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## **ADVISORY**

### **Farallon Island Research Trials to be Conducted Nov. 27 - Dec. 17, 2012**

#### **Flares and Pyrotechnics on the Islands May be Visible to Boaters and Aircraft Operators**

Wildlife research trials will be conducted by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service on the South Farallon Islands of the Farallon National Wildlife Refuge from November 27, 2012 to December 17, 2012. The trials will involve the use of flares and pyrotechnics that may be visible to boaters or aircraft operators.

The U.S. Coast Guard and the Federal Aviation Administration have been notified of the trials, and mariners and aircraft operators should be careful not to confuse the flares and pyrotechnics being used on the South Farallon Islands during this time with any emergency signal flares used by boaters in distress at sea. A small private helicopter may also be used to survey the island's birds and marine mammals and monitor their reaction to avian dispersal methods being tested.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service is conducting the trials to test ways of minimizing impact on native wildlife, as part of the planning for a possible future eradication of non-native house mice from the islands. Also participating in the trials are PRBO Conservation Science, Island Conservation, the Oiled Wildlife Care Network and USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services.

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