderness areas will be threatened by the setting of some new precedent, are not convincing, and seem motivated by a "win at any cost" mentality by certain NPS officials.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31489    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** lubman, judith  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 12:26:50  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I strongly support renewing the lease for the Drake's Bay Oyster Co. I have been visiting the Park regularly since I moved to California in 1967. I have had a second home in Inverness since 1985 and I spend more than half my time there and almost daily hike in the park, along the beaches and near the Estero.

The scientific data, if it is accurate, is not enough to make me believe that the Oyster Farm is doing anything to harm the environment. The eating of those oysters brings pleasure and nourishment to Californians near and far. The Oyster Farm is well-run, brings local jobs, interests casual visitors and loyal supporters. The Lunnys devoted themselves to improving the conditions and turned the operation to a well-run, appreciated business.

I think that there is every reason to renew the lease. The few harbor seals that might be inconvenienced seem to romp happily on Limantour spit and the far end of Drakes Beach.

Please renew the lease

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**Correspondence ID:** 31490    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Newton, Roger  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 12:29:02  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31491    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Froning, Solange  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 12:29:15  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31492    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Grant, Shawna  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 12:31:43  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31493    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Bernard, Steve  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 12:37:13  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Please grant Drakes Bay Oyster Co the special permit they require to continue their livelihood and help the regional economy. I believe the ecosystem has not been harmed by the company and furthermore the oysters perform a filtering effect that keeps the bay a pristine ecological gem. We are but two citizens that are trying to make a difference.

Thanks for your attention,

Steve and Dale Bernard

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**Correspondence ID:** 31494    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Holmes, Reberta  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 12:38:50  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31495    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Pinkerton, Margo  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 12:59:38  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31496    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** adrian, lawrence  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 13:00:37  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31497    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Bouley, Paola  
**Outside Organization:** individual Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 13:01:33  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Re: Draft Environmental Impact Statement Drakes Bay Oyster Company Special Use Permit

Dear Superintendent of the Point Reyes National Seashore,

I am both a strong supporter of local oyster production and agricultural and the wilderness designation for Drakes Bay. Thankfully, healthy and appropriately placed oyster operations exist in Tomales Bay and I strongly support and appreciate their continued existence. I do not however support the continued commercial oyster operation on Drakes Bay in lieu of the wilderness designation.

I therefore am writing to express my support for Alternative A, the no-action alternative, under which any existing authorizations for DBOC would expire on November 30, 2012 allowing designation of Drakes Estero to wilderness status as originally intended by the people of this nation.

My support for this wilderness designation in no way means that I am opposed to local agriculture, quite the contrary actually. But we need to continuously remind ourselves that wilderness is shrinking dramatically world-wide and that we cannot allow our selfish gains and rapidly expanding demands on the environment to stand in the way of preserving the few and precious lands that can be preserved and enhanced for all future generations of species. And I sincerely hope that the NPS will stand firm in ensuring that we can preserve the integrity of Drakes Bay as well as the Wilderness Act into the future.

Sincerely, Paola Bouley M.S.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31498    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Norris, Shelby  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 13:01:37  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31499    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Cannon, Joseph  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:**

I support of the No Action alternative (Alternative A), which is also the Environmentally Preferred Alternative, which would allow the oyster permit to expire in 2012. This is the only alternative compatible with federal wilderness law and National Park Service policies on natural resource conservation, restoration and invasive species management.

The Draft EIS makes clear that allowing the private, commercial oyster company to exploit Drakes Estero for ten more years would have numerous adverse impacts - most notably from the invasive species - on eelgrass habitat, native fish, harbor seals, resident and migratory birds, endangered species, wilderness values and the National Park experience.

A deal is a deal! In 1976, Congress committed that Drakes Estero within Point Reyes National Seashore would have full

wilderness protection in 2012, when the existing commercial oyster company use permit expires. There are more appropriate places to grow oysters. It is time to return Drakes Estero to all Americans as marine wilderness, as Congress intended.

Joseph Cannon

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**Correspondence ID:** 31500    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mingleдорff, Daniel  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 13:11:29  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31501    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 13:20:36  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31502    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Wardell, Nancy  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 13:28:34  
**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:** 31503    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** McMullin, Susan  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 13:29:20  
**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.

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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:** 31504    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** felix, jeffrey  
**Outside Organization:** self Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 13:30:40  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** FOR CLOSURE OF THE OYSTER OPERATION ON DRAKE'S ESTERO.

A deal is a deal. Drakes Bay Oyster should close operations at the end of the agreed upon contract. Having motorized water craft in a wilderness setting such as Drake's Bay disturbs wild life, period.

The waste of money and time spent on this issue is mind boggling particularly at a time when money is so limited. It is time to get this done.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31505    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** May, Debra  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 13:31:44  
**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.

Please preserve this natural wonderland for all to be able to enjoy! I have hiked here and loved it. Please protect this place!!

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31506    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mckeehen, Darrin  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 13:31:59  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31507    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** \veges, Balint  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 13:33:00  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31508    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Young, Arthur  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 13:50:11  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I write to support a decision favorable to Drakes Bay Oyster Company to continue its family business, its contribution to the local and regional community in so many ways, its participation in the Local Food and Slow Food movements, its financial asset

as a West Marin company, and its essential part in Northern California tourism.

Reading through the news reports and background NPS papers leads me to the conclusion that in this case, an agency of government for which I've had great respect has simply aggrandized an issue in a negative light which is simply incorrect.

DCOC runs a clean and healthful operation. I hope it continues to thrive.

Arthur Young

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**Correspondence ID:** 31509    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Fitzgerald, David  
**Outside Organization:** Bay Area Sea Kayakers Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 13:53:54  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I kayak on Drakes Estero several times per year. I do not see any problem with the Oyster Company's presence there. I do not believe that my experience paddling on the Estero would be improved if the oyster operation is removed. The area would not be any more of a real wilderness than it is today.

The presence of the Oyster Company is an interesting and colorful addition to the area and I support it's benefit to the local and regional economy.

Unless the Oyster Company is proven to be causing significant and legitimate environmental harm it's permit should be extended.

Sincerely, David Fitzgerald Concord, CA

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**Correspondence ID:** 31510    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Roberts, Rebecca  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 13:59:01  
**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.

National Park Service? You're not serving anything if you extend this permit. This world does not have many areas that are pure nature, don't get rid of the few that are left.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31511    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Diamond, Sarah B  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 13:59:50  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** After reviewing all of the NPS proposals and listening and learning, I urge you to approve the permit for the DBOC without restrictions and without a time limitation. This company is a superb model of a local resource providing needed local service with an unblemished record of environmental sensitivity. They have every right to continue as they are.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31512    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Reback, Mark  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:00:29  
**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:** 31513    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hudson, Erin  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:00:42  
**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:** 31514    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Murray, Samantha  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:00:48  
**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:** 31515    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Brown, Danielle  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:00:49  
**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:** 31516    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** slapinski, paul  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:00:50  
**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:** 31517    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mosley, David  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:02:08  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** I urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year!!! This area should be protected for the enjoyment of the people and not for commercial use!! Use some common sense!!! Dave M.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31518    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Paley, Howard  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:02:14  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31519    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Glomski, Susan  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:02:22  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31520    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Phillips, Steve  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:02:44  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support the No Action alternative (Alternative A), for conversion to wilderness.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31521    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** bissey, tom  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:14:17  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31522    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Burt, Sarah  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:29:43  
**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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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31523    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Finholt, Tom  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:29:57  
**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:** 31524    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** zwiesler, thomas  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:30:03  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31525    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Finholt, Tom  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:30:03  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31526    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Ward, Kristin  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:30:10  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31527    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Loury, Erin  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I recently visited Point Reyes and was stunned by it's great natural beauty. I also sampled some of the region's delicious oysters, but I believe in preserving the land as wilderness.

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:** 31528    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Quill, Michael  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:30:21  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31529    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mcduffie, Holly  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:31:49  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31530    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mullen-Madrone, Lynda  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 00:00:00  
**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. So many of our estuaries are being destroyed to allow more commercial building and the building of homes, we need to keep this treasure for all the animals that God created. Please vote to keep this treasure for all of us for all time.

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.

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---

**Correspondence ID:** 31531    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** gordon, bernard  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:31:53  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31532    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Van Zant, Alice  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:31:53  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31533    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Shim, Monica  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:31:57  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31534    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Wollman, Isaac S  
**Outside Organization:** individual. Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:32:33  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** Dear to whom it may concern;

Desecration of lands in this case, Point Reyes only serves up one thing destroying natural property and creating havoc upon the earth. Native Americans such as myself view this as atrocious. We should give the land all the space and protection it needs.

We should honor the land like our mother our being.

We should love and adore our mother.

The great sacred earth needs healing and we need to protect it for future generations.

Please listen to the people and put valuable protections on this point of land.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31535    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Davis, Ron R  
**Outside Organization:** Davis Appraisal Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:47:32  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** It seems to me that Mr. Lunny purchased his oyster business under disclosure that he would probably not have his permit renewed. Additionally, it appears as though Mr. Lunny has expanded his oyster operation 10 fold in the years since he took control, thereby using the national park for his own benefit,..... at the cost of the environment and the people who enjoy this area. It is for these reasons that I strongly request that Mr. Lunny's request for a new permit be denied.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31536    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Torney, Eric J

**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:50:17  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** My Comment:

The Oyster Farm predates the park. My opinion is that if the issue now raised using scientific evidence intended to support radical administration effort was anticipated during original creation of the park that the oyster farm would have been given permission to continue operations indefinitely.

I am offended to hear of organized groups demanding elimination of the oyster farm.

As long as oyster farm maintains protection for reasonable marine life, my opinion is that it should be allowed to remain in operation.

More specifically, I oppose efforts to promote certain species of wild marine life over others, for example seals currently protected by Federal laws. When I hear of gluttonous seals eating migrating salmon, almost wiping out diminishing stocks of certain salmon runs in the Columbia River in the State of Washington, I am reminded of how certain special interest groups can use force of Federal law to their benefit and to the detriment of other species not so well represented by their own special interest group.

My understanding is that Drakes Estero was chosen as site for oyster farming because it was a natural location for oysters to live and thrive. Oysters need their own special interest group to thrive in the face of being overwhelmed by predatory Federally protected species, such as seals.

I adamantly oppose any effort to close the oyster farm.

Eric J. Torney

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**Correspondence ID:** 31537    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hushin, Matthew  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:58:56  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31538    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Peters, Staci  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:59:08  
**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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Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31539    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Griffith, Tamhas Joseph  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 14:59:35  
**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:** 31540    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Burgunder-Johnson, Dominique  
**Outside Organization:** National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 15:10:51  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31541    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Langan, Mark D  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 15:19:32

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I am writing in strong support of Alternative A (the No Action alternative) on your DEIS. This is the only alternative that both speaks to the intent of Congress when the Seashore was created and the preservation of the natural habitat of Drakes Estero.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31542    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** McAllister, Keith  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Allow Drakes Bay Oyster Company to remain at Drakes Estero.

Please issue a Special Use Permit to allow Drakes Bay Oyster Company (DBOC) to continue operations at Drakes Estero. The oyster culture operation is an integral part of the economic, social, and natural environment of Point Reyes National Seashore (PORE). DBOC is a fine example of a non-polluting, sustainable, chemical-free, family owned and operated agricultural operation. DBOC provides a unique contribution to what makes Point Reyes be Point Reyes, and the area would be poorer in all respects if the oyster company is removed.

