

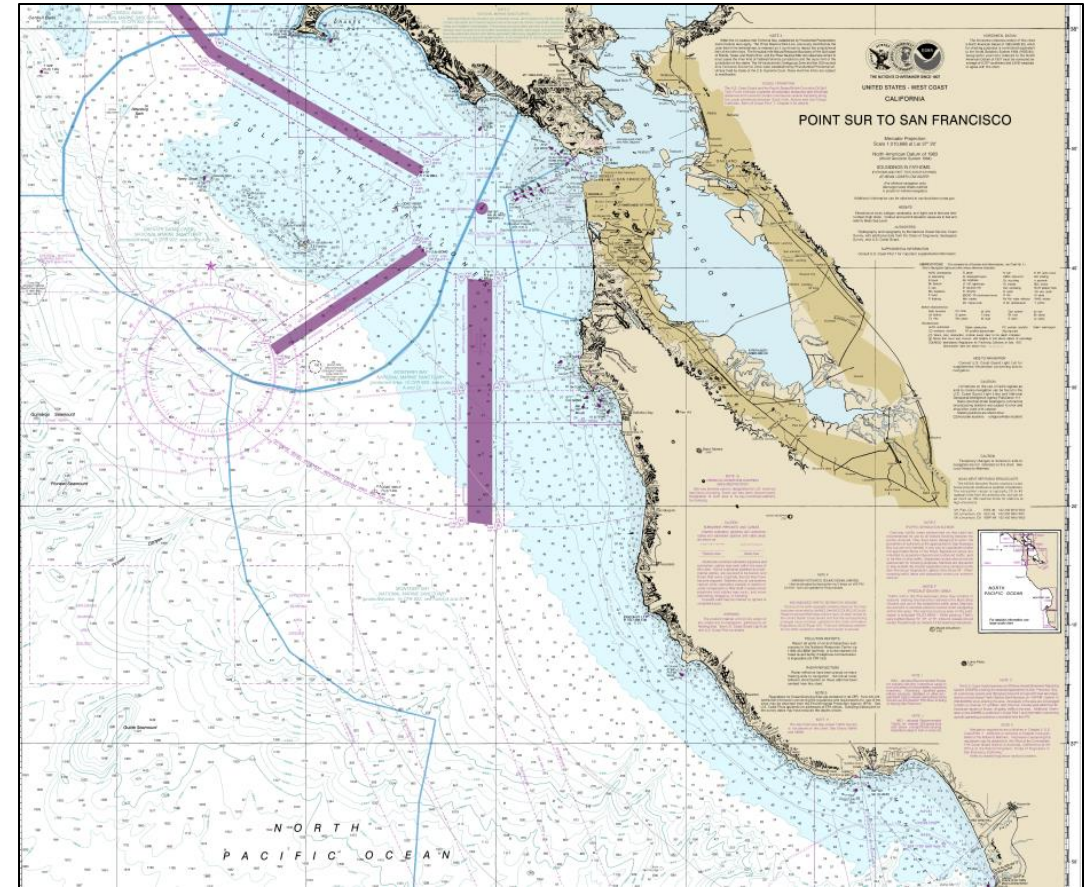


US Coast Guard Pacific Area Port Access Route Study

CDR Brendan Harris
U.S. Coast Guard District Thirteen
25 June 2025

What is a Port Access Route Study?

- Evaluates waterway use through data and public outreach
- Required to establish a new / adjusting existing fairways or traffic separation schemes
- May be prompted by safe navigation inquiries or major developments planned on / near waterway



