June 21, 2007

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Smithsonian
From Sea to Shining Sea: 200 Years of Charting America’s Coasts
The Aquarium of the Bay
San Francisco, CA

Dear Friends,

Greetings as you gather to view the NOAA-Smithsonian “From Sea to Shining Sea” exhibit. I am delighted to send my congratulations to NOAA on the two hundred year anniversary of your Coast Survey. Since being named the first federal science agency two hundred years ago, NOAA’s exploration through the Survey has covered the globe and its research has provided invaluable data about our waterways. The Coast Survey’s research has provided necessary information about safe maritime and commerce as well as data about the preservation of our coastline. In Congress, I have consistently opposed legislation allowing oil drilling off the coast of California and I have supported marine research and preservation efforts.

I would also like to extend my thanks to the Aquarium of the Bay and the Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association for hosting this reception. The Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association has earned a reputation for building public support and enthusiasm for our magnificent coastline and priceless marine wildlife. I am proud to recognize your efforts this evening.

Thank you all for attending. Best wishes for an enjoyable exhibit tonight.

Sincerely,

Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House