Many people drive to Point Reyes with the specific desire to visit DBOC, as they have for several generations. On the other hand, people who don't specifically look for DBOC don't generally see evidence of its existence. I visited Point Reyes half a dozen times before I wandered down the dead-end lane and discovered the (then Johnson) oyster company. I have been back many times.

Those people who complain that DBOC impinges on their "visitor experience" at Point Reyes are, for the most part, disingenuous. Unless they seek out the farm, they really don't see any evidence the oyster operation is there. They have a strong emotional, ideological reaction to the abstract knowledge of the oyster company's existence on NPS property.

Similarly, Point Reyes National Seashore personnel demonstrate an ideological hostility to DBOC. Their professed objections to DBOC fall into two classifications: legal and "scientific." Both classes of argument fail.

Legal: ? Former California Assemblyman Bill Bagley, who wrote AB 1024 giving ownership of Drakes Estero to the federal government, is crystal clear that the bill preserved the right to cultivate oysters in Drakes Estero. ? Former US Congressman Pete McClosky, who was instrumental in providing the funding for the federal government to acquire the land, agrees with Assemblyman Bagley. ? Former US Congressman John Burton, lead author of the Point Reyes Wilderness Act, states that the authors of the Act intended that the oyster farm could continue. ? Former US Senator John Tunney, who worked with Congressman Burton, testified that "existing?aquacultural uses can continue."

PORE personnel simply rewrite history when they claim that Congress mandated closure of DBOC. In fact, the record is clear that the legislative intention was for the oyster company to continue.

Scientific: The "scientific" arguments against DBOC will stand as a permanent embarrassment to Point Reyes National Seashore scientific and administrative personnel. PORE personnel simply lied to the Marin County Board of Supervisors about DBOC effects on harbor seals. PORE's "Sheltered Wilderness" document lied more broadly about DBOC effects on seals, eelgrass, sedimentation, etc. And they lied about the claimed "evidence" for the claimed effects. Although PORE personnel now claim they have been "exonerated" by subsequent investigations, in fact those investigations have been quite damning.

A committee from the National Academy of Sciences reported in May, 2009 that PORE staff "?selectively presented, overinterpreted, or misrepresented the available scientific information on DBOC operations by exaggerating the negative and overlooking potentially beneficial effects." This may sound mild to many readers, but "selectively presented, overinterpreted, or misrepresented," "exaggerating," and "overlooking" are very strong, damning language coming from scientists. Scientists don't usually say such things about other scientists-especially when they aren't charged with investigating scientific misconduct. And the NAS committee didn't even know about the cache of time-and-date-stamped digital photographs that demonstrated clearly that DBOC was not disturbing the harbor seals (contrary to PORE assertions).

The Department of Interior Office of the Solicitor (DOI OoS) declared that PORE personnel couldn't be successfully prosecuted criminally or disciplined for scientific misconduct. That was trumpeted as "exoneration" by PORE staff. But the Office of the Solicitor's investigator only said that INTENT to conceal and mislead could not be established. The details of his report are damning of the behavior of PORE personnel. Consider some of the language from the report: (From DOI OoS report, March, 2011, pages 34-35) ? "Facts and logic also contradict assertions made by NPS senior executives and scientists?" ? "?most of the NPS employees targeted by the informant [Goodman] seemingly erred and appear to have acted improperly?" ? "This misconduct arose from incomplete and biased evaluation and from blurring the line between exploration and advocacy through research." ? "Further, SE2, S1, S2, S3, and S4 violated NPS Code of Scientific and Scholarly Conduct language?" ? "?decision made by S3, S2, and S1 ? was arguably inappropriate and violative of the NPS Interim Code provision requiring 'full[] disclos[ure].'" ? "The NPS scientists?rebutted informant's assertions?in an uncontested, and seemingly improper, effort to shield their own scientific findings?" (From DOI OoS report, page 32) ? "?responses from NPS employees reveal a collective but troubling mindset?" ? "?someone in their chain-of-command should have recognized the errors, sounded the alarm, and demanded disclosure of all research?"

If these things had been said about me, I certainly would not feel "exonerated."

The saga of the time-and-date-stamped digital photographs of Drakes Estero is, by itself, enough to destroy PORE's credibility on matters "scientific." A PORE scientist installed an automatic digital camera at Drakes Estero with the specific intent to document DBOC disturbance of harbor seals. The cameras worked. But they clearly showed that DBOC operations did NOT disturb the seals. The only disturbances the cameras documented were by kayakers (whose presence PORE intends to continue, or increase). PORE simply sat on the uncomfortable evidence and didn't reveal even the existence of the photos for more than two years. When pressed later, PORE claimed the photos were not "research," not "data," not "research record." The photos were "not up to NPS standards for science." Except that: (From DOI OoS report, March, 2011, page 18) ? The photos were used by PORE in an (unsuccessful) attempt to discredit Dr. Corey Goodman and to show that DBOC boats operated on Sundays. ? The photos were used by PORE to document that a DBOC boat disturbed seals. Unfortunately for PORE, closer examination of the photo showed that the disturbing object was not a DBOC boat.

So PORE considered the photos "reliable scientific evidence" when PORE personnel incorrectly thought a few of the photos confirmed their false opinions. But PORE claims that the mass of 280,000 photos clearly showing no DBOC seal disturbance is not scientific evidence.

The discredited legalistic and scientific-sounding arguments used by PORE to justify evicting DBOC from Drakes Estero should be abandoned. Acknowledge the positive contribution that DBOC makes to Point Reyes National Seashore and to visitors' experiences there. Extend DBOC's Special Use Permit for ten years.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31543    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Rice, Bob  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 15:27:43  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Please allow Drakes Bay Oyster Company to continue its operation. I have visited it and found it to be an interesting, viable, environmentally beneficial family-run business. We need more of those, not less. Thank you, Bob Rice

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**Correspondence ID:** 31544    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sealy, Keira  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 15:28:58  
**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.

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:** 31545    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Dunn, Scott  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 15:29:08  
**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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Drakes Estero for 40 years, or until 2012.

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---

**Correspondence ID:** 31546    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Krikava, Martha  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 15:29:08  
**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.

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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31547    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Garitty, Michael  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 15:29:26  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31548    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hughes, Linda  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 15:29:55  
**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:** 31549    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Plank, Briana  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 15:30:46  
**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:** 31550    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Quinn, Sherry  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 15:32:00  
**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:** 31551    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Trufan, Hal  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 15:32:00  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31552    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Purrell, Rich  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 15:32:02  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31553    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Siinkkonen, Mary Ann  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 15:48:19  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Point Reyes National Seashore Att. Superintendent

RE: Drakes Bay Oyster Company and the general Issue of public partnerships with commercial enterprises on public land

I am of the opinion that the previous Pt. Reyes Park Superintendent had a bias to take back all public land for totally public use. After following this story over many years, I believe she wanted commercial use gone from the Park. Fortunately, Senator Feinstein intervened and the debate has continued with more studies and more studies with mixed findings as to the health of the Park when commercial uses are allowed.

I support the lease with Drakes Bay Oyster Company. I support cooperation with local dairy and cattle industries. I know there is a way to co-habit with commercial endeavors. Of-course, care has to be taken to maintain the quality of the soil/water/air and so forth. In the case of the Drakes Bay Oyster Company, I believe that, being a water industry, that Company is enhancing the quality of the sea and sea life in and around the oyster beds.

To try to discredit environmental studies that support the special use permit is continuing the bias that existed with the previous

superintendent.

Similar to the commercial endeavors in the Presidio, commercial use tenants not only provide much needed revenue but with the regulatory environmental protections, those commercial tenants maintain and improve the quality of the air/water/soil.

I support the extension/renewal of the lease with the Drakes Bay Oyster Company. With careful review, I support a climate of cooperation and co-habitation with other commercial endeavors at Point Reyes Seashore.

Sincerely

Mary Ann Sinkkonen 14 Tennyson Dr. Mill Valley, CA 94941

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**Correspondence ID:** 31554    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Trufan, Hal  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 16:00:53  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31555    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Wasby, Lauren  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 16:02:07  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31556    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kinne, Keitha  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Drakes Estero is a rare wildlife refuge where migrating birds stop over, harbor seals give birth, and fish take shelter in eelgrass. Whenever I travel to California I make sure to visit Point Reyes and enjoy one or two days of birdwatching in the park. This is a

precious place which is critical to the survival of birds and other wildlife.

I urge you to act to protect this important area as has been under discussion for so long. Please do not let this opportunity to create a marine wilderness area for public enjoyment and preservation of wildlife fall victim to commercial interests.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31557    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Weerasuriya-Purcell, Taniya  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 16:02:11  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31558    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Delaney, James F  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 16:10:18  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** As I understand the situation, the reason why continuance of the oyster company is now an issue is that the wording of the 1960s document which allowed commercial operations (such as dairy farms) to continue operating on national park property did not specifically mention oyster bed farming. That is, it was an oversight. Certainly there is hardly a pollution issue since dairy farming run-offs during the rainy season (into Drake Estero) are far worse polluters than the commercial oyster operation. And yet dairy farming is allowed to continue operating since it was specifically permitted in the 1960s document.

I'm also aware that both sides in this controversy (Sierra Club vs. oyster company) have enlisted their own experts concerning Estero pollution; the arguments of the experts who favor continuance of the oyster farming operation seemed more compelling to me than the arguments of the experts enlisted by the Sierra Club. But I have no credentials as a pollution expert so I must admit this is only my subjective opinion.

What motivates me to write in favor of allowing the oyster farming to continue boils down to two reasons: (1) oyster farming causes negligible pollution and probably would have been specifically allowed to continue (like dairy farming) if the framers of the 1960s law had been aware of the existence of oyster farming, and (2) I believe that national parks should encourage moderate commercial use of their land (and waters) so long as that use does not damage the land (or waters). And that is especially important in economically depressed times like these.

As a former member of the Sierra Club I am surprised at the vehemence with which the Sierra Club has marshalled its members to pressure the Park Service to get rid of the oyster farming company. No doubt the Park Service will get many letters from Sierra Club members across the country who have never seen how small the oyster farming operation is. As a former resident of Marin County for 20 years and a current hiker in the various Marin County parks for the last 50 plus years I can only say that the Sierra Club is making a mountain out of a pile of oyster shells.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31559    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Norman, Scott  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 16:14:25  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** Hi, I have just read your Impact statement, focusing on the first consolidated portion. I am not a politician or environmentalist or activist, I am just a local resident and consumer of recreational activities, the beauty of the environment as well as a consumer of local shellfish. Let's examine the considerations for analysis in your report from a more rational, non-political perspective: Water quality - Are DBOC operations really damaging to the environment? We know these bivalves are filter feeders. We know that there is proof that these organisms actually improve water quality in other areas in our country. We know DBOC's record on fuel spills (which are excellent) and we know they practice minimum intrusion into mudflats and use reasonably flat bottom boats and are raising shellfish in raised beds, not stirring up mud. The same applies to Eelgrass. It is doubtful that DBOC practices damage eelgrass in any level that threatens its existence and overhead Arial photography should play this out. Looking at special species, wildlife and wildlife habitats and seal pupping, one could argue that DBOC practices have been going on for so long that there is a symbiosis. Fish and aquatic animals and coastal mammals are all well aware of aquaculture in the area and have been living with it for decades. they are not fleeing, they are thriving. Your analysis should be able to pick up any significant reduction in any of these sensitive populations. I just don't believe biased reports from organizations and the Fed regarding seal pupping grounds being disturbed. These grounds coexist and DBOC has no interest in harming them whatsoever at all in fact they go out of their way to be sensitive to these issues. The question is finding some evidence of impact justification to eliminate these operations? That is what the Fed is hoping ? to wipe out a business to look good to the general population at the expense of locals and businesses in the area. You couldn't have a better owner in Tom Lunny. Get to know this guy you will see an individual with integrity and a real desire to preserve this special area. I have followed much of the news and progress on this conflict and what stands out to me is that it looks like an all-out effort by the Fed and certain environmental organizations to besmirch a historical, valuable and carefully run organization that is working with all laws and providing such a wonderful service to the community of seafood lovers. I am sure that your analysis will not find sufficient evidence of negative impact that is so large as to threaten these wetlands and their wildlife. Unless you want to; and that is the issue. These environmental organizations are often irrational and unwilling to share a resource simply because it is a business already established on federal park lands. I am strongly in favor of granting the 10 year extension of the DBOC. I see no argument herein that would make me consider otherwise. I know that DBOC has vastly improved their business practices since it was Johnsons and they are well aware and very sensitive to environmental issues. As a frequent customer and hiker, I can see their practices in action. Let's use this 10 year period to both study and allow the practice of aquaculture in Drakes Bay. An extension seems less arbitrary. If you consider the company has set precedent to operate in the wetlands and look at their impact over time, I think you'll see that impact is not just cause to revoke their license and effectively remove a historical business that serves the public in a time when the public is hurting so badly and more and more is being taken from them. We are hurting in so many ways. There is not much good news these days. This business hurts no one and it is coexisting peacefully with the environment. the water in Drakes Bay is some of the purest around. This aquaculture business is fascinating and unique on the west coast. Let us keep open minds, be compassionate and consider an extension. Thank you. Scott Norman