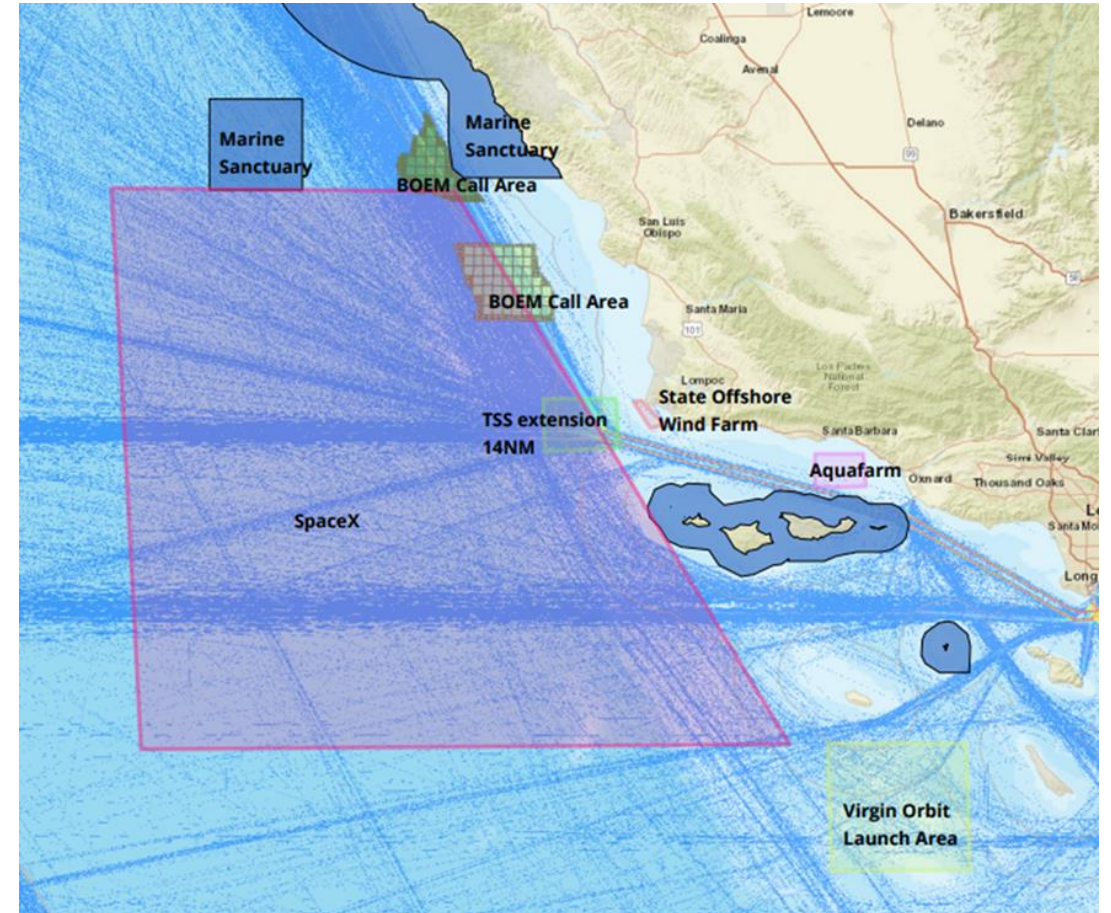
USCG Role

- Ports and Waterways Safety Act (PWSA)
 - 46 USC 70003
- Manage vessel traffic with:
 - Fairways
 - Traffic Separation Schemes
 - Channels
 - Aids to Navigation



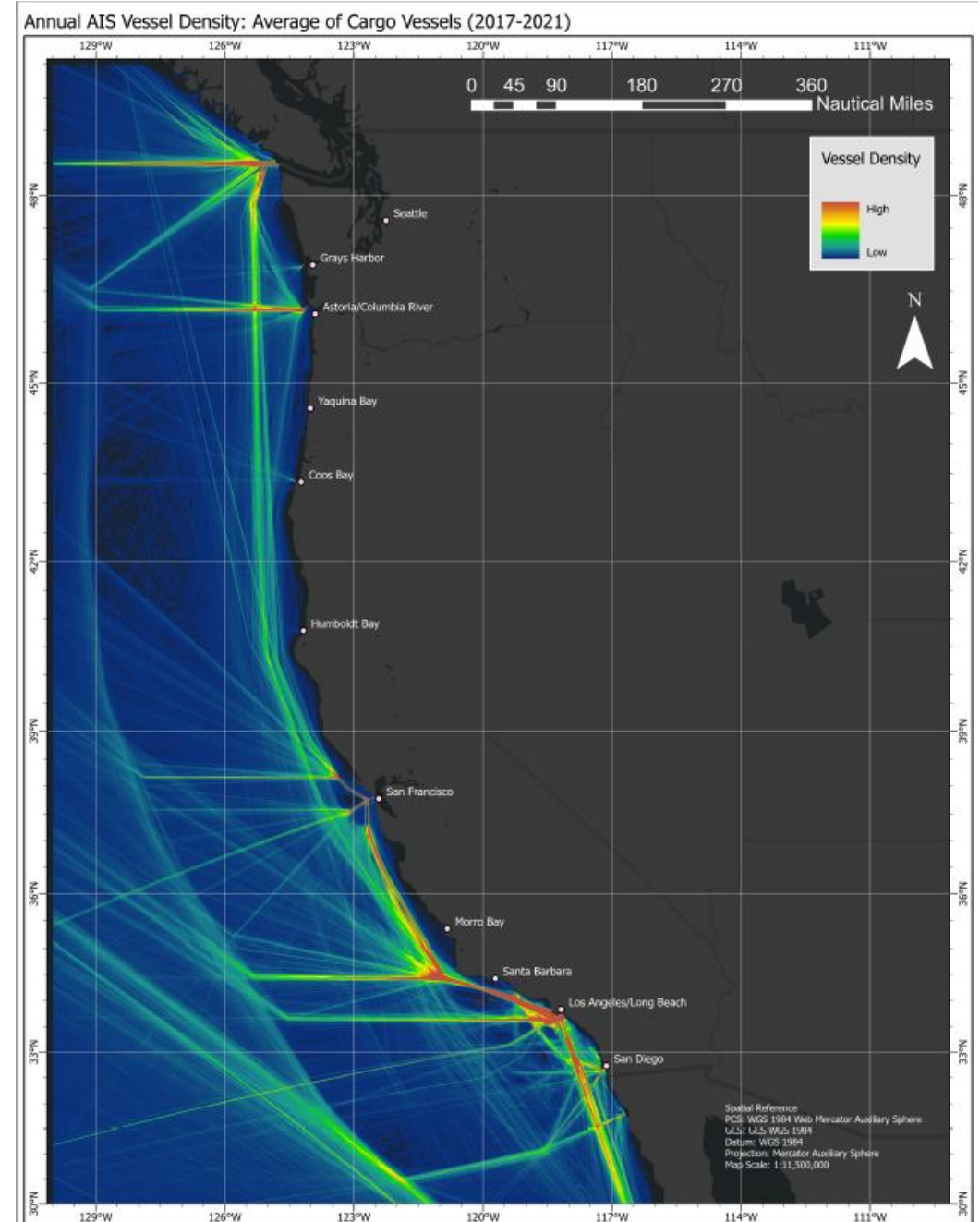
Why conduct the PAC-PARS now?

