

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 20, 2012

The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing in support of the inclusion of the Point Arena-Stornetta Public Lands in Mendocino County to be part of the California Coastal National Monument.

As you know, the California Coastal National Monument was established by President Clinton in 2000 to protect roughly 1,100 miles of California coastline. The designation of this area as a National Monument, and through the administration by the Bureau of Land Management, permanently protects California's beautiful coast and the vital habitat it provides for seabirds and marine wildlife.

The Point Arena-Stornetta Public Lands feature some of the most significant and scenic public lands along the Mendocino coastline. Home to several endangered species, intact native plant communities, and unique geological features, this 1,255 acre area is where the Garcia River crosses the rugged cliffs and rolling meadows of California's coast before entering the Pacific Ocean.

The Point Arena-Stornetta Public Lands complement the National Monument's scenic qualities while also providing onshore recreation opportunities and important habitat areas for local fish and wildlife, such as Chinook salmon, bobcats and, the endangered Point Arena beaver. In addition, the Garcia River is the target of the extensive restoration efforts, which could be further enhanced by the inclusion of these lands into the boundaries of the adjacent monument.

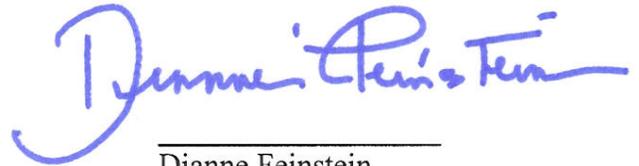
The BLM purchased the Stornetta Public Lands in 2005, and the Trust for Public Land purchased 123-acres south of the Stornetta Public Lands and conveyed the acreage to BLM earlier this year. Together these areas are a national treasure and would be a natural and significant addition to the California Coastal National Monument.

We encourage you to use your authority under the Antiquities Act of 1906 to include these public lands in the California Coastal National Monument. Additionally, we understand there to be ongoing grazing activities within the Point Arena-Stornetta Public Lands that have been agreed upon by BLM and the Stornetta family as a resource management tool, and we expect those operations to remain ongoing under a new public lands designation. The preservation of these lands is imperative so that residents and visitors alike can continue to explore and enjoy California's spectacular coastal lands for generations to come.

Sincerely,



Barbara Boxer
United States Senator



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

cc: The Honorable Ken Salazar, United States Secretary of the Interior