



**Drakes Bay Oyster Company**  
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December 8, 2011  
For Immediate Release:

## Press Release

# Drakes Bay Oyster Company Submits Comments to NPS EIS on behalf of 7,700 Seashore Visitors from 47 States and 29 Countries

**Point Reyes Station, CA.** Today, Kevin and Nancy Lunny, owners and family operators of Drakes Bay Oyster Company, escorted by a delegation of workers and supporters, hand-delivered a collection of over 7,700 letters to NPS Point Reyes National Seashore's (PRNS) main headquarters.

The Lunnys and their supporters delivered letters from Seashore visitors to PRNS Superintendent Muldoon's office as comments for inclusion in the pending NPS environmental review process to extend the oyster farm's lease.

*"Seashore visitors have visited the oyster farm from 47 states and 29 countries of the world, and they want it to continue for years and years to come,"* said Kevin Lunny, owner, Drakes Bay Oyster Company.

Kevin's wife, Nancy Lunny, added, *"this oyster farm is part of a working landscape here at Point Reyes that was always intended to be part of the Seashore,"* adding that *"this oyster farm is an historic and cultural gem."*

Drakes Bay Oyster Farm produces more than 40% of all shellfish in the State of California and operates the last remaining cannery in the entire State.

The National Park Service, in its 2007 Report, **"Stewardship Begins with People, An Atlas of Places People and Handmade Products"** profiled Kevin Lunny as a rancher and farmer who was *"practicing a stewardship ethic and demonstrating a commitment to sustainability."*

The State of California, in the Shellfish Protection Act of 1993, declared, “*commercial shellfish harvesting is a beneficial use of the waters of the state and, in addition, benefits the economy of the state through the creation of jobs.*” The farm’s lease with California’s Department of Fish and Game extends to 2029. The National Park Service is conducting an environmental review to extend the *federal* permit.

For Additional Information:

Drakes Bay Oyster Farm  
[www.drakesbayoyster.com](http://www.drakesbayoyster.com)

Alliance for Local Sustainable Agriculture (ALSA)  
[www.alsamarin.org](http://www.alsamarin.org)

Drakes Bay Oyster Company and the National Park Service (Blog)  
[www.oysterzone.wordpress.com](http://www.oysterzone.wordpress.com)

- Attached:
- (1) Letter to Cicely Muldoon, Superintendent, Point Reyes National Seashore, from Kevin and Nancy Lunny, Drakes Bay Oyster Company submitting more than 7,700 letters for NPS EIS Comment
  - (2) Photograph, Samples of 7,700 Letters Supporting Extension of a Renewable Permit for the Oyster Farm
  - (3) PDF, Cover, NPS Report, “**Stewardship Begins with People, An Atlas of Places, People and Handmade Products,**” Conservation Study Institute, National Park Service, US Department of the Interior

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December 8, 2011

Draft EIS DBOC SUP c/o Superintendent  
Point Reyes National Seashore  
One Bear Valley Road  
Point Reyes Station, CA 94956

Re: Comments for Draft EIS on Lease Extension Drakes Bay Oyster Company

Dear Superintendent Muldoon,

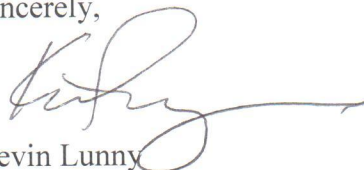
We recognize that the National Park Service (NPS) has not yet selected the “preferred alternative” in the Draft EIS. With great pride, Drakes Bay Oyster Company (DBOC) and the Lunny family submit this comment letter in support of the NPS selecting as its preferred alternative issuing a SUP to DBOC for continuing the farm. We have attached more than 7,700 letters from citizens, individuals, and families from 47 States and at least 29 countries that have visited DBOC and who have expressed their support of the continuation of DBOC at Drakes Estero.

Said one visitor, a retired National Park Service planner who worked on regional planning committees back in the 1970's, ***“keep the oyster farm just as is...hasn't changed in 35 years and was the original planning team's recommendation to keep 'as is' for public information re: early history.”***

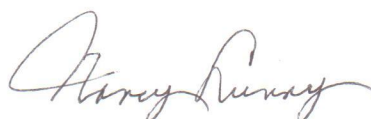
These letters have one thing in common: each was personally signed by actual visitors to the oyster farm here at the Seashore, a well-known and popular destination for Seashore visitors.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft EIS.

Sincerely,

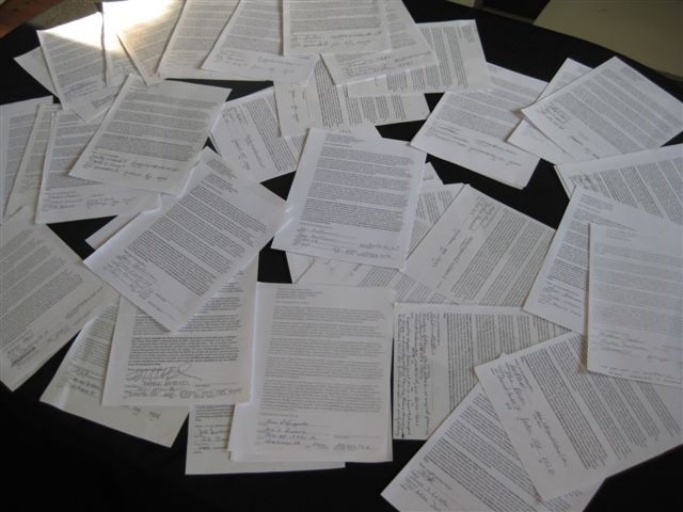


Kevin Lunny



Nancy Lunny

Attachment (USB flash drive containing pdfs of over 7700 letters)





# Stewardship Begins with People

## An Atlas of Places, People, and Handmade Products