- NOAA proposed Area to be Avoided expansion around Channel Island
- BOEM Call Areas
- Proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary
- New offshore infrastructure / activities
 - Offshore Renewable Energy Platforms
 - Aquafarms
 - Commercial & Government Space Activities
- Military Exercises
- Increasing vessel traffic

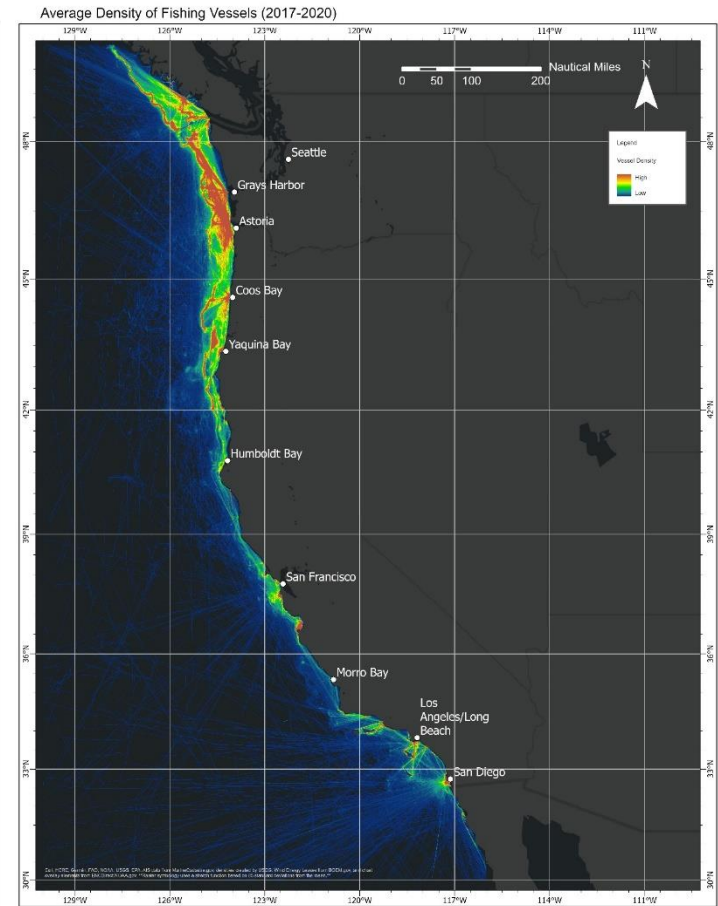
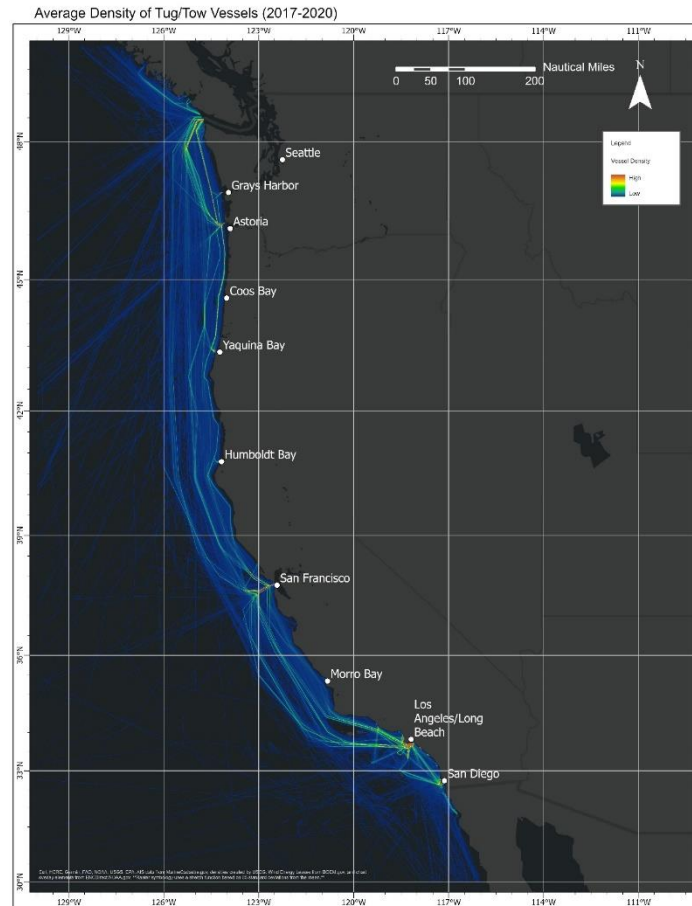
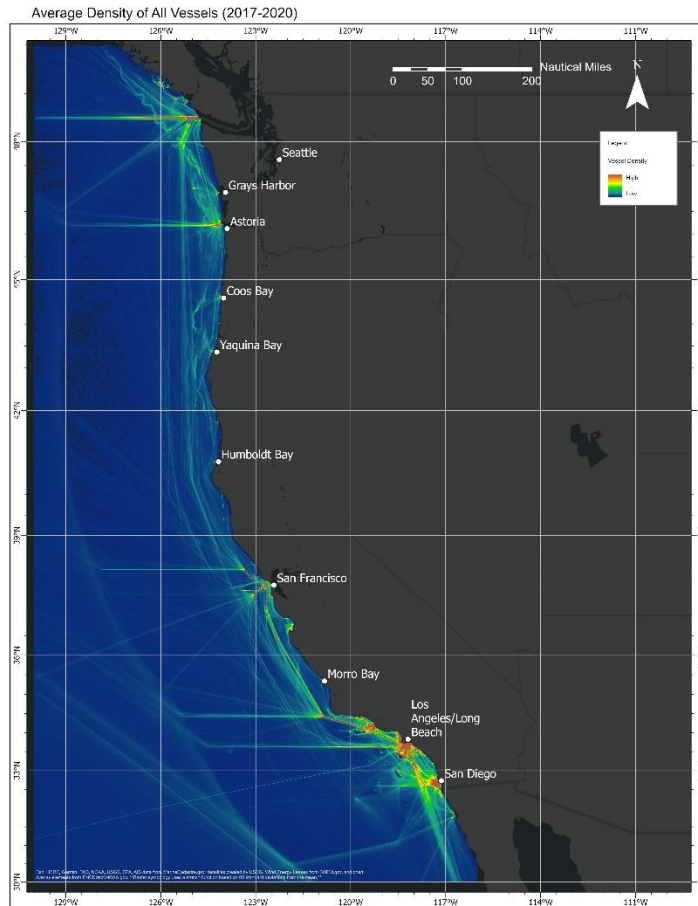


