



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE

Office of National Marine Sanctuaries  
1305 East-West Highway  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

NOV 20 2012

Larry McKinney, Ph.D.  
Chair, Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council  
Director, Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies  
4700 Avenue U, Bldg. 216  
Galveston, TX 77551

Dear Dr. McKinney: *LARRY*

Thank you for your letter to Acting Secretary of Commerce Rebecca M. Blank and NOAA Administrator Jane Lubchenco, Ph.D. regarding your council's support for reactivating the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries' Site Evaluation List (SEL). I appreciate the effort and time your council dedicated to discussing this important issue and plan to transmit your thoughts to agency leadership.

As always, thank you for your continued commitment to the National Marine Sanctuary System and for providing your advice and recommendations on how best to manage and protect ocean resources.

Sincerely,

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
Daniel J. Basta  
Director

*Big Thanks!*

Cc: Billy Causey, Director, Southeast Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Region  
G.P. Schmahl, Superintendent, Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary  
Jennifer Morgan, Management Plan and Advisory Council Coordinator, Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary