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**Correspondence ID:** 31560    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Stone, Deborah  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 16:29:15  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31561    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sandoval, Judith  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 16:29:40  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31562    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Cress, Paul  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 16:29:41  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31563    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kylander-Johnson, Sara  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 16:31:13  
**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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back.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31564    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Riedel, Gina  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 16:31:36  
**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:** 31565    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Plock, Charles  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 16:35:22  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I have reviewed the DEI documents and am in favor of supporting and encouraging the Oyster Farm with Alternative D. I support the idea of oyster farming in Drakes Estero, and am likewise very happy the NPS owns the land to protect the land from abuse by current or future operators of the Oyster Farm. I hope the NPS and Oyster Farm will work together to protect the environment and provide an educational visitor experience, and continue being a local food resource.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31566    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lenard, Dena  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 16:38:14  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31567    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Meany, Mary Ann  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 16:38:19  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I am in favor of keeping Drakes Bay Oyster Company operating in the Point Reyes National Seashore. I believe it has historical and cultural significance and I have shopped there frequently over the years.

I visit Point Reyes fairly regularly; it is an important site to me and my family.

It seems unfair to allow the dairies to operate but not the oyster company.

I SUPPORT A RENEWABLE USE PERMIT FOR DRAKES BAY OYSTER FARM.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31568    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mckee, Karla  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I urge the National Park Service to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year. It 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 not to relinquish protections at Drakes Estero 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31569    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Wilson, Richard  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 17:00:10  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31570    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Eschler, Erin  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 17:06:49  
**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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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:** 31571    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Gilbert, Jacqueline

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 17:08:40

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31572    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Ennouri, Elena

**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 17:22:33

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31573    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Barrientos, Antoinette

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 17:36:40

**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.

The long term preservation of California's unique ocean frontage areas is extremely important and necessary. Please do the job you are supposed to be doing --protecting these areas from commercial exploitation. Allow the oyster growing permit to expire and the estuary to reestablish its natural condition.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31574    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Taylor, L  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 17:37:52  
**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:** 31575    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** johnson, richard  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 17:38:07  
**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:** 31576    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hensley, Catherine  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 17:38:13  
**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:** 31577    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Marilynn, Reid  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 17:38:40  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31578    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Rossi, Joey  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 17:51:58  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Hello from Canada! Please do the right thing and save the marine wilderness area called Drakes Estero! Please do not renew the lease for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company. The turtles need our help! Yours Sincerely, Joey Rossi

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**Correspondence ID:** 31579    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Dietrich, Carolyn  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 18:08:04  
**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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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31580    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Eckerle, Jenn  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 18:08:05  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31581    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Gilbert, Valerie  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 18:08:41  
**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.

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---

**Correspondence ID:** 31582    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Crom, Nancy  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 18:08:41  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31583    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Dunn, Pat  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 18:18:40  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** I support a reuseable special use permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Co. After all, the French toot their horns about the "world's best oysters" from the waters of Cancale ad Locmariaquer in the Brittany region of France, don't discard California's instrument of pride in the Bay Area's prized oyster beds!! If Drakes Bay's oysters were good enough for British Royalty, they are certainly good enough to stand up to the French!! .

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**Correspondence ID:** 31584    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Cicoria, Eva  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 18:36:43  
**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:** 31585    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Stafford, Susan  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 18:37:47  
**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:** 31586    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 18:38:02  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a Renewable Special Use Permit for Drake's Bay Oyster Company.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31587    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Crowley, John  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 18:38:22  
**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:** 31588    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Fox, Alex  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 18:38:55  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31589    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Barbera, Diane  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 18:38:55  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31590    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Ron Massoli, Ron Massoli  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 19:06:52  
**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:** 31591    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Padilla, John  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 19:07:01  
**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:** 31592    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** alcott, sara  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 19:08:12  
**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:** 31593    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mechenich, Daniel  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 19:08:24  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31594    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Oneal, Amber  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 19:08:28  
**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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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.

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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31595    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kral, Mary Belle  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 19:09:10  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31596    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mazur, Marilyn  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 19:09:12  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31597    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Brotze, Camille  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 19:09:28  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31598    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Clark, David  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 19:10:20  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31599    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** koftinow, lynette  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 19:10:38  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31600    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Austin, CHRISTINE  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 19:10:39  
**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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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31601    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 19:27:28  
**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. Thank you. Patricia Roberson

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**Correspondence ID:** 31602    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Selesky, Laura  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 19:36:52  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31603    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Barker, Pam  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Drakes Estero is a national ecological treasure and should become a protected wilderness area.

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.

Stop allowing private enterprise to damage our natural resource. Your approval of the proposal to extend the oyster company's permit would be contrary to the Point Reyes Wilderness Act.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31604    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** MCINTYRE, ron  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 19:37:19  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31605    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Williamson, Lisa  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 19:37:20  
**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.

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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31606    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Wheeler, Florence M  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 19:59:45  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I lived for many years in the Bay Area, and it is my opinion that the Drake's Bay Oyster Co. permit should be renewed. I think it is an asset to the area.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31607    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Beatty, Ali  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 20:06:48  
**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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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31608    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Robey, Steve  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 20:07:08  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31609    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Fehringer, Penny  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 20:07:10  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31610    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Schwalbenberg-Peqa, Monica T  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 20:11:38  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** In 1976 this site was designated as future wilderness by the Point Reyes Wilderness Act. The oyster farm lease was set to expire in 2012, and this should happen as the law directs. This site is a sensitive area in a designated wilderness and I am mystified that there is even a thought of letting this business continue in this area. To extend the lease sets a very dangerous precedent. Let the lease expire as originally and wisely intended.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31611    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Grundy, Rebecca  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 20:12:43  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31612    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** MOEHNKE, TED E  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 20:22:18  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** I AM 75 YEARS OLD. THE ONLY ENDANGERED SPECIES HERE IS COMMON SENSE. KEEP THIS OYSTER COMPANY OPEN. THANK YOU, TED

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**Correspondence ID:** 31613    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Fuller, Julia  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 20:29:48  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31614    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Wolfson, David  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 20:30:02  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** Hello,

I am writing to urge you to adopt "Alternative A" and protect the Drakes Estero Wilderness. The original intent of Congress was to establish Point Reyes National Seashore as a wilderness area, not an area to be commercially exploited. I hope you will protect this area as one of the last remaining marine wilderness areas on the West Coast.

Thank you!

David Wolfson

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**Correspondence ID:** 31615    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Haak, Steve  
**Outside Organization:** 3DotOh, LLC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 20:36:08  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31616    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Gash, Garrett W

**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 20:53:12

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31617    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Jones, Scott

**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 21:29:31

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31618    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Bruton, Babette

**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 21:29:31

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31619    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Gazzola, Linda

**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,18,2011 21:42:42

**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.

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<b>Correspondence ID:</b>	31620	<b>Project:</b>	33043	<b>Document:</b>	43390
<b>Name:</b>	Montaine, Dorthea J				
<b>Outside Organization:</b>	Ocean Conservancy Unaffiliated Individual				
<b>Received:</b>	Nov,18,2011 22:31:00				
<b>Correspondence Type:</b>	Web Form				
<b>Correspondence:</b>	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.

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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.

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<b>Correspondence ID:</b>	31621	<b>Project:</b>	33043	<b>Document:</b>	43390
<b>Name:</b>	Obermeier, Kylie				
<b>Outside Organization:</b>	Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual				
<b>Received:</b>	Nov,18,2011 22:59:40				
<b>Correspondence Type:</b>	Web Form				
<b>Correspondence:</b>	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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31622    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** SERRIERE, EMMANUEL  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 23:14:22  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** Greetings Believe me or not, even though I have been here longer than this affair started, this is the first time I jump in to give my 2 cents worth opinion. Don't you think it's enough saliva and ink spent on this demolishing project? I am personally tired of false and incomplete reports to drive forward one point of view. All I see is that the current owner did a lot of clean up of the site, the service to costumers is excellent, the bay is clean and quiet and the owners are so strong in their desire to succeed. Enough is enough and to tell me that extending the lease to this business will open a can of worm for many others businesses in other parks to want the same treatment is ludicrous. Leave everyone alone, stop spending my tax money on this type of activities who appears to be a simple personal vendetta. Thank you for listening to my point of view

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**Correspondence ID:** 31623    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lewis, John  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 23:57:14  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** I support a renewable special use permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Farm because this is a wonderful, historical business that has proven to be sustainable and low impact, as well as a treat for thousands of visitors.

Problems with the environmental impact survey include:

1. 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 100 years, and that has served park visitors, local restaurants and the local food shed. 2. Environmental benefits are misrepresented. PRNS has been rebuked several times for misrepresenting 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. The DEIS fails to address the important ecological services provided by oysters, including filtering water. Further it does not address the environmental impacts of replacing a local, sustainable food source with 35,000 pounds of oysters flown in from Asia each week. Comparisons of the carbon footprint of the existing food source with the replacement food source must be analyzed in the DEIS.

3. Economic impacts are not adequately addressed. The DEIS 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. The EIS must assess and address the economic impacts of eliminating the production of 50% of California's oysters and the subsequent impact on the local, state and national economy. Further, the DEIS does not analyze the impacts of eliminating one of the largest employers in West Marin. 4. Socioeconomic impacts: The DEIS fails to address the impacts on the oyster farm's approximately 50,000 visitors annually who enjoy the oysters and the interpretive services provided by Drakes Bay Oyster Company. Visitors to the oyster farm represent a wide range of incomes, races and ethnicities, some of whom might not otherwise have any connection to the National Park System. The National Park Service itself actively searches for ways to increase access to the National Park System for underserved communities. If DBOC's Special Use Permit is denied, these underserved communities would be impacted. The DEIS must address the subsequent impacts to these visitors and how these impacts will be mitigated. 5. Impacts to local habitat restoration efforts and endangered species are not addressed. The oyster shell byproduct from the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm cannery is a critical and sole resource for reestablishing native oyster beds, and restoring Least Tern and Snowy Plover habitat in 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. If Drakes Bay Oyster farm is shut down, the restoration operations would likewise be shut down. The draft EIS does not address the impacts to wildlife or the environmental issues surrounding the loss of these restoration efforts. 6. The DEIS does not consider existing management policies. 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 DEIS does not address how it can bypass the existing General Management Plan and Marin County's planning processes. The failure to address these issues points to arbitrary and capricious actions on the part of PRNS.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31624    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Eliason, Carol  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,18,2011 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 originally committed. 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 planned. Everyone has known for years what the plan is and has had plenty of time to make adjustments. Let's follow through without delay.

