APPENDIX A.1

NOTICE OF INTENT

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[Proposed Rules] [Page 31528-31529]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

15 CFR Part 922

Initiation of Review of Management Plan/Regulations of the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary; Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and Management Plan; Scoping Meetings

AGENCY: Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management (OCRM), National Ocean Service (NOS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce (DOC).

ACTION: Initiation of review of management plan/regulations; intent to prepare environmental impact statement; scoping meetings.

SUMMARY: The Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS or Sanctuary) was designated in September 1980, and consists of 1,252 square nautical miles of open ocean and near shore habitat approximately 25 miles off the coast of Santa Barbara, California, encompassing the waters surrounding San Miguel, Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz, Anacapa and Santa Barbara Islands from mean high tide to six nautical miles offshore. The present management plan for the Sanctuary was completed in 1982. In accordance with Section 304(e) of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, as amended, (NMSA) (16 U.S.C. 1431 et seq.), the Marine Sanctuaries Division (MSD) of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is initiating a review of the management plan, to evaluate substantive progress toward implementing the goals for the Sanctuary, and to make revisions to the plan and regulations as necessary to fulfill the purposes and policies of the NMSA.

The proposed revised management plan will likely involve changes to existing policies and regulations of the Sanctuary, to address contemporary issues and challenges, and to better protect and manage the Sanctuary's resources and qualities. The review process is composed of four major stages: information collection and characterization; preparation and release of a draft management plan/environmental impact statement, and any proposed amendments to the regulations; public review and comment; preparation and release of a final management plan/environmental impact statement, and any final amendments to the regulations. NOAA anticipates completion of the revised management plan and concomitant documents

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will require approximately eighteen to twenty-four months. NOAA will conduct public scoping meetings to gather information and other comments from individuals, organizations, and government agencies on the scope, types and significance of issues related to the sanctuary's management plan and regulations. The scoping meetings are scheduled for the weeks of June 21 and July 5, 1999, as detailed below.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before July 27, 1999.

Scoping meetings will be held:

- (1) Monday, June 21, 1999, 6:30pm in Lompoc.
- (2) Tuesday, June 22, 1999, 6:30pm in Santa Barbara.
- (3) Wednesday, June 23, 1999, 6:30pm in Oxnard.
- (4) Thursday, June 24, 1999, 6:30pm in Long Beach.
- (5) Friday, June 25, 1999, 6:30pm in Ventura.
- (6) Wednesday, July 14, 1999, 2:00pm in Washington, D.C. addresses: Written comments may be sent to the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (Management Plan Review), 113 Harbor Way, Santa Barbara, California 93109. Comments will be available for public review at the same address.

Scoping meetings will be held at:

- (1) Cabrillo High School, Room SS-5, 4350 Constellation Rd., Lompoc, CA 93456.
- (2) Chase Palm Park Center, 323 East Cabrillo, Santa Barbara, CA 93103.
- (3) Casa Sirena Hotel and Marina, 3605 Peninsula Rd., Oxnard, CA 93035.
- (4) Long Beach Aquarium Theatre, Long Beach, CA 90802.
- (5) Sheraton 4-Points, Windjammers Meeting Room, 1080 Navigation, Ventura, CA 93001.
- (6) Herbert C. Hoover Building, 14th & Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20230.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Anne Walton, Management Plan Specialist, at (805) 884-1470.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. Section 1431 et seq.

(Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.429 Marine Sanctuary Program)

Dated: June 4, 1999.

John Oliver,

Chief Financial Officer/Chief Administrative Officer, National Ocean Service.

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