



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex
1 Marshlands Road
Fremont, California 94555



April 27, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

As manager of the Farallon National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Service), I would like to offer my support for the proposal by Island Conservation to conduct hazing trials on western gulls on the South Farallon Islands, part of the Farallon NWR. I believe that the findings from the trials will provide information vital to helping the Service protect the threatened wildlife and delicate ecosystem of the South Farallon Islands. Of particular interest is Island Conservation's proposed use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles—together with other, established techniques—to reduce the risk of exposure of gulls to bait used in a potential non-native house mouse eradication effort.

Island Conservation is a globally respected leader in the prevention of species extinction and the preservation of biodiversity. Moreover, they are an important and trusted partner in our efforts to protect the ecosystem and wildlife on the Farallon NWR, one of the world's most valuable—and fragile—habitats.

Sincerely,

Gerry McChesney, Manager
Farallon National Wildlife Refuge

