



Superintendent's Notice

**Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce**

Vessel owner:

Be advised that leaving a vessel at anchor and unattended within the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) is considered deserting a vessel at anchor and represents an imminent danger to the sanctuary [see Title 15, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 922.132(a)(9)]. In addition, deserting a vessel at anchor with harmful matter aboard could trigger an additional federal concern under 15 CFR 922.132(a)(10). Harmful matter includes (but is not limited to) fuel, motor oil, kerosene, bleach, paint, paint thinner, grease, coolant, batteries, acids, etc.

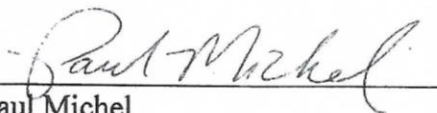
Anchoring within MBNMS is not prohibited if you maintain a proper anchor watch (one crew member aboard the vessel at all times).

To avoid potential federal fines for deserting a vessel at anchor within MBNMS, you must do one of the following:

- anchor the vessel, maintain a 24/7 crewmember anchor watch, and illuminate the anchor light between dusk and dawn;
- move the vessel to a harbor, permitted mooring, or official charted anchorage adjacent to a harbor; or
- remove the vessel from the sanctuary by steaming/sailing out of the sanctuary or trailering the vessel.

The presence of your unattended vessel will be reported to the NOAA Office of Law Enforcement for investigation.

If you have an emergency and must leave your vessel unattended or if you have questions about this notice, contact the MBNMS Enforcement Coordinator at 831-647-4251 or contact the nearest harbormaster.


Paul Michel
Superintendent