Coastal Analysis

- Enclosure 1 (Coastal traffic)
- Vessel Types
 - Fishing
 - Cargo
 - Tanker
 - Tug/Tow
 - Passenger
 - Recreational

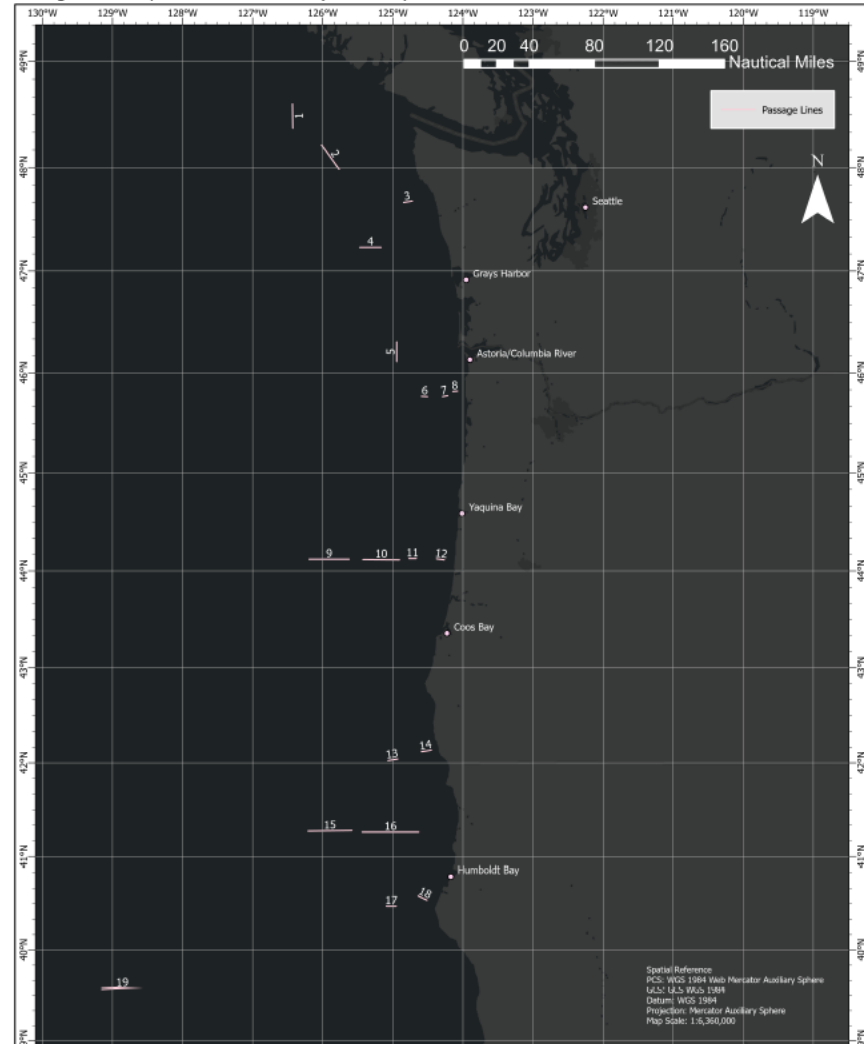


Coastal Analysis – Enclosure 1



Coastal Analysis – Enclosure 1

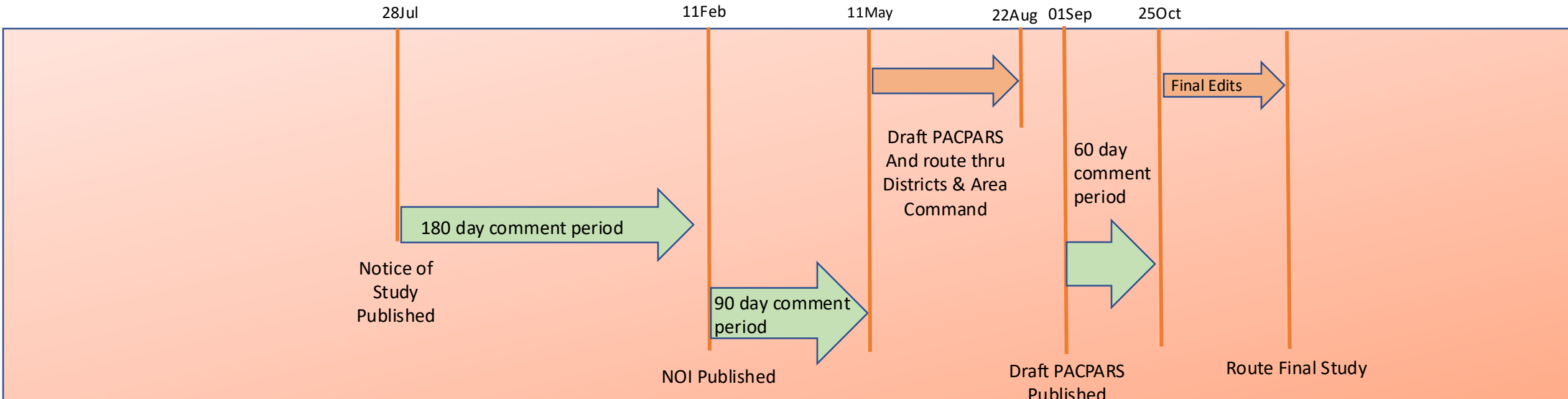
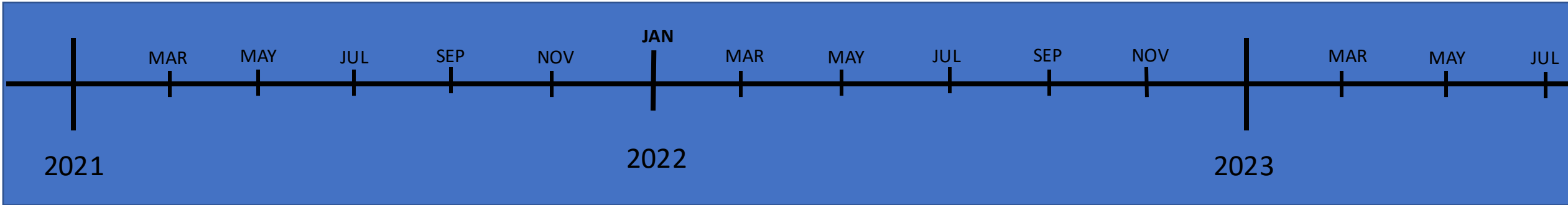
Passage Line Analysis: Northern Section (Lines 0-19)



