



Seabirds of Concern



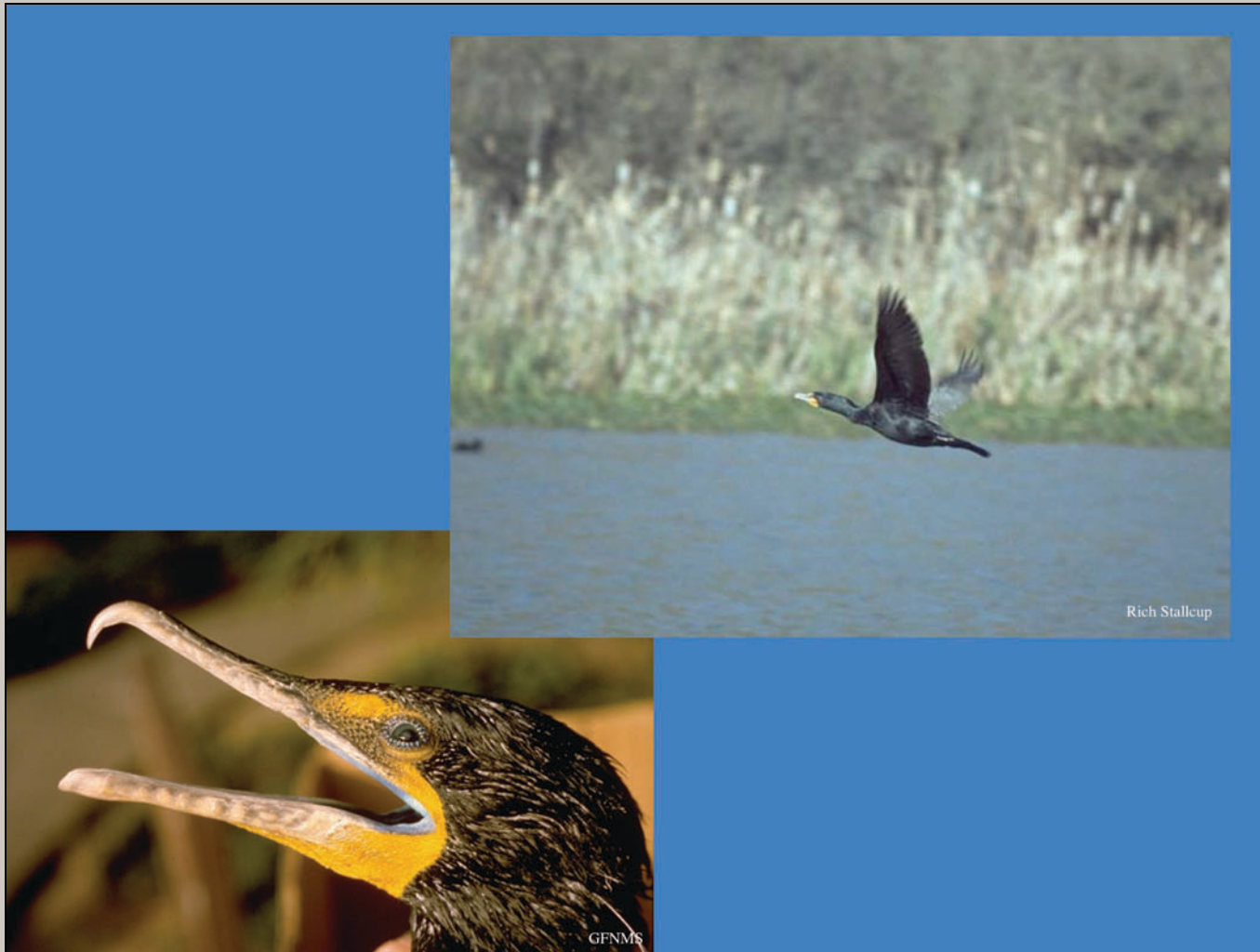
Breeding and roosting seabirds that nest and rest on cliffs or offshore rocks, that are highly susceptible to negative impacts to their populations caused by human disturbance.



Seabirds of Concern



Cormorants





Seabirds of Concern



Cormorants



Jamie Hall



Seabirds of Concern



Brown Pelicans



Seabirds of Concern



Common Murres





Seabirds of Concern



Common Murres





Seabirds of Concern



Common Murres



Command Oil Spill



BACKGROUND

- The *T/V Command* had a minor accident while anchored in the SF Bay.
- Around midnight, and only 15 miles off the San Mateo County coast, it began draining the previously damaged tank, which resulted in the release of oil. This release was not reported.



