

**Shared via Pacific Yearly Meeting  
Peace and Social Order Committee**

**Social Concern Minute**

**Central Coast Monthly Meeting  
Statement Supporting Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary  
October 2023**

CCFM 2023-10-A Central Coast Friends Meeting approves submitting a statement of support to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in favor of creation of the Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary.

**STATEMENT SUPPORTING CHUMASH HERITAGE NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY**

The Central Coast Friends Meeting (Quakers) offers this statement of support for the proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary. Our principles of harmony with nature and of right relationships with Creation bring us to make this statement. We support the establishment of the Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary using the largest possible contiguous sanctuary boundaries, as shown in the Initial Boundary Alternative combined with the Gaviota Coast Extension (Sub-Alternative 5b), because it would provide the most protection.

Our beloved coastal and offshore waters in San Luis Obispo County would be subjected to drilling, dumping, and desecration of sacred sites in alternative boundaries 2, 3, and 4 proposed by NOAA. We request that any cables laid in sanctuary waters have permits from the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries. Migrating marine animals need safe passage through our waters.

Lisamu, which we call Morro Rock, needs protection so that never again will we take rocks from this sacred site. Our indigenous neighbors have wisdom to share based on 10,000 years of living in harmony with the land and waters. We support strong collaboration among local agencies and tribes in regulating and managing the sanctuary to include all interested local tribes.

Respectfully submitted,  
Melissa Lovett-Adair  
Presiding Clerk  
Central Coast Friends Meeting (Quakers)  
San Luis Obispo