Sincerely,

Carol J. Eliason

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31625    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Szawarzenski, Larua F  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 00:18:40  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Keep Drakes Bay Oyster Company Open! The owners, the Lunny's, are very ecologically minded and have done and will do the correct thing to keep the balance between the environment and human impact at a minimum.

If you want to turn it back into wilderness, there should be no human's allowed and that includes kayakers, hikers, planes overhead, etc. You will also have to eliminate Sir Francis Drake Blvd because run off of pollutants from vehicles will enter the pristine waters. Where else does run off come from - isn't there some Coast Guard installation upstream from that bay? And how about the cows grazing on the nearby hills, do they only receive organic feed? Where will you stop?

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**Correspondence ID:** 31626    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kidd, Sarah  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 01:59:43  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31627    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hunt, Robin  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 02:41:54  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I STRONGLY 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31628    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Miranda, Sophie  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 03:29:47  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31629    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Ignatovich, Cynthia  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:25:24  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31630    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lefevre, Franklin  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:25:28  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31631    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** palulian, anik  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:27:29  
**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:** 31632    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Van Ostran, Justine  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:27:29  
**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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---

**Correspondence ID:** 31633    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Marcel, Lorretta  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:27:52  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31634    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Parisi, Jennifer  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:27:52  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31635    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mathews, Holly  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:27:52  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31636    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Gray, Kent  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:27:56  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31637    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Warren, Charles  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:28:13  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31638    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Baron, James  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:28:14  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31639    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Burks, Paul  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:28:14  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31640    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Dean, L. W.  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:33:02  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31641    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Arcila, Billy  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:33:02  
**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:** 31642    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lawnicki, Timothy  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:33:11  
**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:** 31643    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** macey, malinda  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:33:24  
**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:** 31644    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lane, Lynn  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:34:31  
**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:** 31645    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Wynkoop, Laura

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:35:56

**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:** 31646    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Arana, Isabel

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:36:58

**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:** 31647    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** DeArdo, Margaret

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:38:12

**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:** 31648    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** mullin, catherine  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:38:27  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** 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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**Correspondence ID:** 31649    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Baird, Michael & Barbara  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:39:29  
**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:** 31650    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Wallace, Jo Anne  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:46:38  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support the National Park Service's extension of a Use Permit for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

The debate over the continued permitting of the DBOC has gone on long enough.

Thank you.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31651    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Stoker, Jennifer  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 04:55:35  
**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:** 31652    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Bayer, Allise  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 05:25:35  
**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:** 31653    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Walker, Dennis  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 05:28:12  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a renewable special use permit for Drake's Bay Oyster Company

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**Correspondence ID:** 31654    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Buerger, Michelle

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 05:55:37  
**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.

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---

**Correspondence ID:** 31655    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Joppich, Matt  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** As a visitor of Point Reyes 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31656    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Barrett, William  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 06:25:39  
**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:** 31657    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Waterhouse, Ann Marie  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 06:55:39  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31658    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Harrington, Maria  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 06:55:41  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31659    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Starbard, Scott  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 06:55:56  
**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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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31660    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Groeneveld, David P  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 07:28:45  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Dear Sirs:

I have been an environmentalist for decades and I have known Drakes Bay Oyster Farm for decades as well. For me, a visit to the California coast is never complete without a visit to Point Reyes for bird watching, watching the sea, hiking and especially for a stop at Drakes Estero. I make such trips about once every three years but aspire to annual visits, soon.

I view the oystering operation as having minimal biological impact and the human presence it represents is inoffensive while representing to me the kind of sustainable resource development that our society and world in general critically need to pursue.

I strongly favor Alternative D.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

David P. Groeneveld, Ph.D.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31661    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Pollock, Janelle  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 08:07:27  
**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.

Sincerely,

Janelle Pollock

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**Correspondence ID:** 31662    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Khan, Reema  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 08:20:11  
**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. Thanks, Reema

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<b>Correspondence ID:</b>	31663	<b>Project:</b>	33043	<b>Document:</b>	43390
<b>Name:</b>	Lopez, Jose				
<b>Outside Organization:</b>	NRDC Unaffiliated Individual				
<b>Received:</b>	Nov,19,2011 08:25:57				
<b>Correspondence Type:</b>	Web Form				
<b>Correspondence:</b>	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.

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<b>Correspondence ID:</b>	31664	<b>Project:</b>	33043	<b>Document:</b>	43390
<b>Name:</b>	Petro, Pat				
<b>Outside Organization:</b>	National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual				
<b>Received:</b>	Nov,19,2011 08:55:57				
<b>Correspondence Type:</b>	Web Form				
<b>Correspondence:</b>	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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31665    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Moeller, Diane  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 09:26:02  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31666    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Emery, Barbara And Robert  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 09:31:19  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31667    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Jones, ellis m  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 09:36:40  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** we support alternative a--no action. it seems to us that drake's estero is at the heart of the point reyes ecosystem and would become a rare natural treasure if allowed to become wilderness. there is no lack of oyster aquaculture in nearby tomas bay. while considerable controversy has arisen over this issue, it seems to us that the seashore and the local community would be best served in the long run by a beautiful estero unmarred by extensive iron structures.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31668    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a RENEWABLE Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

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**Correspondence ID:** 31669    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a RENEWABLE Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

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**Correspondence ID:** 31670    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Stanfield, Stacy  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 09:56:07  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31671    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Barber, Melissa  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 09:56:08  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31672    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** knourek, robert  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 09:56:28  
**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:** 31673    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a RENEWABLE Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

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**Correspondence ID:** 31674    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 10:01:39  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a renewable special use permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

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**Correspondence ID:** 31675    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** breznay, ruth  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 10:02:17  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31676    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a RENEWABLE Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

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**Correspondence ID:** 31677    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a RENEWABLE Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

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**Correspondence ID:** 31678    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a RENEWABLE Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

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**Correspondence ID:** 31679    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** P, D  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 10:26:15  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31680    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Padilla, Sandie  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 10:26:28  
**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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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:** 31681    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** McGoldrick, Kerri  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 10:26:36  
**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:** 31682    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** P, D  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 10:26:36  
**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:** 31683    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Unger, E  
**Outside Organization:** National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 10:41:29  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31684    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Smith, Linda  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 10:56:22  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31685    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mccright-Renteria, Shery  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 10:56:22  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31686    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Stoecken, Diane  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 10:56:22  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31687    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Duval, Damon  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 10:56:28  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31688    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Castellon, Leigh  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 11:00:36  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31689    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Johnson, Kitty  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 11:12:10  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** The health of the oceans is a global issue.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31690    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 11:13:34  
**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.

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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31691    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Labovitz, Jeff  
**Outside Organization:** West Marin resident Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 11:24:27  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** The National Park Service has mounted an unfair attack on the Drake's Bay Oyster Company in Point Reyes. Elsewhere, they have allowed ranchers and miners to run rampant through millions of acres of national parkland without batting an eyelash. By contrast, the Lunnys of Drakes Bay Oyster Farm are model stewards of the land and water they manage. Anyone opposing their operation that has not actually been there in recent years and seen it in action is acting on misinformation propagated by the NPS and/or misguided Sierra Club zealots. Given the highly questionable nature of the so-called scientific report attacking the Drake's Bay Oyster Company practices and their effects on harbor seal population, it is the NPS that should be forced to show cause why the Lunny lease should not be extended. In reality, they have no legitimate basis to do so. Any other position is neither supported by the facts nor the inhabitants of West Marin, but is apparently driven merely by personal vendetta and/or blind and uniformed "environmental activism".

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**Correspondence ID:** 31692    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kasten, Chelsea  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 11:26:27  
**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.

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:** 31693    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Apter, Eleanor  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 11:26:27  
**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 for many years had a cabin adjacent to the Point Reyes National Seashore, and who continues to enjoy 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31694    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Drugay, Andrea  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 11:26:45  
**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.

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:** 31695    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Evanston, Luci  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 11:30:44  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31696    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Wong, Ottoman  
**Outside Organization:** Self Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,19,2011 11:41:20  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

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**Correspondence ID:** 31697    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Doughty, Steve D  
**Outside Organization:** Doughty Ranches Business  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** The original intent of the acquisition of the property in P.R.N.S. Was to keep all agriculture in the boundaries of the park in perpetuity. That means all dairies, beef ranches, and oyster farms.

Now the Park service and environmentalists want to change the law. That should take an act of congress to do that.

We say leave all agriculture in the park like the original bill provided. Including the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm.

Steve Doughty Sharon Doughty Will Clark Lena Clark

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**Correspondence ID:** 31698    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Stoltz, Sydney  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 11:56:24  
**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:** 31699    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Carlson, Christine  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 11:56:30  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31700    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** drotman, myra e  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 11:58:59  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** The oyster companies have been operating for decades with little or no impact to the environment. They provide local sustainable food to the residents of the county and should be allowed to remain in business. Please allow them to operate and conduct business. Myra Drotman

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**Correspondence ID:** 31701    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** George, Ernest  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 12:26:35  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31702    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Matar, Adel  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 12:26:35  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31703    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Miller, Karyn  
**Outside Organization:** alliance for local sustainable agriculture Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 12:54:38  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Please allow Drakes Bay Oyster Co to stay in business by granting them special use permit. America needs the jobs:allowing Drakes Bay to continue to farm oysters will save a few. We need to cut back on global warming and carbon emissions: local farming of a food resource helps prevent/cuts back on carbon emissions.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31704    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sohk, Jerry  
**Outside Organization:** ALSA Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 12:55:54  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Please allow Drakes Bay Oyster Co to stay in business by granting them special use permit. America needs the jobs:allowing Drakes Bay to continue to farm oysters will save a few. We need to cut back on global warming and carbon emissions: local farming of a food resource helps prevent/cuts back on carbon emissions.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31705    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Blanchard, Casey  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 12:56:39  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31706    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Ward, Pamela  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 12:56:39  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31707    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Al Meqdad, Elaine  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 12:56:53  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31708    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Stinchcombe, Tom  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 13:26:41  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31709    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Bramblett, John  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 13:26:54  
**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:** 31710    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Chen, Dan  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 13:26:54  
**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:** 31711    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Gawley, John E  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 13:34:23  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support the Renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31712    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Gawley, Mary Jo  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 13:38:36  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support the Renewable Special Use Permit for Drake's Bay Oyster Company.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31713    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** poklasny, matt  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 13:56:40  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31714    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Corry, Norma  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 13:56:45  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31715    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Chojnowski, Nick  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 13:56:45  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31716    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Maclowry, Scott  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** As a nature lover and concerned citizen who has visited this part of the California coast many times, i urge you to protece Drakes Estero as one of the a national ecological treasures that it is and ensure that it becomes 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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**Correspondence ID:** 31717    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Vicente Jr., Jose  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 13:57:55  
**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:** 31718    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Holbrook, Denise  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 14:12:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a RENEWABLE special use permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company. We have a family tradition to visit there in August every year to celebrate our sons birthdays. They have wonderful oysters and are doing a great job protecting the environment.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31719    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Herndon, Hope  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 14:17:34  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** FOR SHAME, THE IDEA OF CLOSING THE DRAKES BAY OYSTER CO. IS LUDICROUS. I HAVE BEEN THERE ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS THE LATEST 3 MONTHS AGO WITH A GROUP. WE WANTED TO SEE FOR OURSELVES JUST WHAT WENT ON. IMPRESSED WITH THEIR OPERATION IS AN UNDERSTATEMENT. THAT IS A PRISTINE OPERATION. TO SAY OTHERWISE IS A JOKE. FRANKLY AM TIRED OF ALL PEOPLE WHO GO OVER THE TOP ON WHAT THEY THINK IS IMPORTANT TO SAVE. MY ADVISE IS GO AFTER SOMETHING ELSE. WHAT ABOUT DIESEL TRUCKS OR SOME OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL OFFENDER. WE SHOULD CHERISH THAT COMPANY AND HOPE THAT THEY CAN CONTINUE FOR YEARS TO COME. HOPE S. HERNDON

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**Correspondence ID:** 31720    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Beer, Julie  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 14:26:36  
**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:** 31721    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hodgkins, Scott  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 14:26:50  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31722    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Pillsbury, Lesley  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 14:26:50  
**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:** 31723    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Ault, Amanda  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 14:27:12  
**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:** 31724    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Phelan, Caroline  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 14:56:53  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31725    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** carron, terrie anne  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 14:56:58  
**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:** 31726    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Byrne, John F  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Team, Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 15:19:58  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** We support Alternative A.

