

CINMS CONSERVATION WORKING GROUP
5/19/11 AGENDA
Environmental Defense Center Conference Room,
906 Garden Street, Santa Barbara

Present: Linda Krop, EDC (Chair); Greg Helms, Ocean Conservancy (Vice Chair); Kristi Birney, EDC; Michael Sheehy, SBCK; Debra Herring; Vic Cox

CINMS Staff: Mike Murray, Kristen Hislop

- I. INTRODUCTIONS 6:00**
- II. SHIPPING 6:05**
- A. PARS: release of final report has been delayed; CINMS is providing additional data to USCG re whale sightings. USCG is evaluating location of shipping lanes, probably not ship speeds.
 - B. NMFS workshops: providing data to USCG, working on modeling.
 - C. Ocean Etiquette: concerns continue to be raised regarding boats approaching too close to whales and other marine wildlife (by whale watching boats, recreational and commercial boats). Discussed potential strategies, e.g. ocean etiquette workshops/trainings; signs at the harbor.
 - D. Other updates: EDC will host a forum at UCSB on June 25 regarding whales and shipping, with support from the Coastal Fund. Panelists will include scientists and agency staff.
- III. OCEAN ACIDIFICATION 6:30**
- A. West Coast Task Force plan (sent with agenda): LK explained context and result of planning effort. While the Sanctuary program may not have funding to implement the recommendations, it is important to include strategies and activities to (1) identify funding and implementation priorities, and (2) provide information so that partners and other entities can help with fundraising and implementation. The plan can also help focus NOAA's overall work on ocean acidification in marine sanctuaries. The plan is being presented to all 5 west coast SACs for their feedback. VC recommended preparing an executive summary, and better identifying priorities. He also pointed out the need to tie the research to education so that information can be shared with the public. MS suggested using a graduate student to help synthesize and summarize emerging research (as part of Year 1). He also suggested checking with MPA Monitoring Enterprise.
- IV. CWG OFFSHORE ENERGY REPORT 7:00**
- A. KB will provide an update to the SAC regarding the status of our offshore energy report. She will provide an overview of the framework of the report and the technologies that we are studying. At future SAC meetings, we will invite panelists including agency and industry representatives and researchers.

V. PLASTIC BAG BAN

7:15

- A. MBNMS SAC Resolution: MS brought to our attention that the MBNMS SAC voted unanimously to pass a resolution supporting a reduction in the use and distribution of single-use plastic bags. Specifically, the resolution supports (1) legislative and regulatory efforts to ban the use and distribution of single-use plastic bags; (2) efforts of local businesses to transition away from single-use plastic bags; and (3) efforts to remove plastic bag litter from the shores, rivers, and waters of the SAC. The CWG decided to request a future SAC agenda item to consider adoption of a similar resolution here.

VI. OTHER SAC ISSUES / OTHER ISSUES

7:30

- A. San Miguel Island Red Abalone: Chris Voss will share the California Abalone Alliance's research fishery proposal.
- B. KB announced that the National Ocean Council is hosting a workshop on Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning on Tuesday, June 21, which will be broadcast live (9-5 EST).

ADJOURN

8:00