- U.S. military aircraft followed an oily sheen trail to the vessel off the Guatemala coast, where it was intercepted by the U.S. Coast Guard.
- Oil samples from the small accident in SF matched the *Command* to the mystery spill off the San Mateo Co. coast.



The successful prosecution of the *Command* vessel operator and owners and the recovery of natural resource damages mark the first time a tanker vessel has been caught illegally dumping oil in California.



T/V Command Oil Spill Natural Resource Trustees

United States Fish and Wildlife Service

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

California Department of Fish and Game

California State Lands Commission

California Department of Parks and Recreation



Natural Resource Injuries

Natural Resource Damages: \$4,000,000

**Common Murres and other Seabirds:
Estimated over 1,500 birds killed**

**Marbled Murrelets:
Estimated 6 to 12 birds killed**

**Shoreline Habitats:
Many miles of beaches lightly oiled**

**Human Recreational Use:
Estimated \$113,386 in lost beach use values**





Seabird Colony Protection Program

Purpose and Need: Currently, no coordinated management and conservation program for seabirds exists in California, and overlapping jurisdictions have made it difficult to tackle the problem of human disturbance. A few planning efforts are underway that address some aspects of California seabird conservation needs, but no one plan considers all the biological factors, status, regulatory issues, conservation threats, management needs and restoration opportunities.



Program Goal



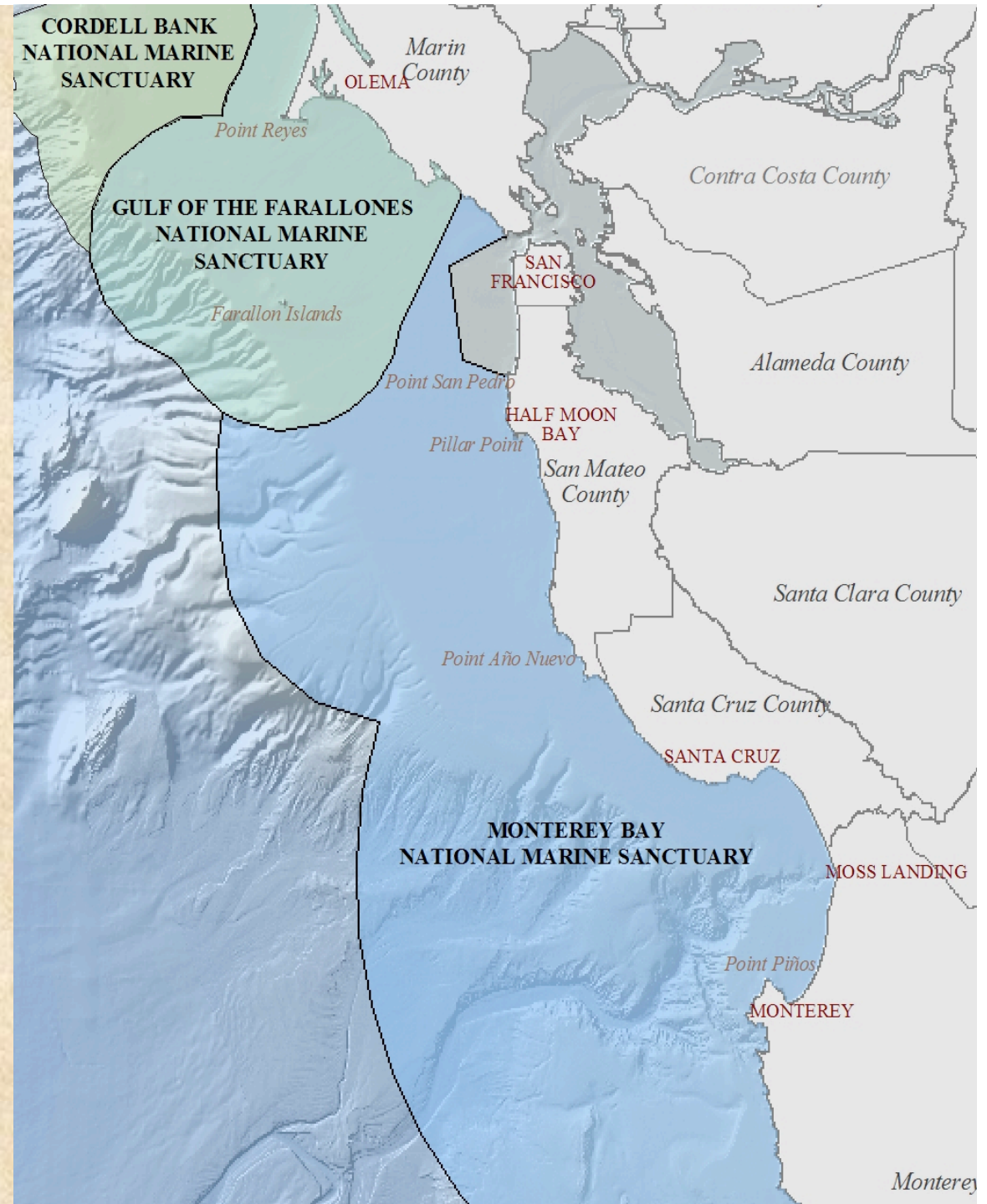
To improve the survival of California's seabird species by reducing human disturbances at their breeding and roosting colony sites from Point Sur to Point Reyes, working in collaboration with State and Federal agencies and non-governmental organizations.