The area now used for harvesting operations must be restored to natural conditions and managed as Wilderness.

There is no tenable excuse for not restoring the wilderness characteristics of Drakes Bay. Now, with Global Climate Change (GCC) upon us, Point Reyes Wilderness provides an excellent venue to observe what GCC is producing in this part of the Pacific Ocean, and help us determine what we must do to facilitate the adaptation of species to deal with GCC.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31727    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Paris, danette  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 15:26:43  
**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:** 31728    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** goss, terry  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 15:26:55  
**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:** 31729    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kerpan, Marie  
**Outside Organization:** Sustainable Mill Valley Non-profit/Organization  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Sustainable Mill Valley urges the Park Service to renew the Drake's Bay Oyster Co. lease on whatever terms are desired by the owners. We don't want to lose this protein resource in our county, particularly since it has been shown to be environmentally safe.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31730    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** White-Henry, T.W.  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Must humans take over every piece of land and use it for their own selfish purposes? We have already destroyed so much....We have to become ecologically mature...and now is the time!

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31731    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Kistler, Nicole

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,19,2011 15:56:59

**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:** 31732    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Sears, Carol

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,19,2011 15:57:00

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31733    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** gilder, edith  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 15:57:04  
**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:** 31734    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Vermeulen, Barbara I  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 16:06:48  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31735    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Berezcki, Patricia  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 16:26:57  
**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:** 31736    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Cox, Veronica  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 16:56:51  
**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:** 31737    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Scott, Lucy  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 16:57:02  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31738    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Tillinghast, Audrey  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 16:57:02  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31739    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Burns, Patrick  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 17:01:20  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31740    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** GARMY, CLAIRE & PATRICK  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 17:20:12  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** WE SUPPORT A RENEWABLE SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR DRAKES BAY OYSTER COMPANY. CLAIRE & PATRICK GARMY.

It's time that we continue to support locals at home. The impact of Drakes Bay Oyster Company on the Drakes Estero is a positive one.

What the NPS stands for clearly is not in the best interest of the majority of citizens of California. NPS pounds their chest and waves the "red flags". It's already a mess with the state of our economy at home AND abroad. Why create another "red-flag-scare"? It is absolutely astonishing that the NPS would be associating itself with political interests as an act of G.O.D. - Good Orderly Direction. It is not only a business mistake but also a political mistake that they should pay dearly for. Let the people decide; we are the ones that uphold the values and constitution of these America's - NOT a very few administrators and "red-flag reports". We have and will continue to recommend that all individuals, our business associates and friends and especially the citizens of Sonoma and Marin Counties stand in favor of "A RENEWABLE SPECIAL USE PERMIT FOR DRAKES BAY OYSTER COMPANY".

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**Correspondence ID:** 31741    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Baer, Alex  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 17:27:02  
**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.

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:** 31742    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lubiszewski, Mark  
**Outside Organization:** Point Reyes NP User, Hiker, Walker, Concerned Citizen Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 17:55:36  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I heartily support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company. The Company has been a responsible

steward of Drakes Bay contributing to the overall NPS experience in a positive way. Issue the permit.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31743    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Weld, Christopher W  
**Outside Organization:** None - Private Citizen in this instance Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 17:58:31  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** Sirs: While I love the GGNRA, even live adjacent to part thereof, the subject oyster farm adds to the charm and interest of the Point Reyes National Recreation Area. The oyster farm enhances a visitor's experience IF that visitor is willing to venture off the usual pathway - otherwise it's out of sight. There's only a rutted road and an old wooden sign, both charming in their own right.

The oyster farm is as much a part of the park experience as is the Marine Mammal Center and I note you're not trying to shut them down.

I very much support the renewable special use permit application of the Drake's Bay Oyster Company.

Thank you! Christopher W. Weld - Pacifica, CA 94044

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**Correspondence ID:** 31744    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Jaundzems, Patty M  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 18:00:13  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** My husband, son and I being local residents, have been frequent customers at Drakes Bay Oyster Company for over 30 years. We feel the oyster farm, cannery and retail sales are an important resource that should remain in the park as it was envisioned when it was created. Point Reyes National Seashore is our park and we want shellfish farming, processing and retail sales TO REMAIN IN DRAKES ESTERO. It will affect everyone in the area, both those that love oysters, and especially the people who work there and their families. Drakes Bay Oyster Company currently produces 34 percent of California's oysters, 90 percent of which are used within the Bay area. When the park was formed it was an integral part of the area and it should remain operating in Drakes Estero.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31745    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Denton, Jill  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** I respectfully ask that the National Park Service 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31746    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Watkins, Sharon  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 18:27:05  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** It is in the public interest to create the West Coast's only marine wilderness for the enjoyment of all. I urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year, as long intended. 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31747    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kirschbaum, Saran  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 18:27:30  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Don't fool with extensions, just ban it, period. Kurt Vonnegut said it best, "Human beings are the only species that won't save itself because it's not cost-effective." 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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**Correspondence ID:** 31748    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** O'Donnell, Evelyn  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 18:57:09  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31749    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Dare, Valerie  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 19:27:15  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31750    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Dankert, Bonnie  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 19:27:15  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31751    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hubert, Melissa  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** The Point Reyes area holds special importance to my husband and me. It is a very unique place. 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, especially the Point Reyes area, 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31752    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Eaton, Linda  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 19:57:23  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31753    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** ARDANS, Roberta  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 19:57:29  
**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:** 31754    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** ARDANS, ROBERTA  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 19:57:29  
**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:** 31755    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Fariss, Nan  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 20:27:23  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31756    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Jorabchi, Hadi  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 20:27:23  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31757    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Cropsey, Jean Mari  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 20:31:20  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31758    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Senn-Sikorski, Rita  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 20:31:31  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31759    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Pagan, Peter  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 20:57:27  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31760    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sartor, Charlotte  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 20:57:27  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31761    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Antablin, melissa  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 21:27:36  
**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:** 31762    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Ottenbrite, Shelley  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 21:57:39  
**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:** 31763    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Fernandez, Arline  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 22:01:36  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31764    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Van Wyck, Alison  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 22:27:36  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31765    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Czamanske, David  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 22:27:48  
**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:** 31766    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Loeffler, Karen  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 22:31:45  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31767    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Pittman, Casey  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 22:57:37  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31768    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Yee, Peter  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 23:01:38  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31769    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Watson, Claire  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 23:01:38  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31770    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Schwab, Dan  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 23:05:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Hi,

I would like to register my support in keeping the Drake's Bay Oyster Company in operation on Drake's Estero. I think this is a fine example of local agriculture that should continue. I support a renewable special use permit for the Oyster Farm.

Thank you.

Dan Schwab Richmond CA

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**Correspondence ID:** 31771    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Schallenberger, Lisa  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,19,2011 23:20:31  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:**

It was never the intentions of the original drafters I the park to close down the oyster farm or for that matter the farms. The leases were to be renewed in perpetuity. the NPS has lied continually about the scientific facts. The oyster farm protects the environment of the estero and they clean out the pollutants. Look at the reports instead of denying the facts. Ed Wayburn is rolling over in his grave to see the lies the NPS is telling. It's a total shame that all the landowners who gave their land were lied to by the government. It's no better than the lies to the Indians and see where that got the government. The government needs to keep their promises to the original draftees and the landowners

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**Correspondence ID:** 31772    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Cooley, Peggy  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 00:27:45  
**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:** 31773    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Anderson, Sylvia I  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 00:34:12  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:**

I do not believe it is in the best interests of the US citizens who are the owners of all the wildernesses, monuments, parks, etc to allow the use of these properties by private individuals for personal profit. Such action is against the concept of equal use by all citizens. If such action is allowed there should be a fee connected that would at least equal the fee that would be charged in the

private sector. That said, my first choice would be to not extend the current use and return the land to wilderness. Choice "D" allowing expansion of the existing private enterprise should not be allowed under any circumstances. It is a completely unacceptable alternative. Alternative "C" would be marginally acceptable if it included the prohibition of permit transfer and the immediate expiration of the permit in the case of the death of the current operator or the violation of any regulation or the addition of new building or the expansion of any existing building.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31774    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Tizard, Thomas  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 00:57:47  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31775    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Monaco, Nancy  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 00:57:53  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31776    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Espinoza, Mariana  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 01:01:38  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31777    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Carlson, Cheri  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 02:57:57  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31778    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Corning, Greg  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 02:57:57  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31779    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Felicetti, Ann  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 04:28:07  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31780    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Stone, Sasha  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 04:31:52  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31781    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Walker, Leanne  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 04:58:13  
**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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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31782    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** McCarty, Jeff  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 06:45:52  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** I support the continued extension of the Drakes Bay Oyster Companies operation. This is a favorite stopping point when we visit Pt. Reyes National Seashore, and I just can't imagine not being able to stop for our favorite picnic lunch on our way to the seashore. This is an important time honored traditional family Calif. business and one that needs to be continued. Their impact on the environment is minimal as far as I can see. They are farming a sustainable wholesome product that is just as important to the environment as a wilderness area.

Thank you Jeff McCarty Reno NV

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**Correspondence ID:** 31783    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Eardley, Christine  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 06:58:10  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31784    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Refes, N.  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** I understand that holding public office is a very consuming job. However, I hope your time is not so stressed that you don't have the time to read the scientific reports about the effects that civilization has forced upon our land and water ways. Our oceans are in severe trouble and our lands are dying a chemical death. We MUST reverse our ways. We MUST protect the natural areas that are left if we hope to survive as species.

Over the past number of years the planet has given us severe hic-cups. Please take it as a warning of things to come if we don't change our ways.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31785    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Overbay-Day, Amelia  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 07:58:26  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31786    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Moll, Dennis  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 08:58:18  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31787    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Holliman, Aurelia  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 08:58:18  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31788    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Rosania, Nick  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 09:28:20  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31789    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** LaRocco, Joe  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 09:28:20  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31790    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Medin, Winifred H  
**Outside Organization:** N/A Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 09:55:54  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** We support a Special Use Permit for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company. They have been good neighbors and excellent care givers of the land.

Thank you,

Winifred and William Medin

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**Correspondence ID:** 31791    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Thompson, John  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 09:58:25  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31792    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Wedow, Nancy  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 10:28:32  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31793    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Tocco, Barbara  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** This is very important. 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31794    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Komosa, Kevin  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 10:28:36  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31795    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Van Aken, Richard  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 10:28:45  
**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.

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:** 31796    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Leaf, Elizabeth  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 10:58:34  
**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.

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---

**Correspondence ID:** 31797    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** black, sam  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 10:58:34  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31798    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Koepp, Frederick  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 11:03:11  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31799    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Homewood, Vanessa  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 11:03:18  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31800    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Warner, Laurie E  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 11:27:55  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** With the Sierra Club - I strongly request and advocate for the Alternative A - and to allow the commercial oyster-farming lease to expire - as agreed to by Congress -- and for Drakes Estero to become part of the existing Phillip Burton Wilderness.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31801    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Morrison, Fred  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 11:28:36  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31802    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Banks, Andrew  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 11:28:36  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31803    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company. Please don't let this unique resource disappear.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31804    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Valley, Daniel  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 11:58:39  
**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.

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:** 31805    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lahna, Joyce  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 11:58:40  
**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.

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---

**Correspondence ID:** 31806    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lahna, Joyce  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 11:58:43  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31807    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Graves, Jeanie  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 11:58:43  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31808    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Erickson, Susan  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 12:08:15  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31809    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Born, Megan  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 12:28:44  
**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.

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---

**Correspondence ID:** 31810    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** komosa, gloria  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 12:28:44  
**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.

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---

**Correspondence ID:** 31811    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lahna, Joyce  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 12:28:44  
**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.

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---

**Correspondence ID:** 31812    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Erickson, Susan  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 12:28:58  
**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.

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:** 31813    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** CLARK, HENRY  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 12:58:45  
**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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back.

---

**Correspondence ID:** 31814    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Carroll, Lynn  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 12:58:45  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31815    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Stinchcombe, John  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 12:58:46  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31816    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Berry, Crist  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 13:02:45  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** Although I am a member of NPCA, I STRONGLY DISAGREE with their stance on shellfish cultivation in Drakes Estero. As a one time resident of Alameda, our family made frequent (about 6 times a year) visits to Point Reyes National Seashore. We considered the oyster farm and cannery to an important part of those visits. It provided a worthwhile view into an alternate lifestyle. When we visit CA, this is one of the areas we return to.

Further, in today's environment, doing anything to eliminate ANY jobs is counter productive and, frankly, nuts. Do you really

want to torpedo the Obama administration? Can't think of better actions to do so than eliminating jobs.

Please allow the continuation of the oyster cultivation and the cannery.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31817    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Reynolds, Milton E  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 13:09:50  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** To Whom It May Concern,

As a long term customer of the Drakes Bay Oyster Co, an outdoor enthusiast and a person with deep commitment to the environment, I urge the NPS to renew the Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Co.

The operation of the oyster farm rather than being a detriment to the ecosystem in Drakes Bay serves to create a built in constituency for the stewardship and protection of that resource. In so many instances, people have no idea of where there food comes from and as a consequence of this pay little attention to the food production practices. In the case of the oyster farm people can literally go to the site and not only become more closely connected to the eco system that produces the jewels of sustainable aquaculture, but also get connected to the actual producers.

Over the years I've seen continual improvement in the conditions at Drakes Bay Oyster Co and seen an increasingly diverse group of bay area residents frequent the site. Many have come for years, but in response to the slow food movement and the trends towards locally sourced products, the DBOC is a fine example of how the National Park System can work in partnership with local communities to protect the environment.

I chair the board of a local non-profit that has partnered with the California State Park system to restore and maintain several local wetlands and our efforts have provided tangible results, including the return of breeding Clapper Rails. I'm of the mind that the work of Drakes Bay Oyster Co has had an equivalently positive impact of Drakes Estero and could serve as a model for sustainable practices for other communities nationally. In a 2007 report, Conservation and Stewardship Publication #14, Kevin Lunny was cited as an outstanding steward of the environment. In light of Congress's encouragement to explore the sale of traditional products in National Parks, the move to deny the Special Use Permit seems to be a contradiction, especially in light of how viable and generative this establishment has been over time.

Not only does this operation provide 30 plus people with employment in the sagging economy, but the presence and interest in this unique resource also provides important economic stimulus to the communities, travelers pass through on their way to the oyster farm. It seems that the right and patriotic thing to do, especially in this economy is to find ways to do right by the environment and save jobs rather than destroy them. Employed workers and surrounding communities have a vested interest in protecting this resource; they are a built in environmental constituency.

The pattern of covert surveillance and inconsistency of unsupported data and blatant falsehoods communicated in reports purporting harm to the estero's population of Harbor Seals due to oyster feces suggest an intentional effort to shut down the operation rather than earnest efforts to explore the viability of this sustainable enterprise. Failing to renew the oyster farm's Special Use Permit based on false claims and troubling acts of scientific misconduct seems to be ill advised and mean spirited, not to mention setting a bad precedent that could further erode public trust in government agencies.

In times of economic uncertainty, when many of our parks futures hang in the balance we need to be creative in looking for new solutions and possible collaborations to meet the needs of the environment, as well as a growing population w/ a desire for sustainable agricultural products and a need to access the outdoors.

I encourage the National Parks Service to support the reissue of the Special Use Permit; this is a wonderful and special resource we can't afford to lose.

Sincerely,

Milton Reynolds, Concerned Citizen and park user.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31818    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Brazis, christine  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 13:28:48  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31819    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Castellon, Leigh Anne  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov.20,2011 13:28:48  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31820    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Brazis, christine  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov.20,2011 13:28:48  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31821    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Baraff, Alexandra  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov.20,2011 13:28:54  
**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:** 31822    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lloyd, John  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 13:28:59  
**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:** 31823    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** MacDonald, Alan J  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 13:42:16  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I fully support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

My family and I are frequent hikers in Point Reyes National Seashore. Our visits frequently include a visit to the Drakes Bay Oyster Company to buy oysters for either a picnic in one of the nearby picnic areas or to take home for later consumption. The oyster farm is an important part of our visits to the area and has been for over 40 years and we would like it to continue to be that way.

The oyster farm is a sustainable fishery and does not cause any damage to the environment. We hike frequently on the Estero trail and are much more impacted by the cows and cowdung than we are by the almost invisible oyster activities. It is as much a treasure to us as the Point Reyes National Seashore itself. We urge you to grant a renewable Special Use Permit.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31824    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Aslam, Nayeem  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 13:58:51  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31825    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Eames, Timothy  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 13:59:03  
**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:** 31826    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Buehlmeier, H Scott  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 13:59:08  
**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:** 31827    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Nelson, Mark A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,20,2011 14:14:50  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** We strongly urge NPS to renew the Drakes Bay Oyster Company Special Use Permit for an additional ten years.

As regular visitors to Point Reyes Nat'l Seashore, we have observed the DBOC operation and surrounding area and believe that ecologically this represents a beneficial balance between maintaining a healthy and beautiful environment and farming nature's natural bounty. DBOC conducts its operation in an environmentally sensitive manner, and enables people from the area to enjoy the healthy (and delicious) fruit of their effort.

It might even be argued that DBOC has become an integral part of the ecology of the area, and pulling the plug on its operations may create unforeseen and unintended negative consequences for the seashore and its various species.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31828    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Francis, Eldon  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 14:29:03  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31829    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Malvick, Helen  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 14:29:03  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31830    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Ruppert, William

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,20,2011 14:29:04

**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:** 31831    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Thomas-Brown, Pauline

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,20,2011 14:29:10

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31832    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Weiss, Tracey

**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,20,2011 14:32:49

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31833    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Gobely, Michelle  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 14:59:00  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31834    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Livingston, Deborah  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 14:59:00  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31835    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 15:25:12  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31836    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Yoshioka, Jim  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 15:29:01  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31837    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Szymanski, Ron  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 15:33:16  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31838    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 15:48:27  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

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

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**Correspondence ID:** 31839    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Oelker, Jennifer  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 15:59:04  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31840    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Moyer, Ann  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 15:59:04  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31841    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** shipp, theresa a  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 16:25:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** The Drakes Bay Oyster Farm should be preserved as it is currently operating. It is a unique and original sight, one that cannot be reproduced. It is a rare opportunity to see a "real working" oyster farm and purchase and enjoy the freshest of oysters. The only changes I'd make would be to improve the parking lot and put up information boards regarding the industry. I have traveled extensively, round the world and the oyster farm is a very unique one. It should be allowed to continue to function.

In other words: "I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company"! and feel privileged to be able to visit it.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31842    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Cornish, Rachel  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 16:29:07  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31843    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Buchanan, Colette  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 16:29:07  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31844    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Weber, Robert  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 16:41:17  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Please restore this estuary to full wilderness conditions!

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**Correspondence ID:** 31845    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Bair, John  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 16:59:09  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31846    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Thatcher, Roy  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 16:59:09  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31847    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Schweiss, Kraig  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 00:00:00  
**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. These natural wonders and national treasures are the legacy that you and I should be advocating for constantly. We are here on this planet a short time, so we need to protect and preserve these beautiful places for generations to come!

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31848    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Esposito, Eric  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 16:59:12  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31849    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Bates, Janet  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 17:00:42  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I have been a frequent visitor to Point Reyes and very much enjoy my trips there. The oyster farm has been an important part of the fabric of the area for many years and from everything I've seen, there are compelling reasons to let it continue to function. I think it is very, very important to thoroughly evaluate every reason being put forward to allow it to keep it going.

Thank you for your time.

Janet Bates

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**Correspondence ID:** 31850    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Bigelow, Pat  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 17:29:13  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31851    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Myers, Shonna

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov.20,2011 17:29:13

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31852    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Ingersoll, Mina

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov.20,2011 17:29:13

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31853    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** White, Sue

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov.20,2011 17:59:15

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31854    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Faber, Phyllis  
**Outside Organization:** Marin Agricultural Land Trust Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 18:17:12  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** The draft EIS for the Drake's Bay

It is hard to know where to start addressing this inadequate EIS. Not sure what the point of the document is other than blatantly to put the Oyster Farm out of business. Every alternative presented is designed to make the oyster farm fail. Clearly state the goal of the EIS in a statement, not just a hatchet job disguised as an EIS. It is offensive. There is little data presented, just potential impacts. Where is the data??

#### Alternatives and Project Description

2. NEPA and CEQA all require a "no project" alternative. Section 1502.14(d) requires the alternatives analysis in the EIS to "include the alternative of no action." There is not one in this document. The EIS needs to be amended to establish a proper no project alternative, one that accepts existing conditions, a baseline, that is. There is no adequate project description for the existing oyster farm and according to the owner, there was no effort to get this information. What was the field work done to prepare this EIS?

3. There should be an alternative that incorporates the idea of creating a visitor center at the oyster farm for the hundreds of annual visitors and restores and remodels the old buildings on site. There is an EA for this project that follows the plans in the 1980 General Plan.

4. State clearly the impacts of shutting down the operation and the source of production availability to replace the DBOC oysters?? Where is there a cannery, what is the replacement source for 40% of CA's oysters now grown by DBOC?

