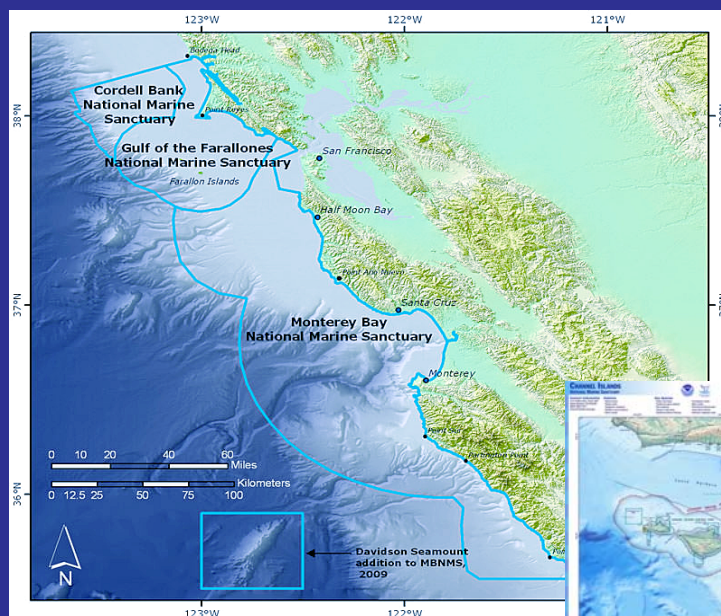


The threat to California from renewed and intensified offshore oil drilling has never been higher

# Marine Sanctuaries Are Under Siege



© 2010 Julie Dermansky for the Sierra Club



**On Oct. 3, let the SLO City Council know you want them to speak up on barring new oil exploration and fracking off the Central Coast**

President Trump has issued an executive order to pave the way for offshore drilling, and all California's national marine sanctuaries are in the cross-hairs.

Trump has ordered the removal of protections from offshore drilling in the Arctic and Atlantic oceans and has set the stage for allowing more offshore drilling in the Gulf of Mexico and a re-do of the 2017-2022 Oil and Gas leasing program, put in place by President Obama, that was supposed to keep the Pacific Coast out of the bull's-eye for offshore drilling for five years.

Off our coast, **Trump has zeroed in on the Channel Islands, Monterey Bay, and Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuaries** with the intention of rolling back their prohibitions against new oil leasing and drilling. He has ordered the Interior Department to "Conduct a review of all designations and expansions of National Marine Sanctuaries...designated or expanded within the 10-year period prior to the date of this order."

All of California's marine sanctuaries ban oil and gas drilling, and all have undergone some form of expansion or boundary change over the last ten years,

and all of them are targets of the Executive Order.

Trump knows that our marine sanctuaries present the most formidable obstacle to offshore drilling. The only way to gain permanent protection from

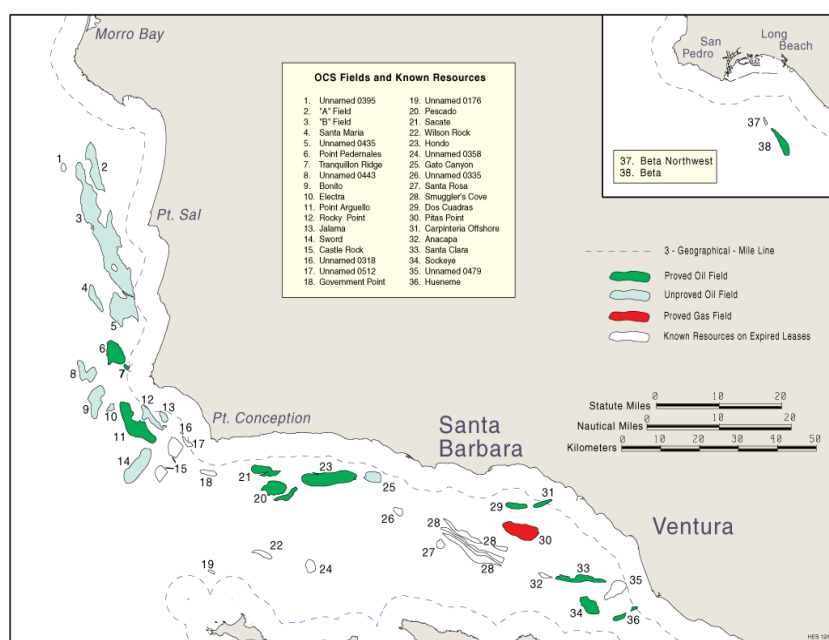


offshore drilling is to designate a national marine sanctuary. A permanent ban on offshore drilling is one of the many benefits that the proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary would provide for the Central Coast. Without a sanctuary, any coastal area is ultimately vulnerable to offshore oil exploration and production.

**That's why Trump's "America-First Offshore Energy Strategy" takes special aim at the marine sanctuaries to the north and south of SLO.**

The administration's reckless act has put our coastal communities' health, economic well-being, and environment at risk. It is up to us to protect our own communities, climate, air, water, and wildlife from an industry with a catastrophic track record. That record includes the Exxon Valdez oil spill in 1989, a failed attempt by Shell to drill in the Arctic Ocean, the Deepwater Horizon tragedy in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010, the oil spill off the Santa Barbara coast in 2015, and the subsequent oil spill and leak of gas in Alaska's Cook Inlet.

**The oil and gas industry cannot be trusted with our coasts.**



There are 14 oil fields off the coast between Morro Bay and Point Conception. There were two oil lease tracts at the north end of the proposed Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary when sanctuary designation was first contemplated there in 1980.

The decision was made to include the lease areas in the sanctuary. Within a decade, the tracts were abandoned by the oil company. They were never developed because they were inside a national marine sanctuary.

"We're going to have to rely more on our state government, our local governments and just plain citizen involvement... otherwise **any part of the California coast that's not in a marine sanctuary today is toast.**"

- "The Trump victory, the threat to California's greatest natural resource, and the new urgency for a strong Coastal Commission"  
L.A. Times, December 1, 2016

## Sign the petition

Tell the SLO City Council to do the right thing:  
[tinyurl.com/NoTrumpOil](http://tinyurl.com/NoTrumpOil)

## Download the Oil Free Seas resolution

Suitable for all city councils:  
[tinyurl.com/oilfreeseas](http://tinyurl.com/oilfreeseas)

Come to the meeting of the SLO City Council on **Tuesday, October 3**, and support the Oil Free Seas Resolution. **6 p.m., San Luis Obispo City Council Chamber, City Hall, 990 Palm Street, SLO.**



Image courtesy of NOAA Ocean

