



For Immediate Release

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Fairfax, CA Passes Resolution Opposing Dirty Offshore Oil

Trump Plan to Expand Offshore Leasing Continues to Meet Strong Resistance in Marin County

Fairfax, California (November 5, 2020) - The Fairfax Town Council has adopted a resolution to express the town of Fairfax's opposition to offshore oil and gas drilling and exploration activities including seismic airgun blasting. This resolution builds on Marin County's recent ordinance, banning the development of onshore infrastructure for offshore oil and gas without a vote from Marin residents, the county's past work to oppose fracking, and the county's prior 2018 resolution to support Protection of our Ocean and Coast from Offshore Drilling and Fracking. The Fairfax resolution marks the 98th resolution in opposition to offshore drilling that has been adopted along the West Coast since April 2017, when President Trump announced plans to drastically expand offshore drilling.

The federal administration's proposed offshore leasing plan dramatically expands offshore oil drilling in all oceans along U.S. coasts, including off California for the first time in over 30 years. The proposed plan directly threatens the Pacific's vibrant marine ecosystems and clean-coast economy with catastrophic oil spills, toxic pollution, and climate chaos. It is part of a dangerous larger plan, in which the federal administration has plans to expand oil and gas throughout the nation with no regard for sensitive ecosystems.

The resolution was supported by the Surfrider Foundation and the Environmental Action Committee of West Marin (EAC), which have been supporting local communities in considering



the adoption of a new series of California city and county resolutions and ordinances opposing offshore drilling and fracking, as part of the Protect the Pacific coalition. Last night's action supports more seamless protection by connecting with the protections of other similar city and county resolutions and ordinances to the north and south.

"This resolution is an important step to add critical protection for Marin County's valuable coastal habitats and economy." said Ashley Eagle-Gibbs, Conservation Director for EAC

Morgan Patton, EAC's Executive Director added, "We stand in opposition to any prospects of drilling off our coast. Measures like this help to prevent continued reliance on harmful unsustainable energy development that exacerbates the climate crisis and wreaks havoc on sensitive habitats and ecosystems."

"Offshore oil drilling is a dirty and dangerous practice that threatens the health of our ocean and adjacent communities," said the Surfrider Foundation's Environmental Director, Pete Stauffer. "Coastal businesses are already suffering greatly from the COVID-19 pandemic and we simply can't afford to further jeopardize our economy. The Surfrider Foundation calls upon the Trump administration to immediately cancel its plans for expanded offshore drilling."

Surfrider Foundation: Established in 1984, Surfrider Foundation's [mission](#) is the protection and enjoyment of the world's ocean, waves and beaches, for all people, through a powerful activist network.

Environmental Action Committee of West Marin (EAC): Established in 1971, EAC's [mission](#) is to protect and sustain the unique lands, waters, and biodiversity of West Marin.