3. The existing Reservation of Use exists in the current authorization (PL11-88 sect 124) and NPS cannot revoke this. The EIS should clarify the existing ROU and the Fish and Game rights in the Estero and not try to revoke them through this process. . 4. The Seashore's own 1980 GMP and the official national policy supports and encourages mariculture operations. Where does that appear in the EIS? There is no description of the oyster farm, its history and relationship with the California Department of Fish and Game or other regulatory agencies such as National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the County's Local Coastal Plan regulated by the state Coastal Commission that usually provided in an Existing Setting Section. (basic information)

#### Biology and Mariculture

5. The biology in this report is off the wall. The Estero is saline. Any biologist would know there could not be red-legged frogs present in a saline environment. Any local biologist would know that there is no habitat for snowy plover in the Estero.

6. There is not real discussion of the beneficial effect of oyster filtration on water clarity and the benefits to eel grass beds. There is no discussion of the huge expansion of eel grass beds under the lunny era of operation. There is no discussion of the role these eel grass beds play in other invertebrate and fish natural history. There is a silly mention of raised nitrogen levels in winter rainy season and no mention of the role the presence of oysters play in regulating this.

6. There is a lack of discussion of the role of the oyster operation in California's mariculture industry. How would the 40% of CA's oysters grown by DBOC be replaced? How does the industry tie into CA'S food security and health. Fewer than 1% of imported oysters are inspected and how does that compare to the food security provided by oysters grown locally in a pristine Estero?

7. There is little mention of the native oysters growing in the Estero that are also found in the Indian mounds.

#### Socio-economics

8. There is no consideration of the number of Park visitors that come to the Lunny farm nor of their composition. Every

weekend dozens come and enjoy picnicking and a tour of the oyster operation. There is no consideration of the nationality of those that visit which in actuality is a great mix of ethnic types compared to the totally Causasian kayakers. No discussion of public enjoyment of the oyster facility and the loss resulting from its closure.

9. No discussion of the public service the oyster farm provides in cleaning up the estero from past oyster operations and present kayakers and hikers. There is no discussion of the kayaker's activities and levels of disturbance.

10. There is no mention of the value of having a regular human presence on the Estero 24 hours a day year round. This is in fact an extension of Park personnel.

11. There is inadequate attention to the impact of the loss of the jobs at the oyster farm. Most are Hispanic and are part of the farm community in West Marin. The loss of these jobs and the impact to the West Marin economy is poorly addressed. There is a disproportionate economic impact on an underrepresented minority. This is not discussed!

12. There is inadequate discussion of cultural resources and environmental justice issues. The loss of this 100 year old oyster operation will result in the loss of both and needs to be addressed adequately.

13. The poor science in the Becker paper remains and should be thoroughly removed. His statistical analysis was complicated and was misused to create an impression of harm to harbor seals. This has been discredited by distinguished scientists and should be removed. That no consideration of the three years of secret photos taken are not considered is evasive and no credit to the Seashore. Staff kept them secret but they have been revealed and do exist and should be acknowledged. They were analyzed by the Seashore staff, the Marine Mammal Commission, EAC and Sierra Club types and should be a part of the record.

14. The Lunny family invested \$300,000 of their own money to clean up the Estero and now this document states that they should remove all buildings if no permit is forthcoming. Is this vindictive EIS writers or Park staff or what??? This sort of thing goes well beyond the goal of the NEPA and CEQA laws and the Park should remove this item from the EIS and be ashamed of themselves.

15m The lunnys provide oyster shell to projects in San Francisco Bay to reestablish their oyster industry. Without these oyster shells, available only from DBOC, this project cannot proceed. This is not addressed.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31855    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Cyr, Rosemary A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 18:24:51  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31856    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Varhola, Mary  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 18:29:20  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31857    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Padilla, Tasha  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 18:29:31  
**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:** 31858    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Thomas, Autumn  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 18:29:42  
**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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widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31859    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Gatling, Gayla J.  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 18:59:20  
**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.

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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:** 31860    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Gatling, Gayla  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 18:59:22  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31861    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** wallerstein, immanuel  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 18:59:22  
**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.

Wilderness areas such as this are irreplaceable.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31862    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hickey, Alexandra  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 19:03:33  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31863    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** goodman, ellen  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 19:09:21  
**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.

Sincerely, Ellen Goodman

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**Correspondence ID:** 31864    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Peasley, GARY I  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 19:12:21  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** I support continuing to allow the oyster farm to exist. Lunny has cleaned up the site and is minimizing impact on the environment. He/they have also cleaned up much of the impacts caused by Johnson.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31865    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Peasley, Gisela J  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 19:17:38  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I have bought oysters from the Johnson's and the Lunny's. lunny is maintaining a very clean operation, minimizing the impact to the area. Maintaining purity of the wilderness for purity sake is nonsensical. I support keeping the company going, people employed and the tradition of a day at the beach and fresh oysters for dinner.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31866    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Wong, Patricia E  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 19:19:15  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31867    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Rich, Jon  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 19:29:25  
**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:** 31868    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Savage, Dorothy  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 19:59:29  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31869    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Zmuda, Joseph  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 19:59:29  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31870    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mackenzie, Susan  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 20:03:19  
**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.

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---

**Correspondence ID:** 31871    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Worsham, Nancy  
**Outside Organization:** Individual Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 20:05:00  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31872    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** gray, yvonne  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 20:29:29  
**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:** 31873    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Briggs, Jr., William C.  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 20:29:34  
**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:** 31874    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Chao, Tiffany  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 20:29:35  
**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.

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

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**Correspondence ID:** 31875    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Johnson, Ann  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 20:59:37  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31876    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sullivan, Brian  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 20:59:37  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31877    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Frederick, Carla  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 21:29:37  
**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:** 31878    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Read, Seth  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 21:29:37  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31879    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Novotny, Pamela  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 21:29:37  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31880    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Greenberg, Janice  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 21:34:02  
**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.

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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31881    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** MacDonald, William P  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Images Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 21:50:42  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I am writing to very specifically advocate the adoption of Alternative A, No New Special Use Permit ? Conversion to Wilderness in the matter before the Agency. To subordinate the environmental issues effecting an extremely large number of living things to the economic interests of a small number of individuals in our community is a short term gain only to those individuals and a long term disaster to those living things essential to the vitality and viability of not just the ecosystem directly involved in this issue, but to ALL the interrelated ecosystems tangentially connected. The Congressional mandate to the National Park Service places this agency in an unique position to assume a leadership position in the preservation and management of these and many more public lands. It is my hope and my legitimate expectation that you do so.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31882    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Allen, Michael  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 22:29:43  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31883    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lee, Shirley  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 22:29:44  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31884    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sanders, Richard  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 22:29:44  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31885    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Vernon, Michael

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov.20,2011 22:29:44

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31886    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Vandermark, George

**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov.20,2011 22:34:07

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31887    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Gingrich, Jay

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov.20,2011 22:59:43

**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:** 31888    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Berto, Constance B  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 23:22:14  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** On behalf of my husband Frank and I, I am writing to strongly support the continuation of, and the granting of, a Special Use Permit of at least 10 years for the operation of the Drakes Bay Oyster Company (DBOC) in western Marin County. I am astonished at the flimsy reasoning behind the attempts to close this valuable operation. The boundaries of any Wilderness Area are, for the most part, arbitrarily drawn on a map by people. Seldom are there genuine geologic or geographic boundaries. In the case of DBOC, the lines for the proposed Wilderness Area exist purely on paper. The DBOC operates in water. The oysters in question purify the water naturally, which helps the kelp beds and other aquatic life. DBOC is a prime producer of valuable fresh seafood. DBOC employs up to 35 people in an area (west Marin County) with limited employment possibilities and in a national "down economy," and five housing units in a very limited housing area. The DBOC draws thousands of visitors annually and is readily accessible by all ages and the disabled. The closing down of DBOC could well be the tipping point in the "critical mass" needed for the survival of agriculture in West Marin. The "findings" that the oysters are harmful for aquatic life in the Estero have been proven false. Because of so many positive reasons and attributes toward keeping the Drakes Bay Oyster Farm, I urge the immediate granting of the Special Use Permit for DBOC. Thank you.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31889    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,20,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Please keep the wilderness designation

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**Correspondence ID:** 31890    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Reynolds, Mary  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 00:33:19  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31891    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Torres, Jessica  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 01:03:20  
**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

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**Correspondence ID:** 31892    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Moore, Molly  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 02:30:15  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31893    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Uecker, Gail  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 02:30:15  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31894    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kay, James p  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 03:04:23  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31895    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** McCLINTOCK, B  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,21,2011 03:30:07  
**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:** 31896    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Angelia, Nadia  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 04:00:21  
**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.

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---

**Correspondence ID:** 31897    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lee, Shirley  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 04:03:39  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31898    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Morton, Elaine  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 04:30:11  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31899    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Murdock, Lauren  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 04:30:22  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31900    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Donlin, John  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 05:00:14  
**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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widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31901    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sinclair, Michael C  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club; NRDC; AMC; ACS; EDF Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 05:32:53  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** The special use permit should NOT be granted. This is public property which should not be used for commercial interests of a private company.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31902    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Horowitz, Jordan  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 06:00:20  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31903    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Inman, Dan  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 06:00:20  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31904    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Smith, Arlyn

**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 06:30:21  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31905    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lane, Tamar J  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 06:45:59  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Please give Drakes Bay Oyster Co a renewable use permit to stay as a business in their present location. We feel they are an environmental friendly, low development business which has been a tradition in the area for many year. They have our support.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31906    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** LeGrand, Fabienne  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 07:00:24  
**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:** 31907    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Fuss, Marilyn  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 07:00:35  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31908    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hoagland, Guy  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 07:30:26  
**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:** 31909    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mursten, Stacy  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 08:00:47  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31910    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Peterson, Gregory  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 09:00:37  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31911    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Baranano, Susana  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 09:00:41  
**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:** 31912    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lee, Jr, James  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 09:00:47  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31913    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Hall, Bruce  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 09:07:27  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** The oyster farm has been in operation for a very long time and a welcome part of Marin County. The business should be allowed to continue to operate.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31914    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Appel, Genevieve  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 09:30:50  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31915    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Thibeault, Thomas  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 09:30:50  
**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.

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---

**Correspondence ID:** 31916    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Biss, Jeffery  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 10:00:43  
**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:** 31917    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Naughton, Rebecca  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 10:00:49  
**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:** 31918    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kirkwood, Brian  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** I urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year, as long intended. With the population growth in America and around the world it is in our best interest to protect and conserve as much non-developed land as possible before it's too late. As someone who grew up near the southern Oregon and northern California coast I have seen the value in providing a place for the public to go to experience the calm and tranquility of wilderness and all that it has to offer. In the near future undeveloped natural land may be much more valuable in itself than anything developed from it. Please convert this unique area to wilderness and keep it protected to all to enjoy in the future.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31919    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** dodge, jackson  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 10:00:55  
**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.

Our family has been trekking at Point Reyes for over thirty years. It's an extraordinary place; let's keep it that way.

jackson dodge

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**Correspondence ID:** 31920    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mueller, Sarah & Matthew  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 10:04:48  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31921    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Milhaupt, Shannon  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 10:30:59  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31922    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Dewan, Joseph  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 10:30:59  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31923    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Coon, John  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 00:00:00  
**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. Commercial fishing in any form can do nothing but harm this fragile area.

Please take whatever steps/actions are necessary to grant permanent protection.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31924    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Li, Wendy  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 10:31:05  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31925    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Herb, Peter  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 10:31:39  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31926    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hastings, Yolanda L  
**Outside Organization:** oyster lover's wife Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 10:44:56  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company

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**Correspondence ID:** 31927    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Dober, Roxanne  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 10:51:46  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Drakes Bay Oyster Farm formerly Johnsons has been a family tradition for many years. We look forward to twice a year visits to purchase several hundred oysters for the "Oyster Parties" we do on special days. A day trip to the coast is always part of our taking out of state friends and relatives for not only a culinary treat but a visual one as well.

