

Katherine Douglas

Public Comment

A-30

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DIST

**From:** Molly Troup <molly@sbck.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 9, 2025 11:24 AM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** SBCK Public Comment for A-30: Resolution opposing Offshore Oil Leases in California  
**Attachments:** SBCK Comment Letter\_6.9.2025.pdf

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Dear Clerk of the Board,

Please distribute the attached comment letter on Administrative Item 30 of the June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting to the Board of Supervisors.

Thank you,

Molly Troup  
Science and Program Manager  
Santa Barbara Channelkeeper  
[www.sbck.org](http://www.sbck.org)  
805-563-3377 x5



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Santa Barbara, CA 93103  
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June 9, 2025

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors  
Ms. Laura Capps, Chair  
123 East Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
*Via email: sbcob@countyofsb.org*

Re: Reaffirmation of Santa Barbara County Opposition to New Offshore Oil Leasing in  
Response to BOEM's 2025-2030 National Outer Continental Shelf Leasing Program

Dear Chair Capps and Supervisors,

Santa Barbara Channelkeeper supports the County of Santa Barbara's resolution opposing new offshore oil leasing off the coast of California for the same reasons that are referenced in the resolution including the biodiversity, tourism, cultural, and economic values that the Santa Barbara Channel and coastal waters provides to our community. These same attributes that were recognized by the County Board of Supervisors in 2018, when the Board approved a similar resolution opposing new oil leases in California's waters in BOEM's 2019-2024 leasing program and they remain true today, seven years later. Channelkeeper also remembers the devastation of the 2015 Plains All American Spill as well as 1969 spill that lead to the modern Environmental Movement.

The biological and ecological importance of the Santa Barbara Channel and coastal waters are recognized through many designations including the Channel Islands National Park, the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, and numerous marine protected areas as referenced in the Resolution recitals. In addition to these designations, it is worth noting that the Santa Barbara Channel has also been a Biosphere Region since 1976 and more recently, was designated as one of eleven Whale Heritage Areas in 2023, and designated as the Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary in 2024.

Given the significance of the biological and ecological values of the Santa Barbara Channel as well as the multiple economic contributions that the Channel provides to our community and recognizing the track record of devastating oil spills in our region,

Channelkeeper supports Santa Barbara County in opposing new offshore drilling off the coast of California. We urge the Board of Supervisors to support the Resolution as proposed in the Administrative Item 30 of the June 10, 2025, Board of Supervisors meeting.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Molly Troup".

Molly Troup  
Science & Program Manager  
Santa Barbara Channelkeeper

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ted Morton".

Ted Morton  
Executive Director  
Santa Barbara Channelkeeper