Seabird Colony Protection Program

Focus Area

Pt. Sur to Pt. Reyes

- ⊗ Hurricane Pt. Rocks
- ⊗ Castle Rock & Mainland
- ⊗ Pt. Lobos State Reserve
- ⊗ Bird Rock/Pebble Beach
- ⊗ Ano Nuevo
- ⊗ Devils Slide Rock
- ⊗ Lobos/Seal Rocks
- ⊗ Farallon Islands
- ⊗ Double Pt. Rocks
- ⊗ Millers Pt. Rocks
- ⊗ Pt. Resistance
- ⊗ Point Reyes





Program Objectives



- ❁ **Increase seabird disturbance information exchange through key events/venues.**
- ❁ **Increase Central Coast seabird protection coordination among agencies, non-governmental organizations, and interested public.**
- ❁ **Increase awareness of organized users who impact nesting and breeding seabird colonies.**
- ❁ **Increase the number of agencies, non-governmental organizations, and interested public reporting incidents of seabird disturbance.**



Goal

To review and characterize seabird colony disturbance, incorporating the results of current baseline monitoring; to brainstorm ways to address human disturbance to seabird colonies; and develop long-term strategies for reducing human disturbance along the Central California coast.



What we accomplished:

- ⊗ Reviewed findings from monitoring efforts;
- ⊗ Discussed possible regulatory and management strategies;
- ⊗ Identified type of technical advisory committees needed to implement the program; and
- ⊗ Identified types of seabird disturbances and prioritized outreach strategies.

Target Audiences

Seabird disturbance comes from the sky and the sea!

- Commercial Fishermen
- Ecotourism
- Recreational Fishermen
- Aircraft Pilots
- Personal Watercraft (Kayaks, Boaters)
- Shoreside Users General
- Education and Outreach