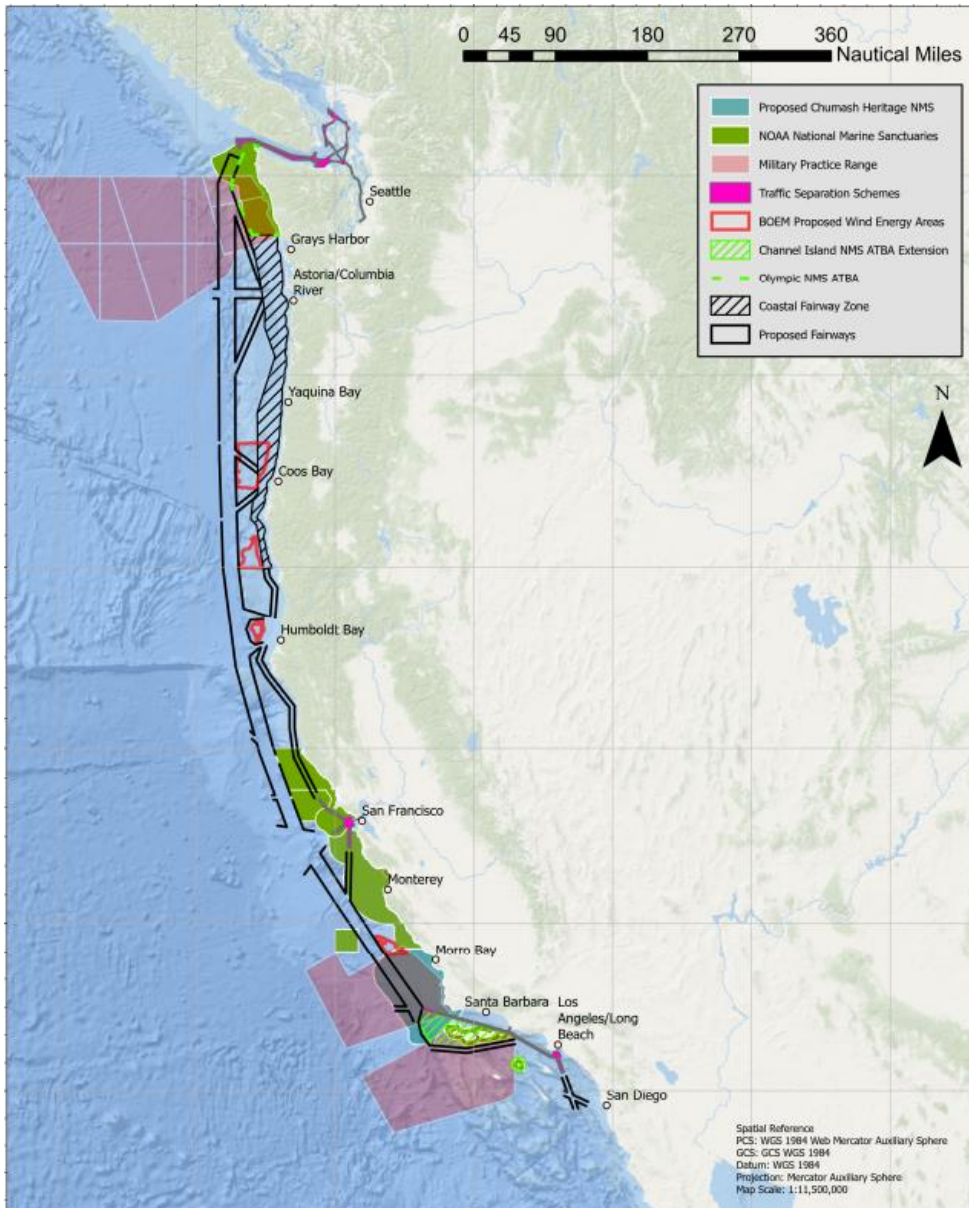
Passage Line 1								
Number of Transits	2012	2015	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	5-yr Avg
All Vessels	926	2122	2304	2400	2251	1974	1974	2181
Fishing	3	5	13	15	15	17	21	16
Tug/Tow	3	7	3	5	3	1	2	3
Recreational	0	4	1	7	5	14	19	9
Passenger	0	3	0	6	3	0	5	3
Cargo	673	1772	1962	1851	1647	1316	1603	1676
Tanker	205	249	244	267	247	219	200	235
Other	16	10	11	9	9	13	21	13
Number of Unique Vessels								
All Vessels	612	1231	1368	1370	1263	1299	1331	1326
Fishing	3	5	10	13	14	16	15	14
Tug/Tow	3	6	1	5	3	1	1	2
Recreational	0	4	1	7	5	11	17	8
Passenger	0	3	0	6	3	0	3	2
Cargo	522	1075	1197	1060	919	869	1070	1023
Tanker	60	80	93	105	84	92	86	92
Other	7	8	7	7	9	8	17	10