It is important that not only sustainable farming is encouraged, the noncommercial atmosphere at Drakes and allowing children to experience from sea to plate is invaluable and irreplaceable.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31928    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Boonin, Nicholas  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 10:54:01  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** RE: KEEP DRAKES OYSTER COMPANY WHERE IT IS AND OPEN FOR BUSINESS

To whom it may concern,

Drakes Oyster company in Point Reyes National Seashore is a "Living History Museum. The ability to see an active business, harvest food right in front of you and then be able to eat and enjoy it is rare.

We (as citizens) have become detached from the source of the food we eat. This is a great opportunity to witness this process, eat in fellowship, and preserve the skills and culture associated with this type of work.

This is an asset to everyone and NOT a scar on the landscape.

It provides context, pleasure, recreation, work and a home for a profitable small business.

I see only good by having Drakes Bay Oyster stay in the community. This is definitely a win, win situation. I see no reasonable down side to maintaining this resource.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Boonin

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**Correspondence ID:** 31929    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Knecht, Daniel  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 10:55:52  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31930    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lausman, Kim  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 11:03:09  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31931    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Thompson, Elizabeth  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 11:03:13  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31932    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Houseman, David  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 11:04:49  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31933    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Krueding, Marilyn  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 11:07:05  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31934    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Gronlund, Nancy  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 11:09:00

**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 waited too long. Allow that permit to expire and honor Congress' commitment. We want our bay back.

Thank you.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31935    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Deguzman, Gil  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 11:14:24  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31936    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Tokunaga, Barb  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Point Reyes National Seashore is at the top of my list of places to visit in the near future. My husband and I live in Colorado and the opportunity to see a marine wilderness is exciting to us. We know well the wilderness and wildlife of the Rocky Mountains in nearby Rocky Mountain National Park, so we look forward to experiencing a very different kind of habitat and wildlife at Point Reyes. We strongly believe in our national parks and do not believe they should be a place for private commercial use.

I urge you to protect Drakes Estero wilderness next year. 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. My understanding is that 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 is an advocate of 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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31937    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Fisher, Joyce  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 11:33:07  
**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.

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:** 31938    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Covert, Rhonda  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 11:37:45  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31939    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Gorman, Suzanne  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 12:01:12  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31940    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Rice, Chris  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,21,2011 12:01:12

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31941    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Naeder, Arick W

**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,21,2011 12:08:37

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31942    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Fazio, Dino

**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,21,2011 12:31:16

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31943    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Gronlund, Nancy  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 12:31:16  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31944    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Fritsch, Corinna  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 12:31:16  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31945    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Samuels, Garry  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 12:32:20  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** My family and friends all emphatically support the renewable 'Special Use Permit' for Drakes Bay Oyster Company. It would be very unfortunate to lose such an environmentally attractive and rare asset for the Point Reyes area.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31946    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Sauve, Jeffrey T  
**Outside Organization:** N/A Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 12:54:52  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

**Correspondence:** I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company. These waters are for public access and Oyster development.

Keep the Forest Service/Dept of Fish & Game out of Drakes Bay They are the liars.

Jeffrey T. Sauve 4498 Snowberry Ct Concord, CA 94521

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**Correspondence ID:** 31947    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Adriaansen, Terry  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 13:01:18

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31948    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Banse, Liz  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 13:02:06  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31949    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Fitzgerald, Diane  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 13:03:46  
**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:** 31950    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mason, Victor  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 13:03:57  
**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:** 31951    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Pomante, Marla  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 13:31:19  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31952    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Rose, Jessica  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 13:32:16  
**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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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31953    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Helsel, Daniel  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 14:01:21  
**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.

There are more places to collect oysters than there are Marine Wildernesses' Please protect this unique area for all Americans.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31954    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Burgen, Julia  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 00:00:00  
**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.

Where land and water meet are special places. I hope to visit this area when seeing family in California. Please make that possible and reject the oyster company's request. I have been a birder since the early 70's and there are millions of us who will go to the place to see the bird life over decades with more positives for the local economy than by this extractive industry.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31955    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Adams, Scott  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 14:03:48  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31956    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Rappeport, Walt  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 14:04:09  
**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.

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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31957    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mitchell, Stephanie  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 14:04:11  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31958    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Barrett, Andrew  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 14:04:16  
**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:** 31959    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Locke, Arielle  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Dear Assembly Member Martin Garrick,

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 and leave it to the public as a precious piece of wilderness.

As a resident or perhaps native of Carlsbad California, I know that you are aware and appreciate the beautiful coastline that we have in California. With our own precious estuaries and lagoons such as Batiquitos and Buena Creek we should do everything possible to ensure that open wilderness stays wilderness and tells commercial fisheries, oyster companies etc to find somewhere else to their damage and give the public back a little piece of heaven. With all that we deal with in our daily lives, people need precious landscapes to escape to. Please join me and thousands others in a stand to protect Drakes Estero Wilderness next year. I pray that you and countless other decision makers will stand up and make a difference. Thank you,

Arielle Locke

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31960    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Harold, Geoffrey  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 14:31:37  
**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.

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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:** 31961    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Martin, Carol  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 14:32:43  
**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:** 31962    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Shimek, Steve J  
**Outside Organization:** The Otter Project Non-profit/Organization  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 00:00:00  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** The Otter Project 475 Washington Street, Suite A Monterey, CA 93940 831/646-8837 x114

November 21, 2011

Point Reyes National Seashore 1 Bear Valley Road, Point Reyes Station, California 94956

Re: Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company Special Use Permit

Support for No Action Alternative

Dear DEIS Reviewers:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Drakes Bay Oyster Company Special Use Permit. The following comments are made on behalf of The Otter Project, our 3000+ members and our Board of Directors. The Otter Project exists to promote the rapid recovery of the California sea otter, an indicator of near shore ocean

health, by facilitating research and communicating research results to the general public and policy makers.

Before the fur hunts of the late 1700s and early 1800s sea otters ranged from (what is now) Hokkaido, Japan, around the Pacific Rim, to mid-Baja. There are many good reliable historic records of sea otters occupying the Pt. Reyes area. In 2010, the range of the southern sea otter was roughly Half Moon Bay in the north to Santa Barbara in the south. The southern sea otter is listed as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act. The current population estimate is 2711 animals and declining based on the 2010 three-year running average.

Natural range expansion is one of the most important actions to further species recovery. Sea otters, generally young males, are often seen far to the north and south of their populated range. Sea otters are occasionally seen in San Francisco Bay, the Farallone Islands, and at Pt. Reyes. This year an otter was seen as far south as San Diego. The Pt. Reyes vicinity has had up to 20+ sea otter sightings in one year (very likely multiple sightings of the same small group) and the most recent sea otter sighting in the Point Reyes vicinity was this year.

Waves of young male otters moving in and out of an area are generally considered a precursor to a more stable range expansion. We are in no way suggesting that sea otters will soon "invade" Drakes Estero; we are suggesting Drakes Estero is within the otter's historic range, range expansion is essential to species survival and recovery, and that sea otters, most likely young males, are repeatedly observed at Point Reyes.

Sea otter and oyster farming are most likely mutually exclusive. Sea otters have a voracious appetite for shellfish consuming 25-35% of body weight per day and have caused problems at mariculture facilities in the past. We believe human-sea otter conflict will inevitably arise at Drakes Bay Oyster Company. Certainly, conflict will occur when sea otters are present in large numbers; but we also believe conflict could occur when single otters (already occurring) discover the abundant food resource at Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

The purpose of the DEIS process is to determine how best to: ? Manage natural and cultural resources to support their protection, restoration, and preservation. ? Manage wilderness and potential wilderness areas to preserve the character and qualities for which they were designated. ? Provide opportunities for visitor use and enjoyment of park resources.

We believe that returning Drakes Estero to Wilderness and avoiding the inevitable conflict between humans and otters best serves the stated purposes of this process.

Please adopt Alternative A, the No Action Alternative.

Sincerely, Steve Shimek Chief Executive

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**Correspondence ID:** 31963    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** King, Stephen  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 15:01:25  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31964    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** pezzeca, steven  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 15:02:31  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31965    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** scott, joan  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 15:31:27  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31966    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Romportl, David  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 15:31:40  
**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.

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widespread attacks in Congress and elsewhere.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31967    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** DePaulis, Maria  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 15:32:19  
**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:** 31968    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** hamilton, timothy  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 15:32:45  
**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:** 31969    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Rivera, Lisa  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 15:33:26  
**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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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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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31970    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Dusic, Jennifer  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 16:01:16  
**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:** 31971    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Doutre, Emily  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 16:01:27  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31972    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Redmann, Andriette  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,21,2011 16:02:57  
**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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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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31973    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** N/A, N/A  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 16:03:54  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31974    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Maufer, Deborah  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 16:18:21  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31975    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Rice, Chris  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 16:31:14  
**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:** 31976    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Ventenilla, Christine  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 16:31:33  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31977    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Janka, Pamela  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 16:31:39  
**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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back.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31978    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Howell, Keith  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 16:39:48  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** Drake's Bay Oyster Company, far from being a liability to the maintenance of the Pt Reyes National Seashore, is a substantial asset. Their operation depends on unsullied water and they have a financial stake in maintaining the region's ecosystem and ensuring that it is not overrun by algae and other pollutants. There is no evidence that the oyster farm's effect on the Bay is anything other than benign. Moreover the constant presence of personnel who have similar goals for the park as Park Service can only have a positive outcome. Rather than curtail the operation, I suggest that, perhaps as part of their license to continue, they help to enhance the ecosystem even further, perhaps nurturing wild oysters.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31979    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Carvalho, Michael  
**Outside Organization:** National Wildlife Federation Action Fund Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 16:46:06  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31980    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Hayes, Christine  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 17:01:39  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31981    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Madison, Julian  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 17:01:52  
**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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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.

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---

**Correspondence ID:** 31982    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Lee, Tiffany  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 17:18:47  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31983    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Fitzpatrick, Tracy  
**Outside Organization:** NRDC Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 18:01:22  
**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.

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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31984    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Gonsalves, Carlos  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 18:01:35  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31985    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Harkey, Lori M  
**Outside Organization:** Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 18:10:50  
**Correspondence Type:** Web Form  
**Correspondence:** I support a renewable Special Use Permit for Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31986    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mc Bride, Anne  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 18:18:50  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31987    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Mcphee, Nicole  
**Outside Organization:** National Parks Conservation Association Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 18:31:41  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31988    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Neuhauser, Alice  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 18:48:38  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31989    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Steen, Larry  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 18:48:38  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31990    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Smith, Stacey  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 18:48:38  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31991    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kiralla, Michael  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 18:48:41  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31992    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Langstaff, Richard  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 18:48:42  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31993    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Kearns, Megan  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 18:48:44  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31994    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Stranger, Camille & Peter  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 18:48:44  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31995    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** De Mirjian, Carolyn  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 18:48:44  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31996    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Bisel, Curtis  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 18:48:54  
**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31997    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390  
**Name:** Pitchford, Jayne  
**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual  
**Received:** Nov,21,2011 18:48:55

**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.

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**Correspondence ID:** 31998    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Carr, Seth

**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,21,2011 18:48:55

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

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**Correspondence ID:** 31999    **Project:** 33043    **Document:** 43390

**Name:** Nelson, Ben

**Outside Organization:** Sierra Club Unaffiliated Individual

**Received:** Nov,21,2011 18:48:55

**Correspondence Type:** Web Form

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