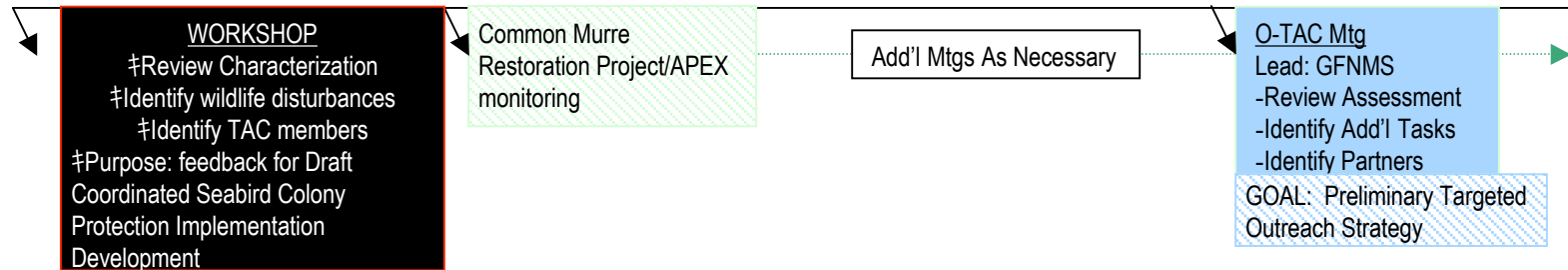


Potential Venues

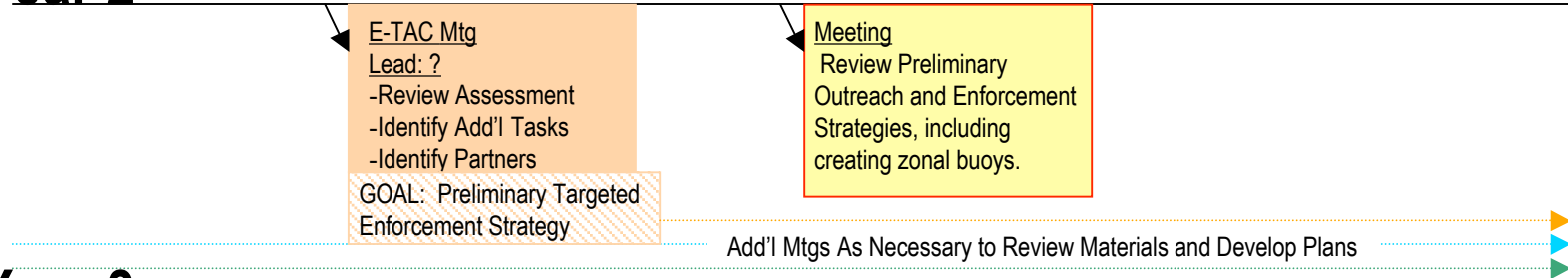
- Fishing Shows
- Web site links
- Paddle Fest
- At least one BASK lecture
- Air show at Half Moon Bay
- Posting sensitive areas on nautical charts
- Presentations and distribution of materials at fishing association board meetings.
- Direct coordination with air show personnel, film crews, etc.
- Dive club meetings
- Dive or surf shop signage
- Harbors



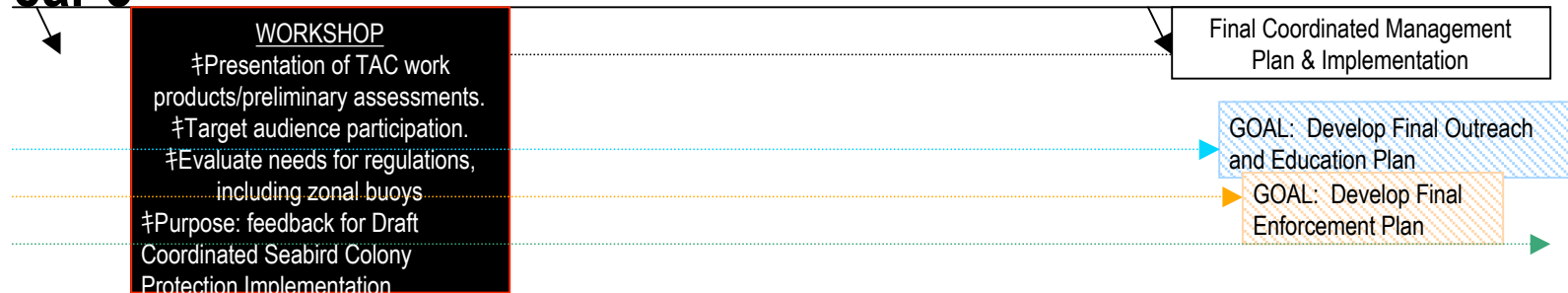
Year 1



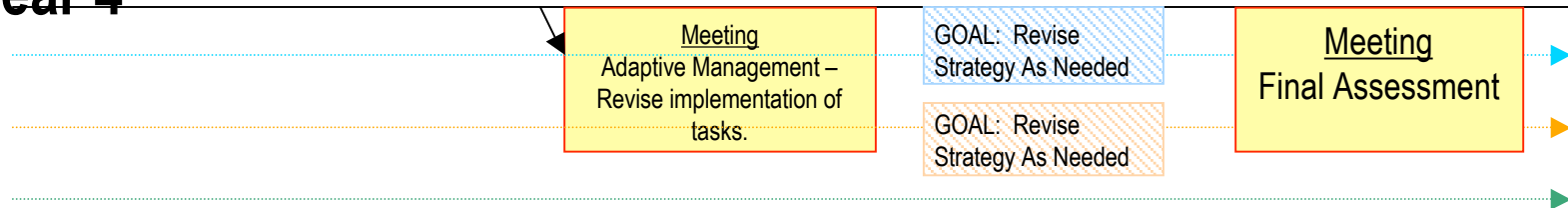
Year 2



Year 3



Year 4





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