Draft PAC-PARS Process

- Outreach

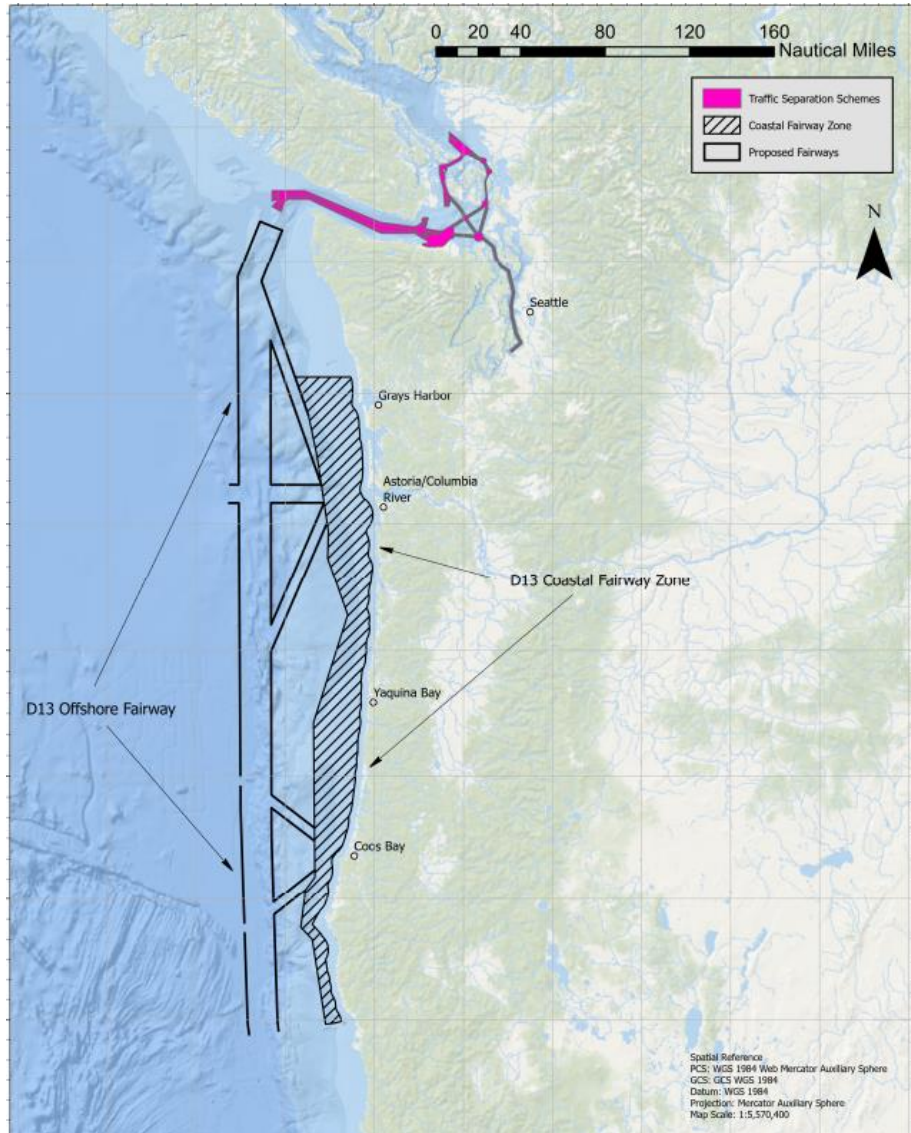


Study Recommendations



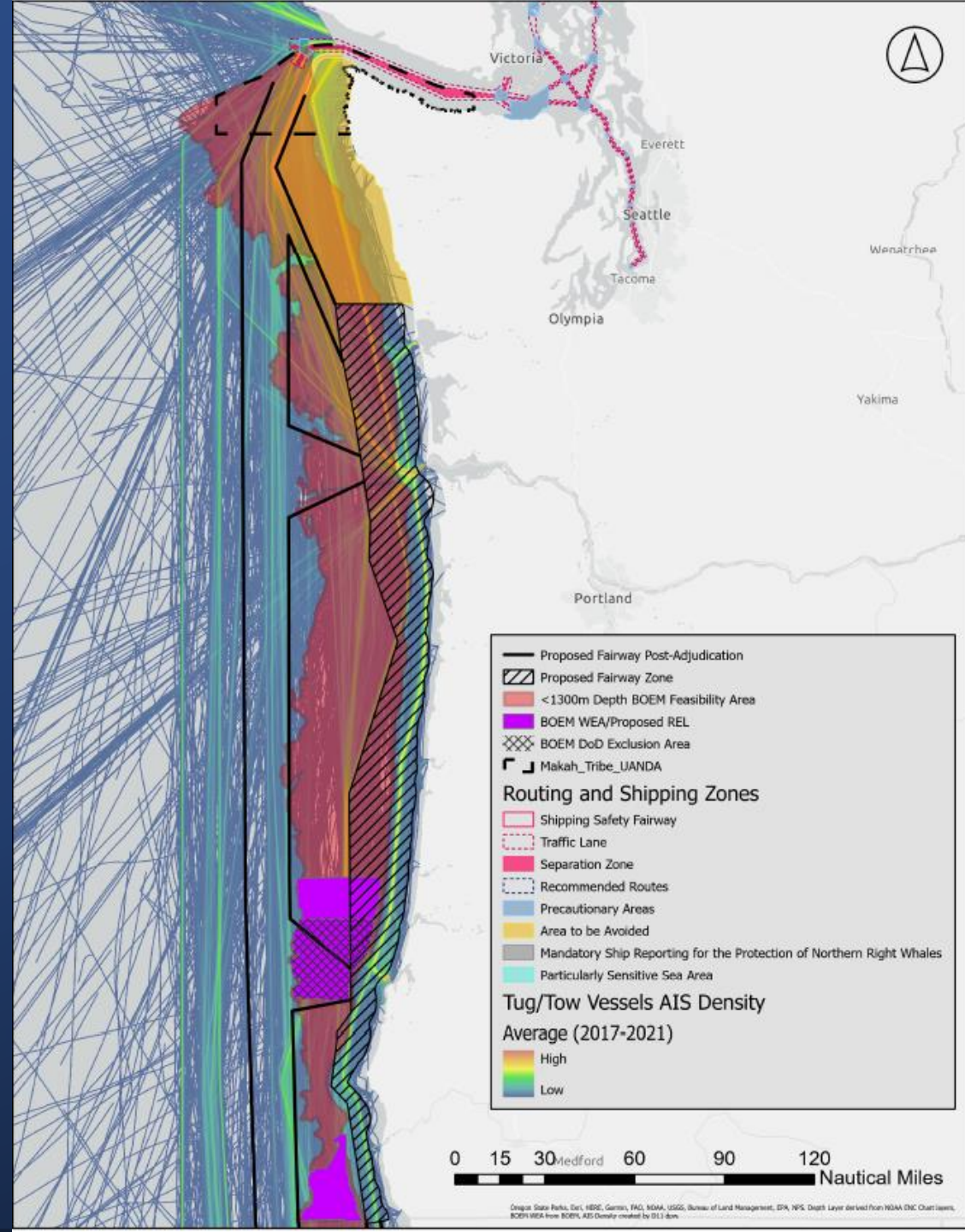
- Establish voluntary fairways
- Remove IMO recommended routes off Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
- Continued support of 2002 Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force recommendations
 - 25NM offshore (300GT non-tank)
 - 50NM offshore (chemical / tanker)
- Move traffic efficiently through marine sanctuaries

Study Recommendations

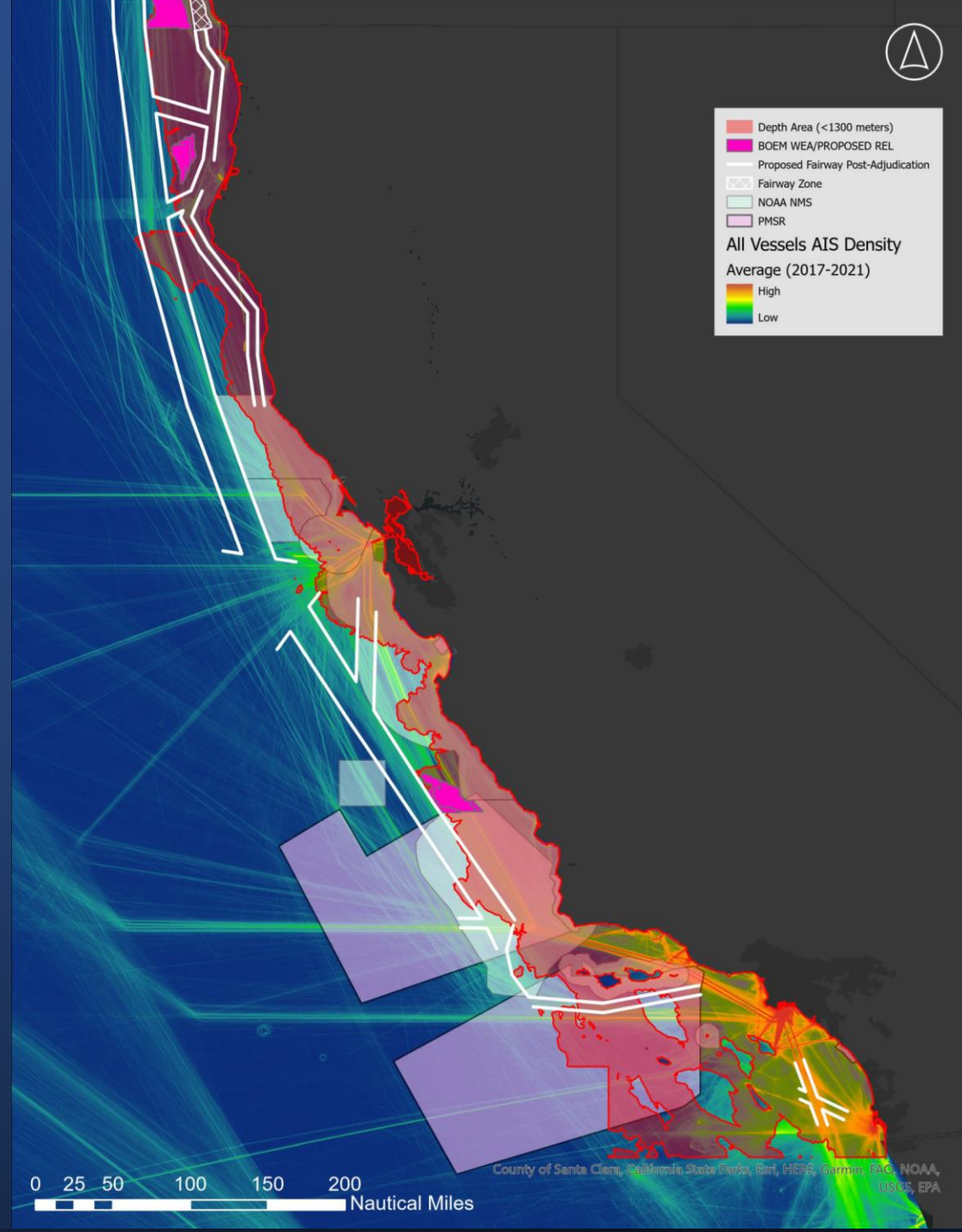


- Offshore Fairway
 - 15 NM wide
 - Follows historic vessel traffic route
 - ~ 25+ NM offshore
- Coastal Fairway Zone
 - Overlays the Crabber towboat-lanes
- Connecting lanes to ports

District 13 Recommended Final Fairways



District 11 Recommended Final Fairways





Current Status and Future

- US Coast Guard Pacific Area Command Approved the Final PAC PARS in June of 2023 at which point it was forwarded to CG Headquarters for further action.
- CG Headquarters placed the Final Study and recommended Fairways on the Federal Register.
- Coast Guard Headquarters Waterways has completed review of study results and will continue to engage with PAC/D11/D13, our partner agencies and waterway stakeholders. CG-WWM has contracted an ongoing Environmental Impact Study for the recommended West Coast Fairways. Upon completion, submitting an intent to establish a rulemaking project proposal for fairways/approaches based on the District 11 and 13 recommendations.